

General
Get ESXi build and version numbers esxcli system version get
Get host hostname, domain, and FQDN esxcli system hostname get
Get date and time ESXi was installed esxcli system stats installtime get
List local users on ESXi host esxcli system account list
Create local ESXi user esxcli system account add -d="Description" -i="username" -p="password" -c="password"
List available commands with descriptions esxcli command getdetails
List all available namespaces with corresponding commands esxcli esxcli command list
Check maintenance mode esxcli system maintenanceMode get
Enable/Disable maintenance mode esxcli system maintenanceMode set --enable true
Reboot/Restart ESXi host esxcli system shutdown reboot -r "message"
Reboot/Restart ESXi maintenance mode host with countdown timer esxcli system shutdown reboot -d 10 -r "Patch Updates"
Get CPU information of host (family, model, and cache) esxcli hardware cpu list
Get memory information (available and non-uniform memory access) esxcli hardware memory get
Configuration of and information about syslog esxcli system syslog
Generate support and log information bundle from host vm-support

Install Software
Lists currently installed software and drivers (VIBs) on ESXi esxcli software vib list
Install package (VIB) esxcli software vib install -v file:/tmp/[NewVIB].vib
Uninstall VIB esxcli software vib remove -n VIBname
Update installed VIB on ESXi esxcli software vib update -d "/tmp/update.zip"
Install patch esxcli software vib install /tmp/[patchName].zip

Storage
List current storage devices esxcli storage core device list
List all storage devices accessible by host esxcli storage filesystem list
Rename datastore vim-cmd hostsvc/datastore/rename <name> <new_name>
List all storage paths esxcli storage core path list
List storage paths for specific drive esxcli storage core path list -d <driveid>
Generate list of all LUN paths currently connected to host esxcli storage vmfs extent list
List all storage devices esxcli storage nmp device list
Get hypervisor filesystem information vdf
Get usage of hypervisor filesystem vdu
List all HBAs esxcfg-scsidevs -a
List all HBAs with WWNN and WWPNN esxcli storage san fc list
Reset HBA and force fabric login esxcli storage san fc reset -A <hbaid>
Check if attached storage LUN supports VAAI esxcli storage core device vaai status get

Management
Restart Management, HA Services /sbin/services restart
List Virtual Machines (VMIDs) vim-cmd vmvsvc/getallvms
List running VMs with world ID esxcli vm process list
Terminate VM process (forcibly powers off VM) esxcli vm process kill
Power On vim-cmd vmvsvc/power.on <vmid>
Power Off (Soft) vim-cmd vmvsvc/power.off <vmid>
Power Off (Hard) esxcli vm process kill -w [worldID] -t [soft,hard,force]
Reboot VM vim-cmd vmvsvc/power.reboot <vmid>
Suspend VM vim-cmd vmvsvc/power.suspend <vmid>
Resume VM vim-cmd vmvsvc/power.resume <vmid>
Reset VM vim-cmd vmvsvc/power.reset <vmid>
Shutdown VM vim-cmd vmvsvc/power.shutdown <vmid>
Show VM info summary vim-cmd vmvsvc/power.shutdown <vmid>
Check Host Performance esxtop
Check storage I/O performance vscsiStats

Host Services
Enable ESXi shell vim-cmd hostsvc/enable_esx_shell
Disable ESXi shell vim-cmd hostsvc/disable_esx_shell
Start ESXi shell vim-cmd hostsvc/start_esx_shell
Enable the SSH daemon vim-cmd hostsvc/enable_ssh
Disable SSH daemon vim-cmd hostsvc/disable_ssh
Start SSH daemon vim-cmd hostsvc/start_ssh
Enter Maintenance mode vim-cmd hostsvc/maintenance_mode_enter
Exit Maintenance Mode vim-cmd hostsvc/maintenance_mode_exit

Virtual Disks
Extend virtual disk vmkfstools -X 1500G /vmfs/volumes/exampldatastore/Example/Example.vmdk
Rename disk mv Name.vmdk Name_changed.vmdk
Clone disk vmkfstools -i Name_changed.vmdk -d zeroedthick Name_changed_clone.vmdk
Remove disk rm Name.vmdk
Jump to directory of VM and monitor activity of delta, flat, and sesparse files cd /vmfs/volumes/esxdatastore0/vm/vmfs/volumes/510a4e43-4bf56f05-5a34-0034791e8a3/vm # watch -d 'ls -luth grep -E "delta flat sesparse"
Delete all snapshots and power off VM. Convert thick provisioned disk to thin disk. vmkfstools -i /vmfs/volumes/exampldatastore/vm/diskname.vmdk -d thin /vmfs/volumes/exampldatastore/vm/diskname-thin.vmdk
Delete VM thick disk rm /vmfs/volumes/exampldatastore/vm/diskname-flat.vmdk.thick
Determine configured size of thin disk ls -lh /vmfs/volumes/exampldatastore/vm/diskname-flat.vmdk
Determine used size of thin disk du -h /vmfs/volumes/exampldatastore/vm/diskname-flat.vmdk

