

Resultant Set of Policy (RSOP), Group Policy Results, and Group Policy Modeling

<https://4sysops.com/archives/resultant-set-of-policy-rsop-group-policy-results-and-group-policy-modeling/>

The Resultant Set of Policy (RSOP) snap-in of the Microsoft Management Console (MCC) helps troubleshoot Group Policy settings. Group Policy Results and Group Policy Modeling are the corresponding features of the Group Policy Management Console (GPMC).

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Resultant Set of Policy (RSOP) in the MCC

[Resultant Set of Policy \(RSOP\)](#) is a Windows MMC tool that enables network administrators to analyze and manage Group Policy settings, including user settings and computer policy settings. It provides a comprehensive view of all Group Policy settings applied to a user or computer within an Active Directory environment. RSOP compiles and displays these policies, allowing admins to see their results visually.

RSOP comes in two operational modes:

Logging mode—Logging mode in RSOP enables administrators to view Group Policy settings currently applied to a user or computer. It's often used for troubleshooting Group Policy settings, especially when inconsistencies or unexpected behaviors occur.

This data includes user policy settings, computer configuration policy settings, security settings, and much more. Logging mode also filters out unapplied settings, making it easier to pinpoint specific problems.

Planning mode—Planning mode, on the other hand, is a planning/simulation tool. It simulates GPO policy settings for users and computers. This allows testing of the effects of potential changes to Group Policy Objects (GPOs) without affecting the actual production environment.

RSOP's ability to generate detailed reports on Group Policy settings makes it an excellent tool for troubleshooting, planning, and auditing policy settings across the network for both users and computers.

Group Policy Results and Group Policy Modeling in the GPMC

Microsoft has also added this functionality for modeling and auditing Group Policy settings directly to the Group Policy Management Console (GPMC). The relevant tools include Group Policy Results and Group Policy Modeling.

Group Policy Results—Reports the actual effect of a policy on a computer or user

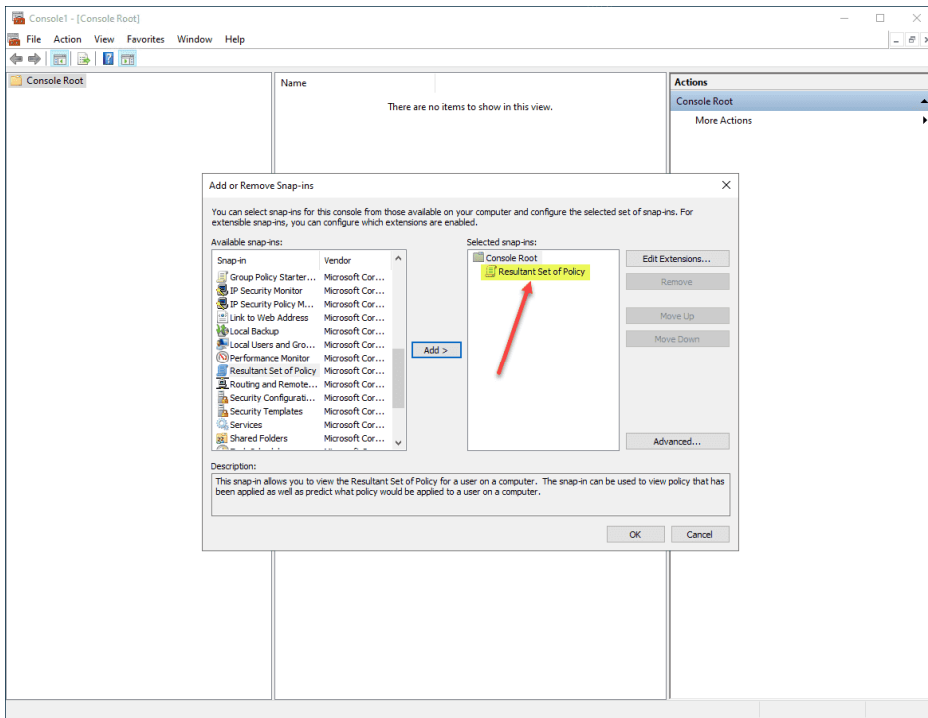
Group Policy Modeling—Simulates how Group Policy would be applied under different conditions

The Group Policy Results feature of the GPMC corresponds to RSOP's Logging mode in the MMC, and Group Policy Modeling corresponds to RSOP's Planning mode.

