

Secedit.exe Tutorial

Secedit, originally introduced in Windows 2000, provides a way to manage security templates from a command-line interface. Secedit is especially valuable in batch files, which make automating the configuration and analysis of security templates and creating your own security templates from scratch easier.

Secedit works well in conjunction with Windows's Security Configuration and Analysis tool set, which is a Microsoft Management Console (MMC) snap-in used to work with security templates and databases. For more information on the Security Configuration and Analysis snap-in, see the Windows .NET Server Help and Support Center.

Secedit has four basic command modes:

- **Secedit /analyze**—This mode analyzes your computer's current security settings against a baseline stored in a security database. The results are output to a separate database, and you can view the results using Security Configuration and Analysis. The main purpose of this mode is to highlight differences between a baseline configuration, or a proposed new configuration, and your current configuration.
- **Secedit /configure**—This mode configures your system with the security settings stored in a security database.
- **Secedit /import**—This command imports a security template (an .inf file) into a security database.
- **Secedit /export**—This command exports a security database into a security template (.inf file).

Secedit enables you to import a security template, compare it to your current configuration, apply it to your computer, or export a security database to a security template. By running Secedit from within a batch file—such as a logon script—you can automate the collection of security information throughout your enterprise. For example, you might use Secedit to automatically compare several computers to a baseline security template and analyze the results to find computers that aren't in compliance with the baseline.