

Change Network Connection from Public to Private

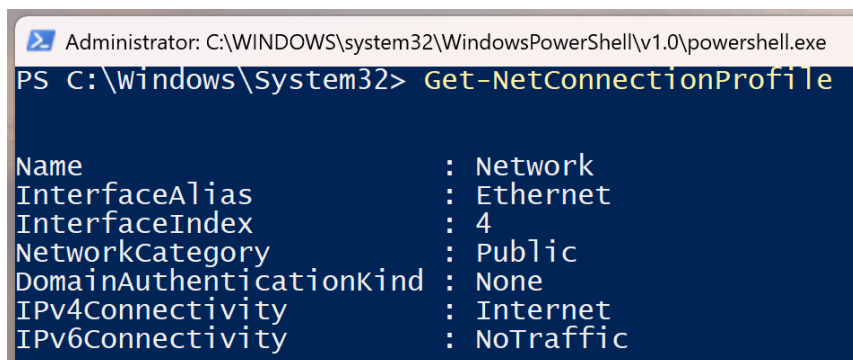
If you've ever connected your Windows PC to a network and found that it's marked as **Public** when you really wanted it to be **Private**, you're not alone.

Windows labels networks as **Public** by default for security reasons. A **Public network** assumes you're on an open Wi-Fi (like a coffee shop or airport) and locks down sharing and visibility. A **Private network**, on the other hand, is for trusted places like your home or office—it allows features like file sharing, network discovery, and printer access.

Changing this setting through the Windows interface can take a few clicks. But if you're comfortable with PowerShell, there's a super-quick way to do it.

You can use the below command to check what Network Category you currently have.

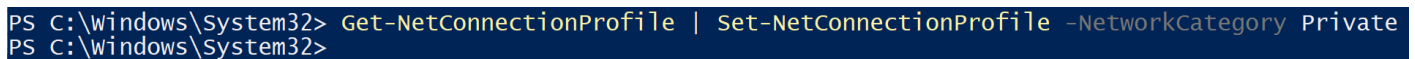
```
Get-NetConnectionProfile
```

A screenshot of a PowerShell terminal window. The title bar reads "Administrator: C:\WINDOWS\system32\WindowsPowerShell\v1.0\powershell.exe". The prompt is "PS C:\windows\System32>". The command entered is "Get-NetConnectionProfile". The output is a list of properties and their values:

```
Name : Network
InterfaceAlias : Ethernet
InterfaceIndex : 4
NetworkCategory : Public
DomainAuthenticationKind : None
IPv4Connectivity : Internet
IPv6Connectivity : NoTraffic
```

To change **Public** to **Private**, Open **PowerShell** as an administrator and run:

```
Get-NetConnectionProfile | Set-NetConnectionProfile -NetworkCategory Private
```

A screenshot of a PowerShell terminal window. The prompt is "PS C:\windows\System32>". The command entered is "Get-NetConnectionProfile | Set-NetConnectionProfile -NetworkCategory Private". The prompt is repeated on the next line.

```
PS C:\windows\System32> Get-NetConnectionProfile | Set-NetConnectionProfile -NetworkCategory Private
PS C:\windows\System32>
```

Running the below command again will confirm if this has worked

```
Get-NetConnectionProfile
```

```
Administrator: C:\WINDOWS\system32\WindowsPowerShell\v1.0\powershell.exe
PS C:\windows\System32> Get-NetConnectionProfile

Name                : Network
InterfaceAlias       : Ethernet
InterfaceIndex       : 4
NetworkCategory      : Private
DomainAuthenticationKind : None
IPv4Connectivity     : Internet
IPv6Connectivity     : NoTraffic
```

And that's it! Instead of hunting through settings, you can flip your network from **Public** to **Private** in a couple of seconds.

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