Snapshots
List all VM snapshots vim-cmd vmvsvc/snapshot.get <vmid>
Create snapshot for running VM vmware-cmd vmvsvc/snapshot.createsnapshot "New Snapshot Name" "Snapshot Description" <vmid> <snapshotid>
Create snapshot for running VM, with RAM vim-cmd vmvsvc/snapshot.create <vmid> "New Snapshot Name" "Snapshot Description" includeMemory
Delete a snapshot vim-cmd vmvsvc/snapshot.remove <vmid> <snapshotid>
Retrieve Snapshot Removal Task ID vim-cmd vmvsvc/task_list (to get task ID)
Monitor Removal of Snapshot vim-cmd vmvsvc/task_info <task ID>
Remove all snapshots vmware-cmd /vmfs/volumes/local0/Example/Example.vmx removesnapshots
Check if volume is native snapshot capable vmkfstools -Ph /vmfs/volumes/exampldatastore/

ESXi Kernel modules
List loaded kernel modules vmkload_mod -l
List kernel interfaces esxcfg-vmknic -l
Utility for capturing VMkernel events vmkeventd
Utility for logging VMkernel events vmklogger
Display physical adapters with link state and MAC addresses esxcfg-nics -l, esxcfg-vswitch -l, esxcfg-vmknic -l
Create Kernel interface with specific MAC and IP Address and add it to portgroup esxcfg-vmknic -a -i 10.10.1.2 -n 255.255.254.0 -M 00:11:22:aa:bb:cc -p <portgroupname>
Enable added portgroup esxcfg-vmknic -p <portgroupname> -e true
Delete Kernel interface esxcfg-vmknic -d -p <portgroupname>
List all enabled kernel modules esxcfg-module -q
Get parameters of a kernel modul, i.e. an Emulec FC HBA module esxcfg-module -g <kernelmodulename>
Set kernel module parameters esxcfg-module -s "lpfc0_lun_queue_depth=8 lpfc1_lun_queue_depth=8 lpfc2_lun_queue_depth=8 lpfc3_lun_queue_depth=8" <kernelmodulename>
Show all kernel module information esxcfg-module -i <kernelmodulename>
List Advanced Kernel Settings/Parameters esxcli system settings advanced list -d
Set Advanced Kernel Parameter esxcli system settings advanced set -o /UserVars/ExampleKernelParameter -i 0
Add Kernel interface to portgroup esxcfg-vmknic -a -i <interfaceip> -n <interfacemask> "Portgroup_Name"

Network
List VM networking information esxcli network vm list
Get IPv4 configuration for all interfaces on host esxcli network ip interface ipv4 get
Get firewall state esxcli network firewall get
Disable firewall esxcli network firewall set --enabled true false
Get firewall rules esxcli network firewall ruleset list
Get firewall rules piped to awk esxcli network firewall ruleset list awk '\$2 == "true"'
Activate ESXi Firewall Ruleset esxcli network firewall ruleset set --ruleset-id=sshClient --enabled=true
Specify allowed IP Range for SSH esxcli network firewall ruleset allowedip add --ruleset-id=sshServer --ip-address 10.10.0.0/24
List Kernel Network Interfaces esxcli network ip interface list
List physical Network Interfaces esxcli network nic list
Shutdown physical network interface esxcli network nic down -n <vmnicid>
List host routing table esxcli network ip route ipv4 list
Add static route to esxi host esxcli network ip route ipv4 add --gateway 10.10.1.1 --network 10.10.0.0/24
Set ESXi host default gateway esxcfg-route -a default 192.168.254.1
Test ESXi host default gateway vmkping -D
Send ICMP request vmkping -l <vmininterfaceid> <ipaddress>
Test host connectivity to specific port nc -z <ipaddress> <port>
List arp cache esxcli network ip neighbor list
Clear arp cache entry esxcli network ip neighbor remove -a <ipaddress> -v <IP version number>
List virtual switches esxcli network vswitch standard list
Change physical uplink of vSwitch esxcli network vswitch standard uplink remove/add -u <vmnicid> -v <vswitchid>
List portgroups esxcli network vswitch standard portgroup list
Add new portgroup to vSwitch esxcli network vswitch standard portgroup add -p "Portgroup_Name" -v <vswitchid>
Set Management Network Interface esxcli network ip interface tag add -i <vmnicid> -t Management
Set VLAN id esxcli network vswitch standard portgroup set --vlan-id <vlanidnumber> -p "Portgroup_Name"
Set SNMP Community esxcli system snmp set --communities "COMMUNITY_NAME"
Set SNMP Trap destination esxcli system snmp set --targets 10.10.1.150/COMMUNITY_NAME
Send test SNMP trap esxcli system snmp test
Check SNMP State esxcli system snmp get
Enable IPMI as SNMP source esxcli system snmp set --hwsrc sensors
Enable CIM as SNMP source esxcli system snmp set --hwsrc indications
Enable ESXi Host SNMP esxcli system snmp set --enable true
Capture Network Packets on the a physical interface pktcap-uw --uplink <vmnicid>
List all physical network interfaces esxcli network nic list
Enable iSCSI software adapter esxcli iscsi software set --enabled true
Verify iSCSI adapter is enabled esxcli iscsi software get
List metrics for specific iSCSI adapter esxcli iscsi adapter param get -A <vmbaid>
List established iSCSI sessions esxcli iscsi sessions