Generating RSOP with Logging mode in the MCC

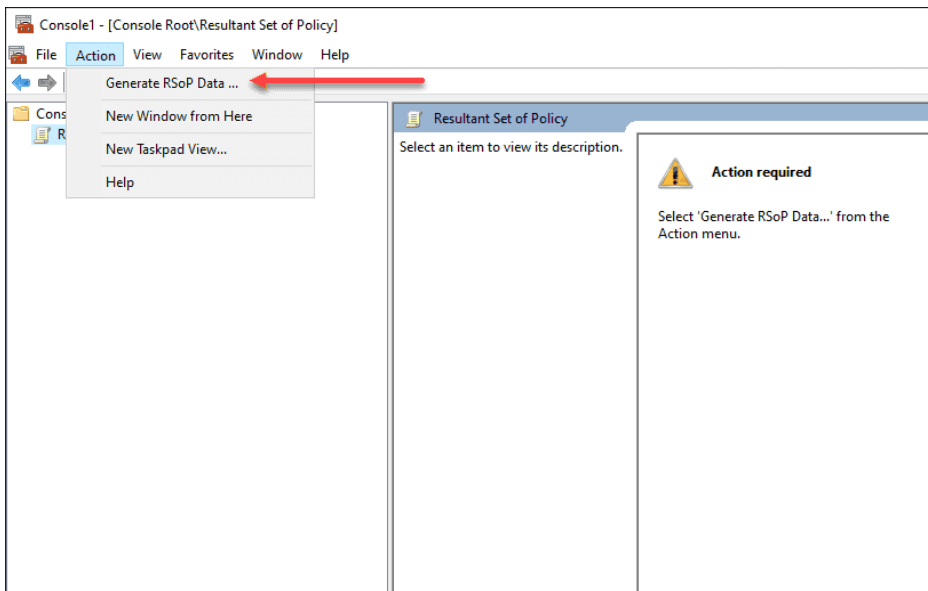
RSOP can be accessed from the MMC, which is launched from the command line or a PowerShell prompt using "mmc.exe." The RSOP Wizard in the Group Policy Management Console (GPMC) guides administrators through generating RSOP data and viewing the resultant set of policy settings.

After launching *mmc.exe*, select the **Resultant Set of Policy** snap-in and click **OK**.



