

SysMate – Host File Walker (Command-Line)

SysMate – Host File Walker (CLI Engine)

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[User Guide for SHFW]

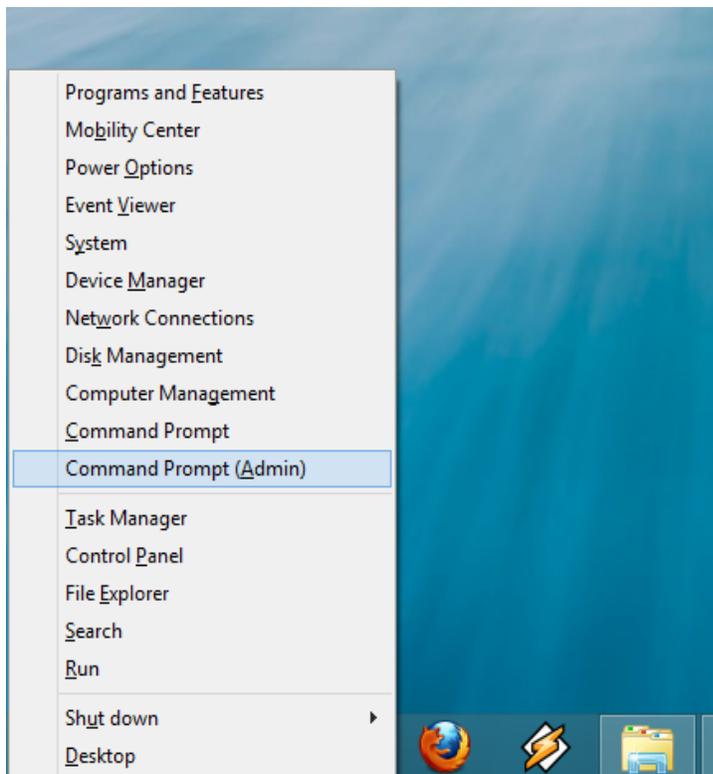
First Steps

After you have downloaded the .zip file, open it using your favorite file compression utility such as WinRAR, WinZip, etc.

Extract the file “shfw.exe” to a specific location that you will remember and easier for you to type.(Recommended: C:\).

Now run an elevated Command Prompt. If you are using Windows 8, press Win Key + X + A to get an elevated Command Prompt console. If you are using Windows 7 or Windows Vista, go to Start and type “cmd” in the search box then Right-Click on the cmd app and select “Run as administrator”. If you are using Windows XP, go to Start > Accessories > Right-Click on Command Prompt and select “Run as administrator.”

(Figure showing the Win Key + X menu in Windows 8)



Commands

- The “add” argument

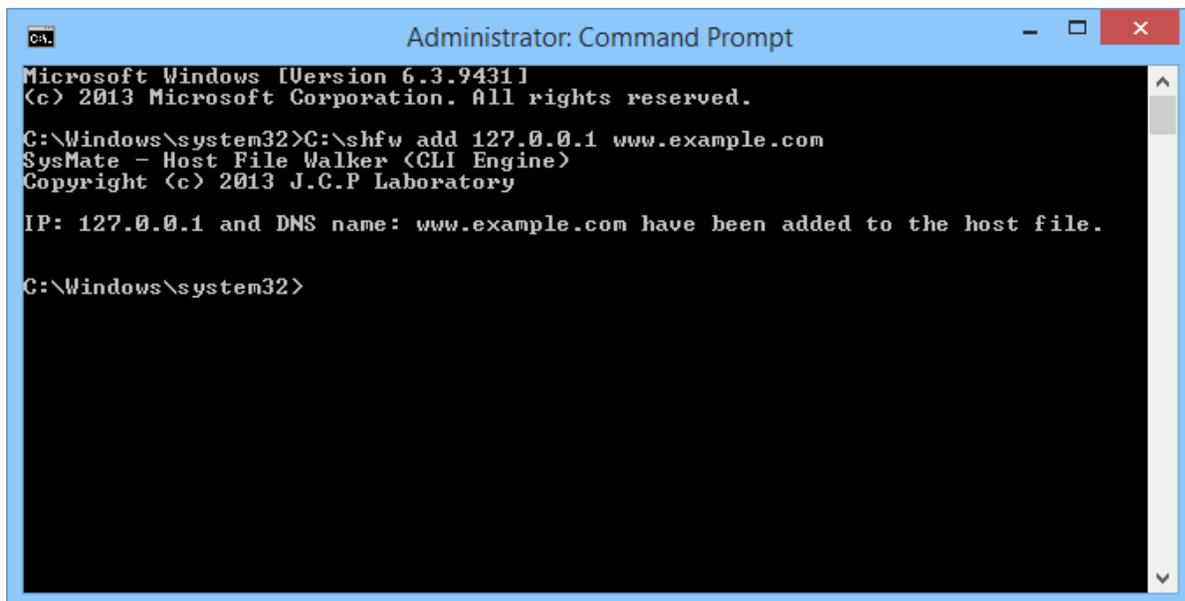
The “add” argument is used to add a new value to the hosts file.

