

Windows - How to Switch Domain Controller

Find Current Domain Controller

You can grab the domain controller that the computer is currently connected to with these steps:

1. Select the “**Start**” button.
2. Type “**CMD**”.
3. Hold “**Shift**” and right-click “**Command Prompt**”.
4. Select “**Run as different user**”.
5. Type credentials for a Domain Admin user account.
6. At the Command Prompt, type:
 - `nltest /dsgetdc:domainname`

Switch Domain Controller Command

Actually switch the domain controller computer is using with these steps.

1. Select the “**Start**” button.
2. Type “**CMD**”.
3. Hold “**Shift**” and right-click “**Command Prompt**”.
4. Select “**Run as different user**”.
5. Type credentials for a Domain Admin user account.
6. At the command prompt, type:
 - `nltest /Server:ClientComputerName /SC_RESET:DomainName\DomainControllerName`

Note: This option is not permanent, as a restart of the computer may grab a different DC.

Set Domain Controller Via Registry

1. Hold the **Windows Key** and press “**R**” to bring up the Windows Run dialog.

2. Type "**Regedit**", then press "**Enter**".
 3. Navigate to:
 - **HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE**
 - **SYSTEM**
 - **CurrentControlSet**
 - **Services**
 - **Netlogon**
 - **Parameters**
 4. Create a String value called "**SiteName**", and set it to the domain controller you wish the computer to connect to. (i.e. DC1.domain.com)
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