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Common LDAP Properties and Script Attributes List with Examples

# Common LDAP Properties and Script Attributes List with Examples

Guy Thomas

January 9, 2019

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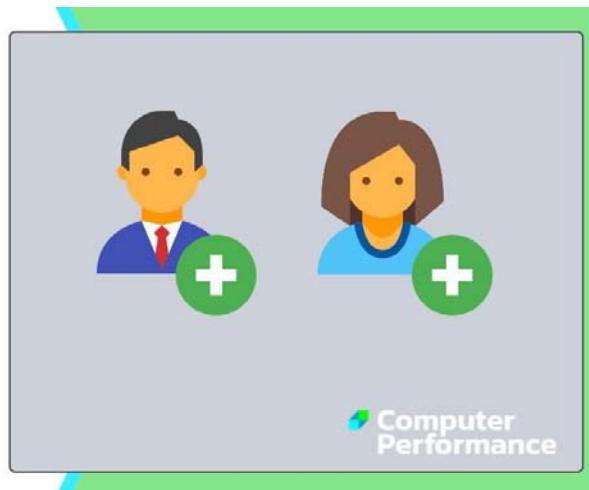
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COMMON LDAP ATTRIBUTES FOR VBS AND POWERSHELL SCRIPTS

PowerShell. Programs like **VBScript (WSH)**, **CSVDE** and **LDIFDE** rely on these LDAP attributes to create or modify objects in Active Directory. For example, when you bulk import users you will include the LDAP attributes: dn and sAMAccountName.

## TOPICS FOR LDAP ATTRIBUTES

- [Hall of fame LDAP attribute – DN distinguished name](#)
- [LDAP Attributes from Active Directory Users and Computers](#)
- [LDAP Examples – Comprehensive List](#)

### HALL OF FAME LDAP ATTRIBUTE – DN DISTINGUISHED NAME

As the word 'distinguished' suggests, this is THE LDAP attribute that uniquely defines an object. Each DN must have a different name and location from all other objects in Active Directory. The other side of the coin is that DN provides a way of selecting any object in Active Directory. Once you have selected the object, then you can change its attributes.

Time spent in getting to know the DN attribute will repay manyfold. Observe the different components CN=common name, OU = organizational unit. DC often comes with two entries, DC=CP, DC=COM. Note that DC=CP.COM would be wrong. Incidentally, in this situation, DC means domain content rather than domain controller.

Another point with the syntax is to check the speech marks; when used with VBScript commands, DN is often enclosed in "speech marks". Even the speech marks have to be of the right type, "double quotes are correct", 'single quotes may be ignored', with unpredictable results. Finally, pay particular attention to commas in distinguished names.

### LDAP ATTRIBUTES FROM ACTIVE DIRECTORY USERS AND COMPUTERS

The diagram below is taken from Active Directory Users and Computers. It shows the commonest LDAP attributes for vVBScripts.

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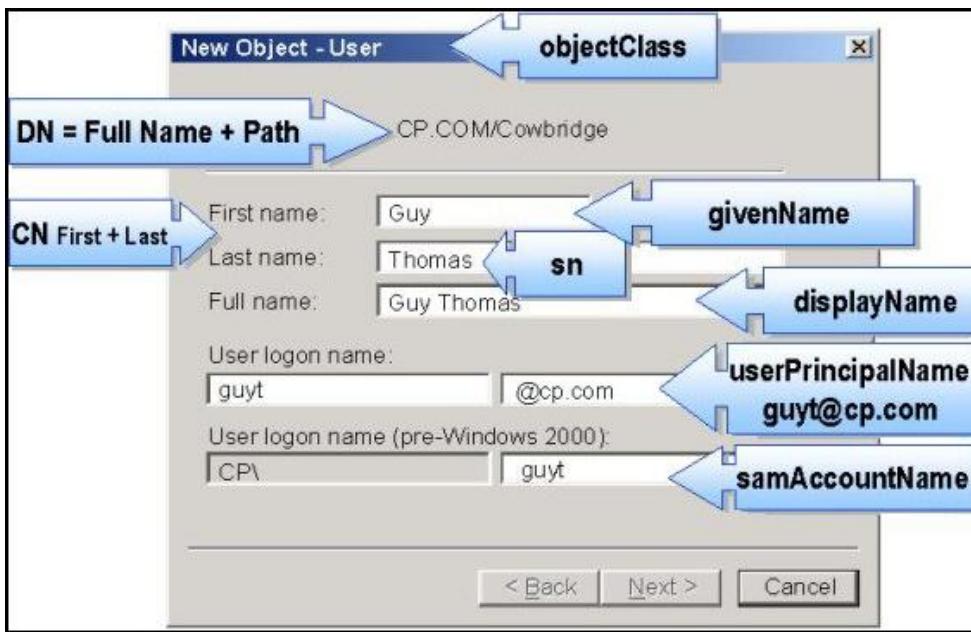


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When you write your scripts, check how the LDAP attributes map to the Active Directory boxes.

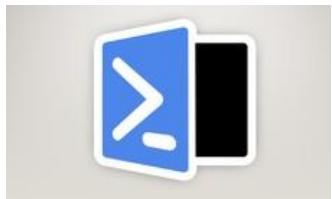
#### Research Tip:

One of my favourite techniques is to add values in the active directory property boxes, then export using CSVDE. Next, open the .csv file in Excel, search for the value, and read the LDAP field name from row 1.