Example if you want DNS name (site): `www.example.com` to redirect to IP Address: `127.0.0.1`.
The command will be as follows:

```
C:\shfw add 127.0.0.1 www.example.com
```

*Add IP Address first followed by the DNS site name.

#Note that “C:\” is the location where the file “shfw.exe” is found. (See Figure below)



```
Administrator: Command Prompt
Microsoft Windows [Version 6.3.9431]
(c) 2013 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.
C:\Windows\system32>C:\shfw add 127.0.0.1 www.example.com
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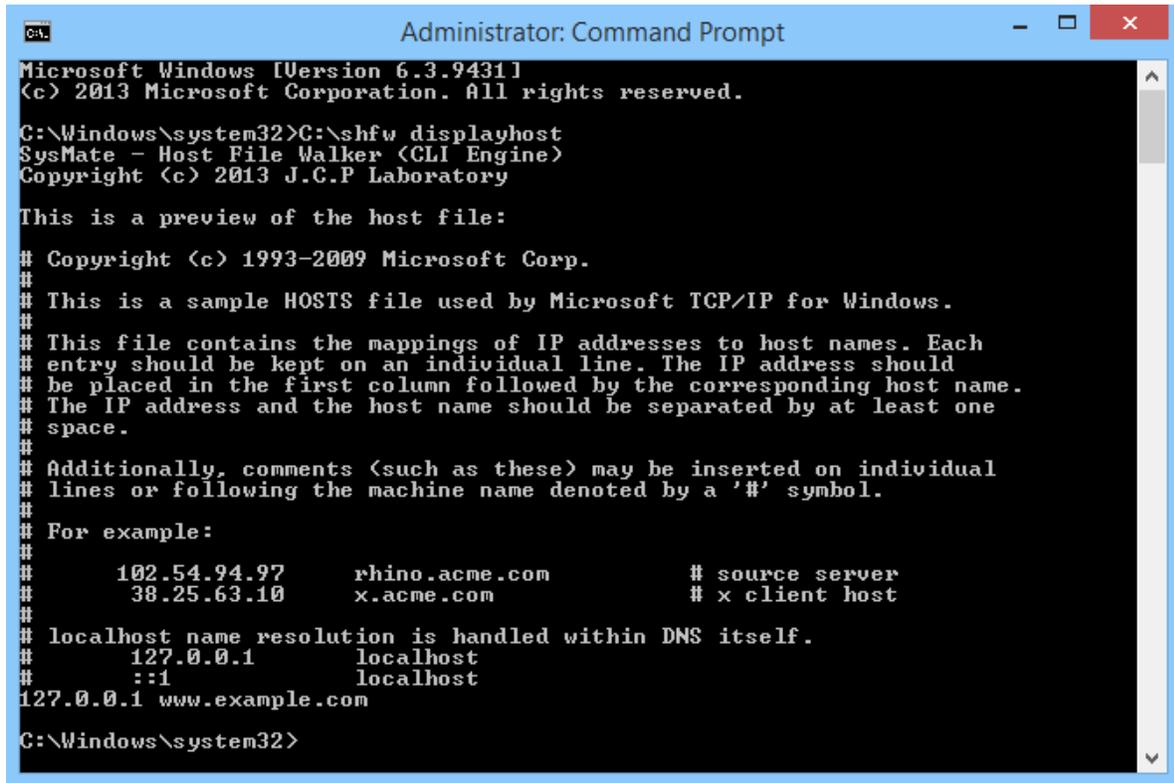
IP: 127.0.0.1 and DNS name: www.example.com have been added to the host file.

C:\Windows\system32>
```

- The “displayhost” argument

The “displayhost” argument is used to display the content of the host file.