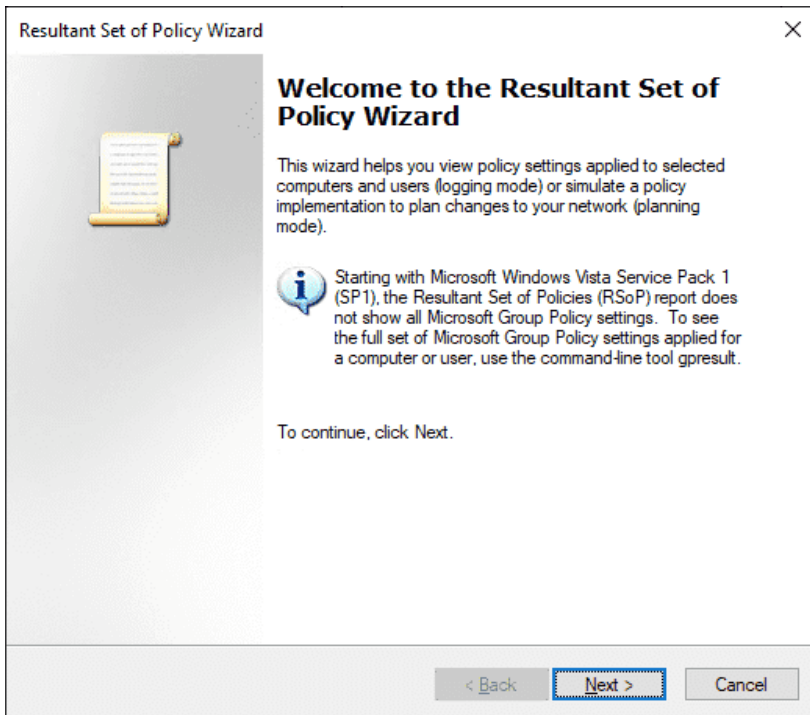
Adding the RSoP snap in to the MMC

Next, under the **Action** menu, select **Generate RSoP Data**.



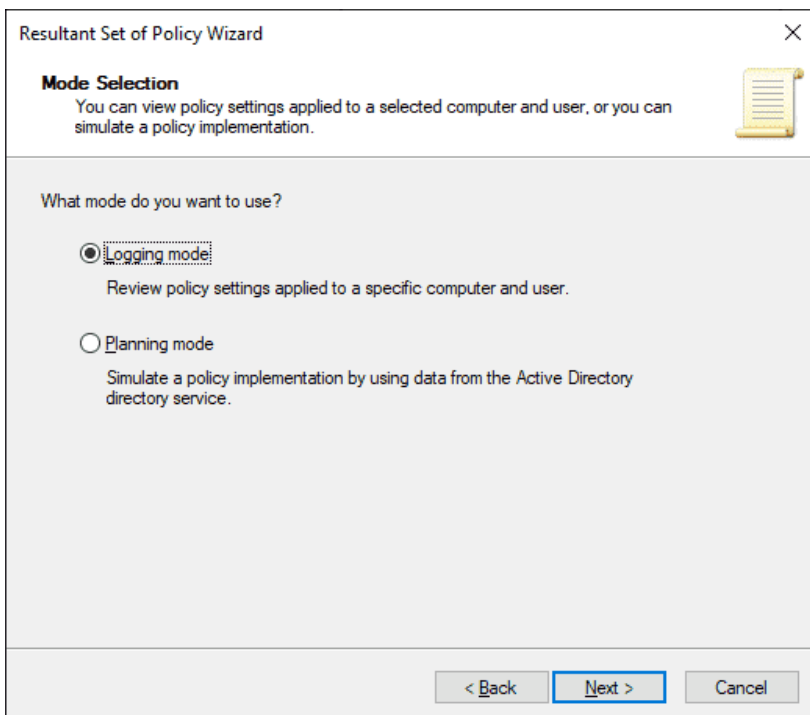
Generate RSoP data

It will begin the Resultant Set of Policy Wizard. Click **Next**.



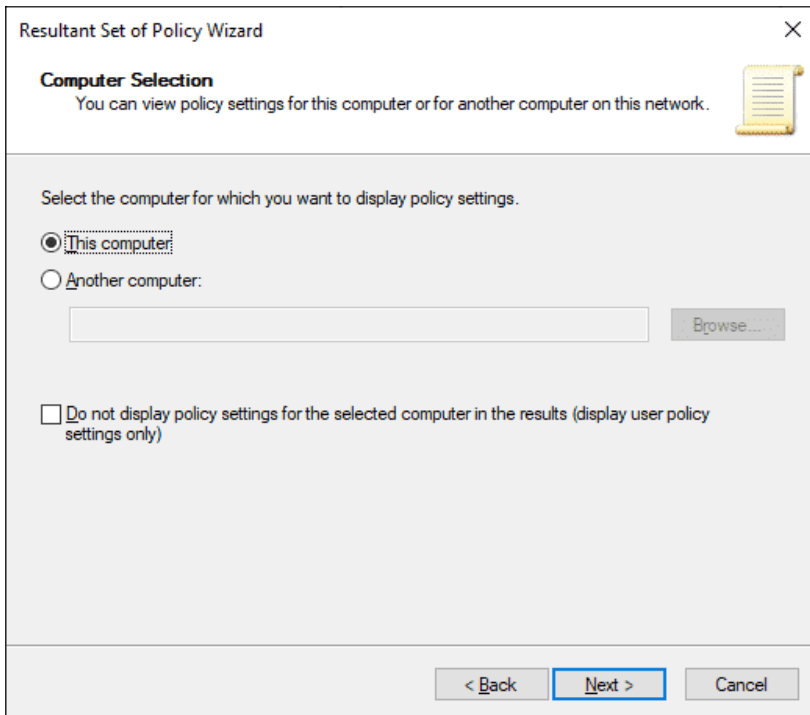
Beginning the Resultant Set of Policy Wizard

