

Enable and disable Windows Features on Server 2012 R2 Core

So, you have installed Windows Server 2012 R2 Core and are determined to manage it without using any GUI tools. Very enthusiastic. I'd prefer to use Server Manager from a remote machine, but what the hell. Hit the keyboard.

The first thing to do is to list available features and their current state by using the 'dism' command. The output also reveals the precise feature names.

```
dism /online /get-features /format:table
```

You will get a table-like output like in the image:

```
C:\windows\system32>dism /online /get-features /format:table
Deployment Image Servicing and Management tool
Version: 6.3.9600.16384
Image Version: 6.3.9600.16384
Features listing for package : Microsoft-Windows-ServerCore-Package~31bf3856ad364e35~amd64~~6.3.9600.16384
-----
Feature Name                                     State
-----
NetFx4ServerFeatures                           Enabled
NetFx4                                           Enabled
NetFx4Extended-ASPNET45                       Disabled
MicrosoftWindowsPowerShellRoot                Enabled
MicrosoftWindowsPowerShell                   Enabled
ServerCore-FullServer                         Enabled
IIS-WebServerRole                             Disabled
IIS-WebServer                                 Disabled
IIS-CommonHttpFeatures                       Disabled
IIS-Security                                 Disabled
IIS-RequestFiltering                         Disabled
IIS-StaticContent                           Disabled
IIS-DefaultDocument                         Disabled
IIS-DirectoryBrowsing                       Disabled
IIS-HttpErrors                             Disabled
IIS-HttpRedirect                             Disabled
IIS-WebDAV                                 Disabled
IIS-ApplicationDevelopment                   Disabled
IIS-WebSockets                             Disabled
IIS-ApplicationInit                         Disabled
IIS-NetFxExtensibility                       Disabled
IIS-NetFxExtensibility45                     Disabled
IIS-ISAPIExtensions                         Disabled
IIS-ISAPIFilter                             Disabled
IIS-ASPNET                                 Disabled
IIS-ASPNET45                               Disabled
IIS-ASP                                       Disabled
IIS-CGI                                     Disabled
IIS-ServerSideIncludes                       Disabled
IIS-HealthAndDiagnostics                     Disabled
IIS-HttpLogging                             Disabled
IIS-LoggingLibraries                         Disabled
IIS-RequestMonitor                           Disabled
IIS-HttpTracing                             Disabled
```

For additional feature information, use (eg. for SmbDirect)

```
Dism /online /get-featureInfo /featureName:SmbDirect
```

To list installed packets, use:

```
dism /online /get-packages /format:table
```

You will get table-like output like in the image:

```
Administrator: C:\Windows\System32\cmd.exe
C:\windows\system32>dism /online /get-packages /format:table
Deployment Image Servicing and Management tool
Version: 6.3.9600.16384
Image Version: 6.3.9600.16384
Packages listing:

-----
Package Identity                                     State      Release Type      Install Time
-----
Microsoft-Windows-Server-LanguagePack-Package~31bf3856ad364e35~amd64~en-US~6.3.9600.16384  Installed  Language Pack     8/22/2013 4:05 PM
Microsoft-Windows-ServerCore-FullServer-Package~31bf3856ad364e35~amd64~6.3.9600.16384         Installed  Feature Pack      8/22/2013 2:49 PM
Microsoft-Windows-ServerCore-Package~31bf3856ad364e35~amd64~6.3.9600.16384                 Installed  Foundation        8/22/2013 2:49 PM
Microsoft-Windows-ServerCore-SKU-Foundation-Package~31bf3856ad364e35~amd64~6.3.9600.16384      Installed  Feature Pack      8/22/2013 2:49 PM
Package_for_KB2883200~31bf3856ad364e35~amd64~6.3.1.0                                     Installed  Update            11/26/2013 4:03 AM
Package_for_KB2884101~31bf3856ad364e35~amd64~6.3.1.9                                     Installed  Update            11/4/2013 3:42 PM
Package_for_KB2884846~31bf3856ad364e35~amd64~6.3.1.4                                     Installed  Update            11/4/2013 3:42 PM
Package_for_KB2886439~31bf3856ad364e35~amd64~6.3.1.0                                     Installed  Update            11/26/2013 4:03 AM
Package_for_KB2894029~31bf3856ad364e35~amd64~6.3.1.0                                     Installed  Update            11/4/2013 3:42 PM
Package_for_KB2894173~31bf3856ad364e35~amd64~6.3.1.0                                     Installed  Update            11/4/2013 3:42 PM
Package_for_KB2896742~31bf3856ad364e35~amd64~6.3.1.0                                     Installed  Update            11/4/2013 3:34 PM
Package_for_KB2901549~31bf3856ad364e35~amd64~6.3.1.0                                     Installed  Update            11/4/2013 4:05 PM
Package_for_KB2902892~31bf3856ad364e35~amd64~6.3.1.0                                     Installed  Update            11/4/2013 3:42 PM

The operation completed successfully.
C:\windows\system32>_
```

For additional feature information, use (eg. for
Package_for_KB2995004~31bf3856ad364e35~amd64~~6.3.1.0):

```
dism /online /get-packageinfo
/packageName:Package_for_KB2995004~31bf3856ad364e35~amd64~~6.3.1.0
```

To enable or disable features, use (eg. for SmbDirect):

```
Dism /online /enable-feature /featurename:SmbDirect
Dism /online /disable-feature /featurename:SmbDirect
```

Multiple /featureName arguments can be used if the features are components in the same parent package. Add /remove to remove the payloads without removing the feature's manifest from the image. Once the payload is removed, a feature will have the status, 'Disabled with Payload Removed.' and can be restored and enabled using /Enable-Feature with the /Source option.

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