#### COMMON LDAP ATTRIBUTES LIST WITH EXAMPLES

LDAP ATTRIBUTE	EXAMPLE
C	Country: e.g GB for Great Britain.
CN – Common Name	CN=Guy Thomas. Actually, this LDAP attribute can be made up from givenName joined to SN.
CN	Maps to 'Name' in the LDAP provider. Remember CN is a mandatory property. See also sAMAccountName.
description	What you see in Active Directory Users and Computers. Not to be confused with displayName on the Users property sheet.
displayName	displayName = Guy Thomas. If you script this property, be sure you understand which field you are configuring. DisplayName can be confused with CN or description.

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## DISPLAY NAME -V- DESCRIPTION

### Important LDAP Notes

Display name and Description are different

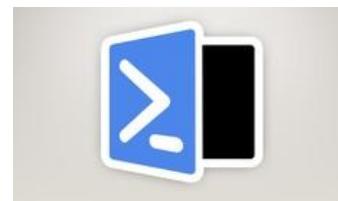
Office's LDAP attribute is:

physicalDeliveryOfficeName

E-mail is plain: mail



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DN – also distinguishedName	DN is simply the most important LDAP attribute. CN=Jay Jamieson, OU= Newport, DC=corp, DC=com
givenName	Firstname also called Christian name
homeDrive	Home Folder: connect. Tricky to connect.
initials	Useful in some cultures.
name	name = Guy Thomas. Exactly the same as CN.
objectCategory	Defines the Active Directory Schema. For example, objectCategory = Person
objectClass	objectClass = User. Also used for Computer, organizationalUnit, even container. It is a top-level container.
physicalDeliveryOfficeName	Office! on the user's General properties
postOfficeBox	P.O. box.
profilePath	Roaming profile path: connect. Trick to set up
sAMAccountName	This is a mandatory property, sAMAccountName = guyt. The old NT 4.0 logon name, must be unique in the domain.
sAMAccountName	If you are using an LDAP provider 'Name' it automatically maps to sAMAccountName and CN. The default value is same as CN, but can be given a different value.
SN	SN = Thomas. This would be referred to as last name or surname.
title	Job title. For example Manager.

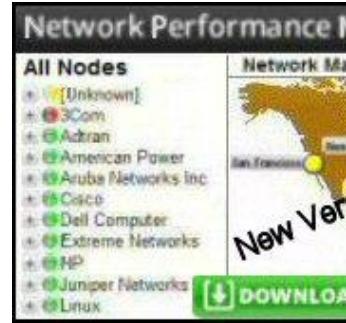
	account ready for logon.
userPrincipalName	userPrincipalName = guyt@CP.com is abbreviated to UPN, and looks like an email address. Very useful for logging on to a large Forest. Note UPN must be unique in the forest.
wwwHomePage	User's home page.

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### EXAMPLES OF EXCHANGE SPECIFIC LDAP ATTRIBUTES

homeMDB	Here is where you set the MailStore
legacyExchangeDN	Legacy distinguished name for creating Contacts. In the following example, Guy Thomas is a Contact in the first administrative group of GUYDOMAIN: /o=GUYDOMAIN/ou=first administrative group/cn=Recipients/cn=Guy Thomas
mail	An easy, but important attribute. A simple SMTP address is all that is required

mailNickname	Normally this is the same value as the sAMAccountName, but could be different. Needed for mail enabled contacts.
mDBUseDefaults	Another straightforward field, just that to: True
msExchHomeServerName	Exchange needs to know which server handles the mail. Example: /o=YourOrg/ou=First Administrative Group/cn=Configuration/cn=Servers
proxyAddresses	As the name 'proxy' suggests, it is possible for one recipient to have more than one address. Note the plural spelling of proxyAddresses.
targetAddress	SMTP:@ e-mail address. Note that S is case sensitive. All capitals means the default address.
showInAddressBook	Displays the contact in the Global Address Book.

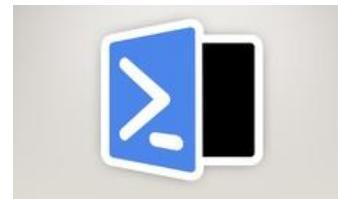
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### OTHER USEFUL LDAP ATTRIBUTES / PROPERTIES

company	Company or organization name
department	Useful category to fill in and use for
homephone	Home Phone number, (Lots more ph
l (Lower case L)	L = Location. City ( Maybe Office
location	Important, particularly for printers and computers.
manager	Boss, manager
mobile	Mobile Phone number
ObjectClass	Usually, User, or Computer
OU	Organizational unit. See also DN
pwdLastSet	Force users to change their password on logon
postalCode	Zip or post code
st	State, Province or County
streetAddress	First line of address
telephoneNumber	Office Phone
userAccountControl	Enable (512) / disable account (514)

»

#### EXAMPLES OF OBSCURE LDAP ATTRIBUTES

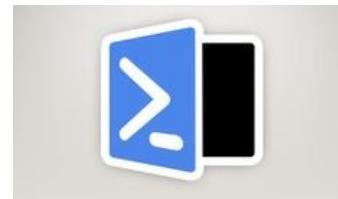
dNSHostname	
rID	
url	
uSNCreated, uSNChanged	



To discover more LDAP attributes, go to the command prompt, type:

CSVDE -f Exportfile.csv. Then open Exportfile.csv with Excel.exe.  
Alternatively, use ADSI Edit and right-click the container objects.

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About The Author

**Guy Thomas**

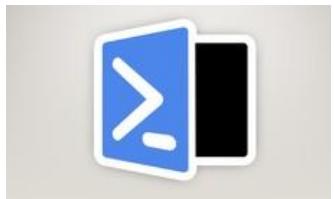
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