Next, choose the mode you want. As mentioned earlier, the options are Logging mode and Planning mode.



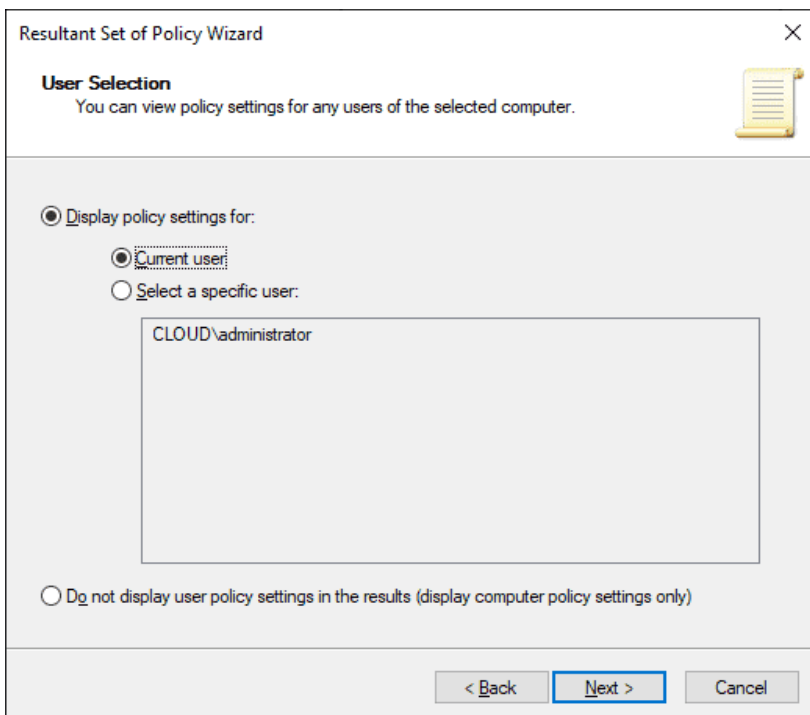
Choosing Logging or Planning mode

Here, we are proceeding with Logging mode. Select the computer for which you want to view policy settings. It can be the local computer or a remote computer.