Example: `C:\shfw displayhost` (See figure below)



```
Administrator: Command Prompt
Microsoft Windows [Version 6.3.9431]
(c) 2013 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

C:\Windows\system32>C:\shfw displayhost
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This is a preview of the host file:

# Copyright (c) 1993-2009 Microsoft Corp.
#
# This is a sample HOSTS file used by Microsoft TCP/IP for Windows.
#
# This file contains the mappings of IP addresses to host names. Each
# entry should be kept on an individual line. The IP address should
# be placed in the first column followed by the corresponding host name.
# The IP address and the host name should be separated by at least one
# space.
#
# Additionally, comments (such as these) may be inserted on individual
# lines or following the machine name denoted by a '#' symbol.
#
# For example:
#
#       102.54.94.97       rhino.acme.com           # source server
#       38.25.63.10      x.acme.com               # x client host
#
# localhost name resolution is handled within DNS itself.
#   127.0.0.1            localhost
#   ::1                  localhost
127.0.0.1 www.example.com

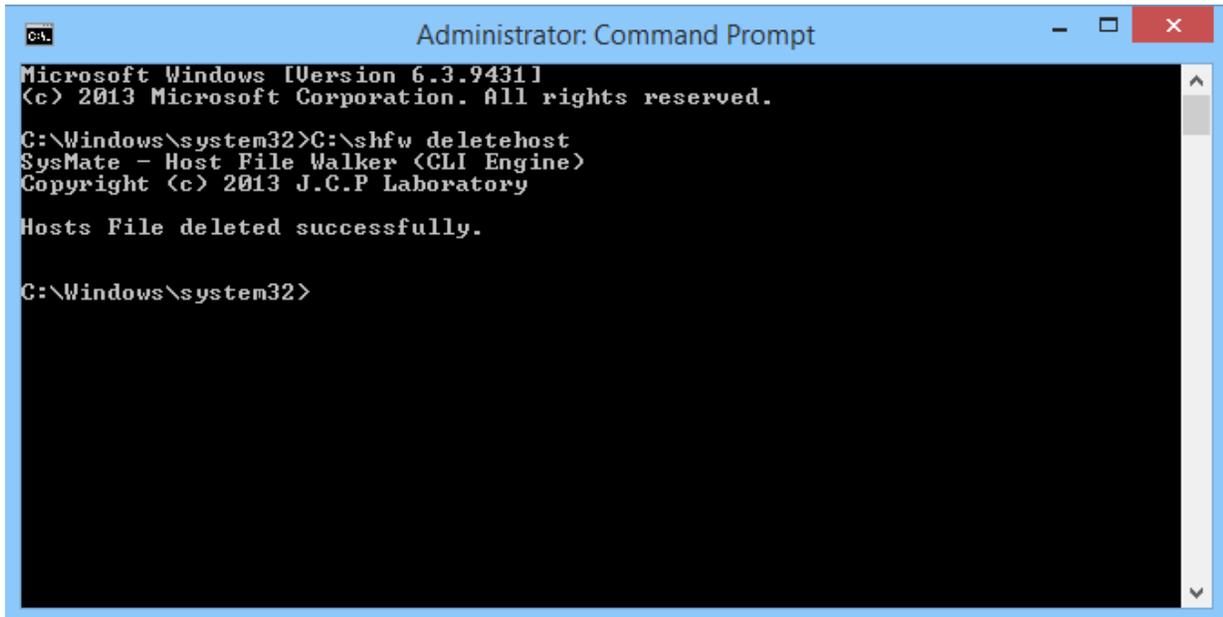
C:\Windows\system32>
```

* Note that the last entry we have made is at the end of the file where “127.0.0.1 www.example.com”.

- The “deletehost” argument

The “deletehost” argument is used to delete the host file from the computer.