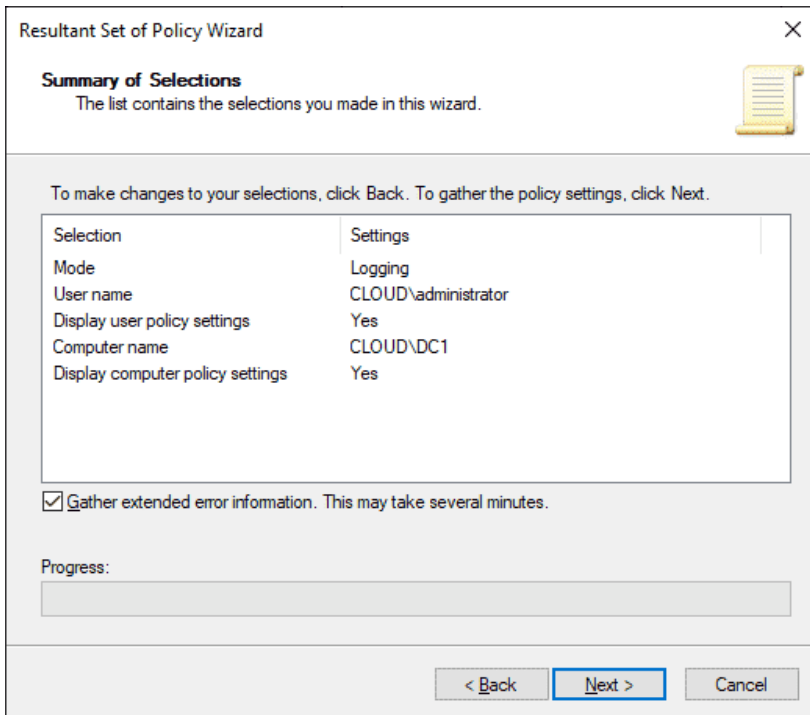
Select the computer for which you want to display policy settings

Next, select the user for whom you want to view policy settings.



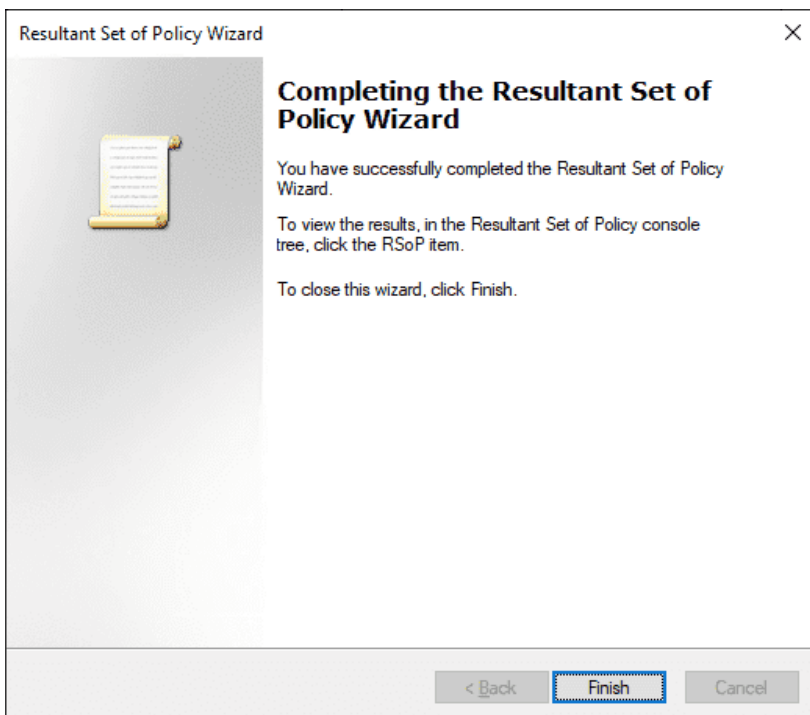
User selection with RSoP

The RSoP Wizard displays a summary of the configuration settings. By default, the *Gather extended error information* option is selected, which helps to gather more detailed information.



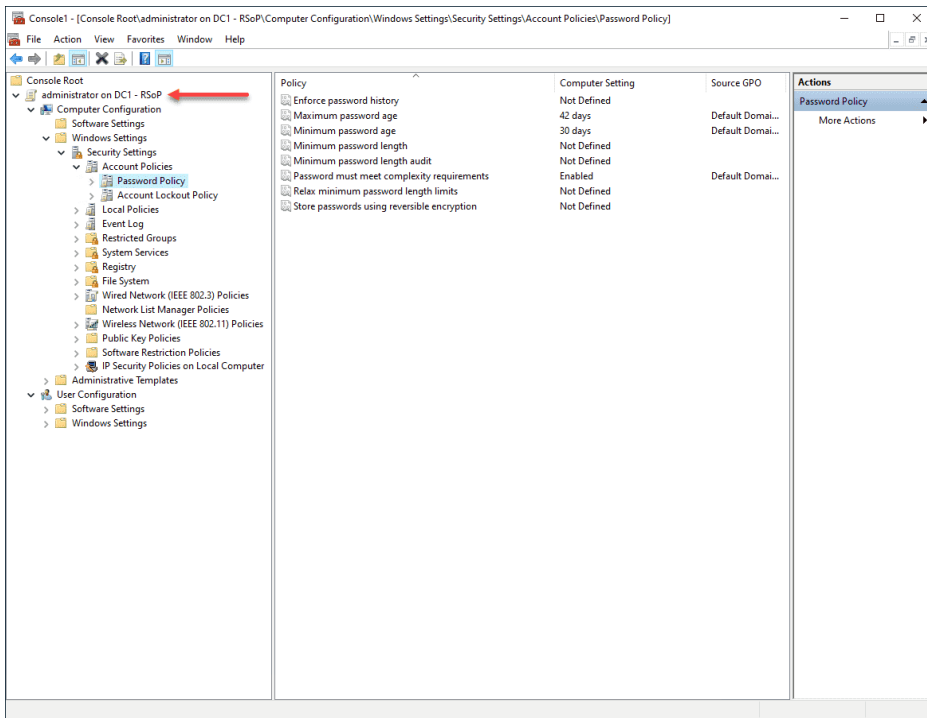
Summary of Selections screen

When you reach the Completing the Resultant Set of Policy Wizard screen, click **Finish**.



Completing the Resultant Set of Policy Wizard

You will see the results displayed in the MMC console. You can expand the nodes listed to see the applied policy settings for both the computer configuration and the user configuration.



Viewing RSoP settings in the MMC console

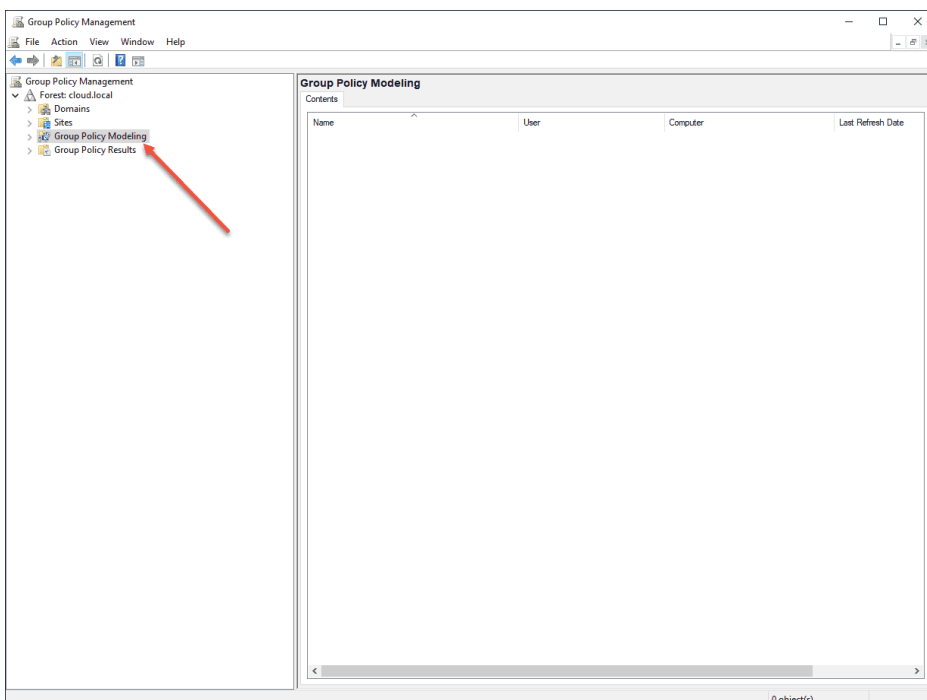
Note the following:

- RSoP displays each GPO to which the displayed setting corresponds and any lower-priority GPOs that may be attempting to configure settings. GPMC displays the results in a report-style view that doesn't show the detailed listing of settings. You only see this in the advanced view that launches RSoP.
- If an administrator uses the GPMC and chooses to view advanced information about the Group Policy Results or Group Policy Modeling report, it will open the RSoP snap-in.