Example: `C:\shfw deletehost` (See figure below)



```
Administrator: Command Prompt
Microsoft Windows [Version 6.3.9431]
(c) 2013 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

C:\Windows\system32>C:\shfw deletehost
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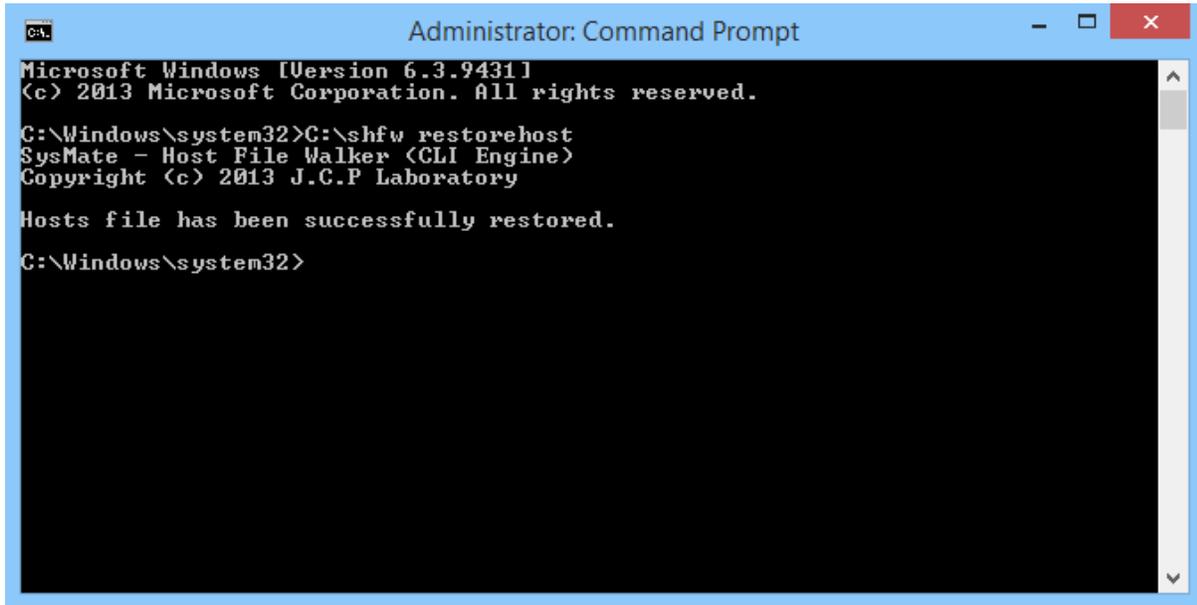
Hosts File deleted successfully.

C:\Windows\system32>
```

- The “restorehost” argument

The “restorehost” argument is used to restore the Original System host file when the latter has been modified or deleted.

Example: `C:\shfw restorehost` (See figure below)



```
Administrator: Command Prompt
Microsoft Windows [Version 6.3.9431]
(c) 2013 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

C:\Windows\system32>C:\shfw restorehost
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Hosts file has been successfully restored.

C:\Windows\system32>
```

- The “backuphost” argument

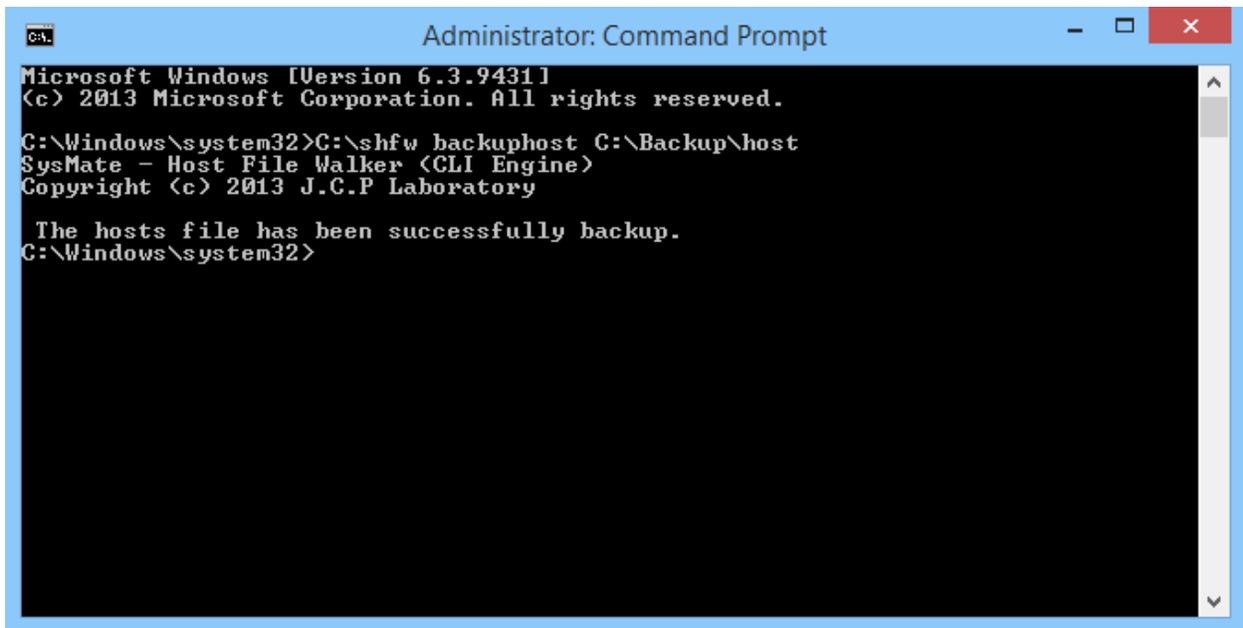
The “backuphost” argument is used to make a backup of the current host file.