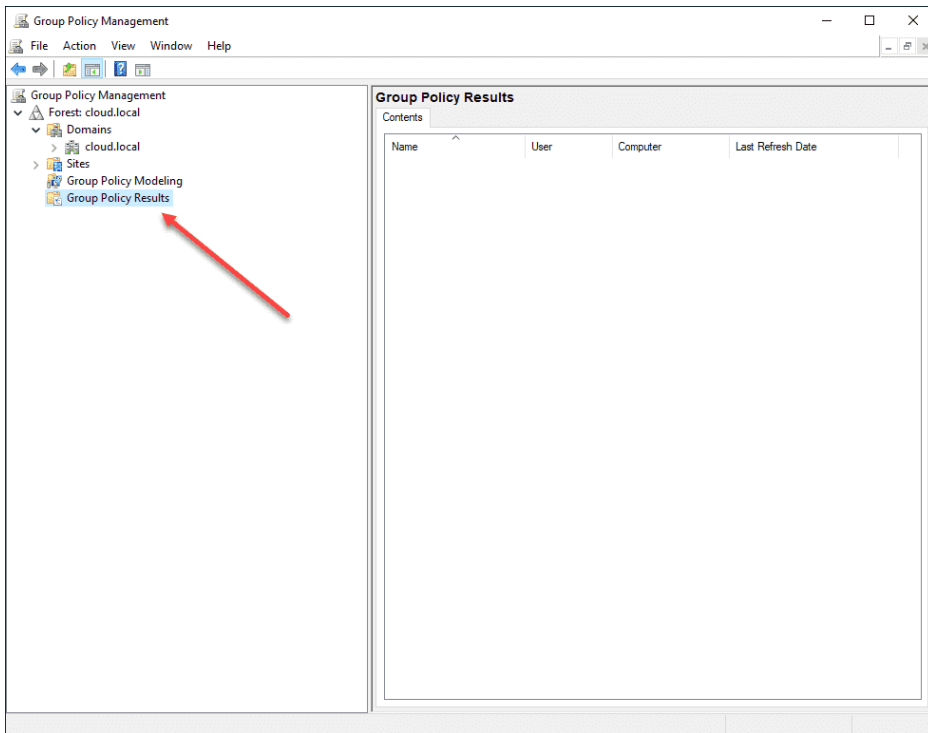
Using Group Policy Modeling in the GPMC

As shown below, you can find the new Group Policy Results and Group Policy Modeling in the updated Group Policy Management Console. Because I demonstrated Logging mode or RSoP in the MMC above, I will show you how to use Modeling mode in the GPMC.

The Group Policy Management Console (GPMC) is a well-known tool most admins use to view and configure Group Policy settings in Active Directory. You can launch the Group Policy Management Console by executing the *gpmc.msc* command.



Group Policy Modeling found in the Group Policy Management Console



Group Policy Modeling and Results are found in the Group Policy Management Console

Both tools function similarly to the corresponding features of the RSOP snap-in in the MMC. When you right-click a node, you can launch the respective wizards.

Launching the Group Policy Modeling Wizard is similar to RSOP Planning mode; the modeling wizard helps simulate policies for planning and testing purposes. It allows you to specify:

- Domain controller
- Users
- Security group membership
- Location
- WMI filter status

Let's work through an example of the Group Policy Modeling Wizard. Below, we launch the Group Policy Modeling Wizard to model changes *before* the changes are made to a user or computer, such as moving the object to a different OU.

After beginning the wizard, select a domain controller for processing. By default, it will use any available domain controller.