Example: `C:\shfw backuphost [destination]`

The [destination] is where you have to enter the location at which you want SHFW to back-up the host file. It can be in a folder called “Backup” in C:\ for instance. Don’t forget to specify a file name also, example: `C:\Backup\host` where “host” is the file name without extension. The command should be as follows:

Example: `C:\shfw backuphost c:\backup\host`

The program will back-up the host file to C:\Backup. (See figure below)



```
Administrator: Command Prompt
Microsoft Windows [Version 6.3.9431]
(c) 2013 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

C:\Windows\system32>C:\shfw backuphost C:\Backup\host
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The hosts file has been successfully backup.
C:\Windows\system32>
```

- The “restore” argument

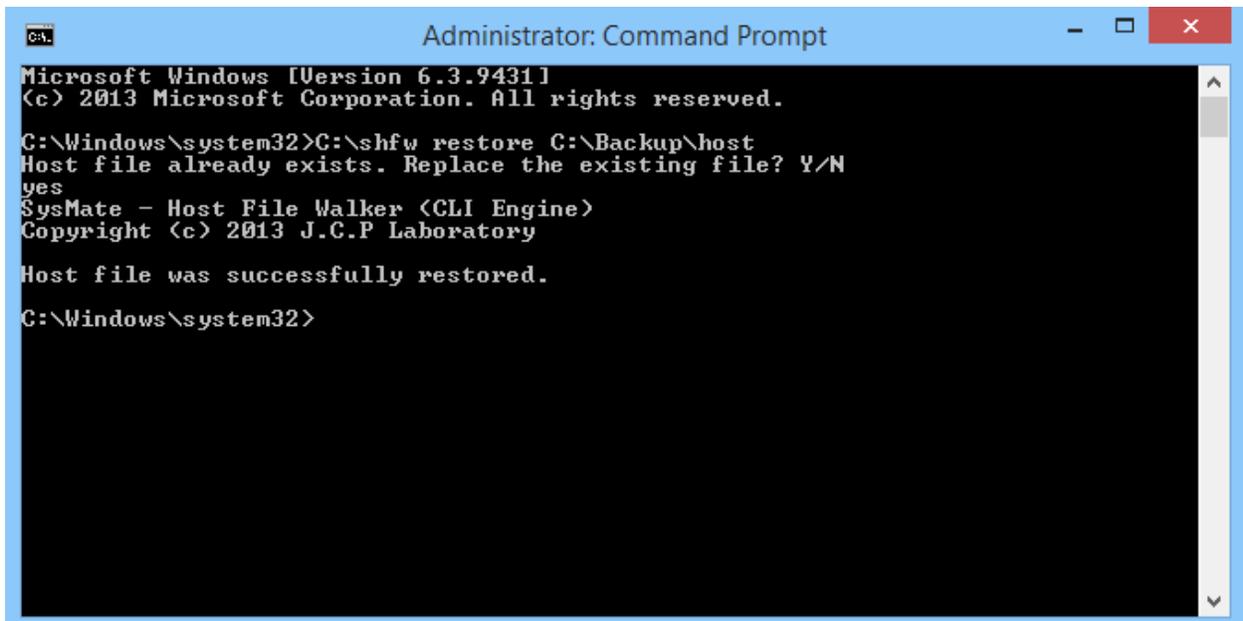
The restore argument is used to restore a host file back-up in a specified location.

Example: `C:\shfw restore [location]`

The [location] is where the back-up host file is found. For instance our last back-up we have recently made is found at `C:\Backup`. Don't forget to mention the file name, example `C:\Backup\host`. If the back-up file has an extension such as `.txt` then you should mention the file extension as well, example: `C:\Backup\host.txt`.

The command should therefore be as follows:

Example: `C:\shfw restore C:\Backup\host` (See figure below)



```
Administrator: Command Prompt
Microsoft Windows [Version 6.3.9431]
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C:\Windows\system32>C:\shfw restore C:\Backup\host
Host file already exists. Replace the existing file? Y/N
yes
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Host file was successfully restored.

C:\Windows\system32>
```

*If SHFW asks for permission before overwriting the host file, press “y” or type “yes” to accept or “n” or “no” to deny.