Group Policy Modeling Wizard

Domain Controller Selection
You must specify a domain controller to use for performing the simulation.

The simulation performed by Group Policy Modeling must be processed on a domain controller running Windows Server 2003 or later.

Show domain controllers in this domain:
cloud.local

Process the simulation on this domain controller:

Any available domain controller running Windows Server 2003 or later

This domain controller:

Name	Site
DC1.cloud.local	Default-First-Site-Name

< Back Next > Cancel

Select the domain controller for processing the modeling request

Next, select the user or computer on which you want to perform the modeling operation.

Group Policy Modeling Wizard

User and Computer Selection
You can view simulated policy settings for a selected user (or a container with user information) and computer (or a container with computer information).

Example container name: CN=Users,DC=cloud,DC=local
Example user or computer: CLOUD\administrator

Simulate policy settings for the following:

User information

Container: Browse...

User: CLOUD\administrator Browse...

Computer information

Container: Browse...

Computer: Browse...

Skip to the final page of this wizard without collecting additional data

< Back Next > Cancel

Select the object you want to model

The next screen also allows you to simulate policy implementation for slow links or specific Active Directory sites.

Group Policy Modeling Wizard

Advanced Simulation Options
You can select additional options for your simulation.

Simulate policy implementation for the following:

Slow network connection (for example, a dial-up connection)

Loopback processing

Replace

Merge

Site:

(None) ▾

Skip to the final page of this wizard without collecting additional data

< Back Next > Cancel

Simulate slow network connections or different sites

On the next screen, we see the power of the modeling wizard. Here, you can simulate a change in location for the object to see if there are any policy changes.

Group Policy Modeling Wizard

Alternate Active Directory Paths
You can simulate changes to the network location of the selected user and computer.

Enter new network locations for which to simulate policy settings.

User location:

OU=TestOU,DC=cloud,DC=local Browse...

Computer location:

 Browse...

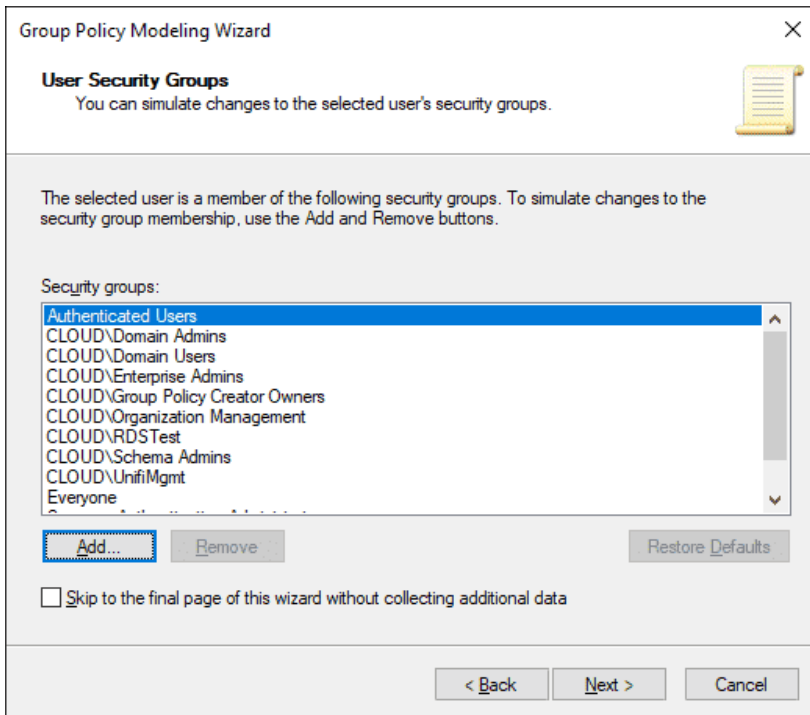
Restore to Defaults

Skip to the final page of this wizard without collecting additional data

< Back Next > Cancel

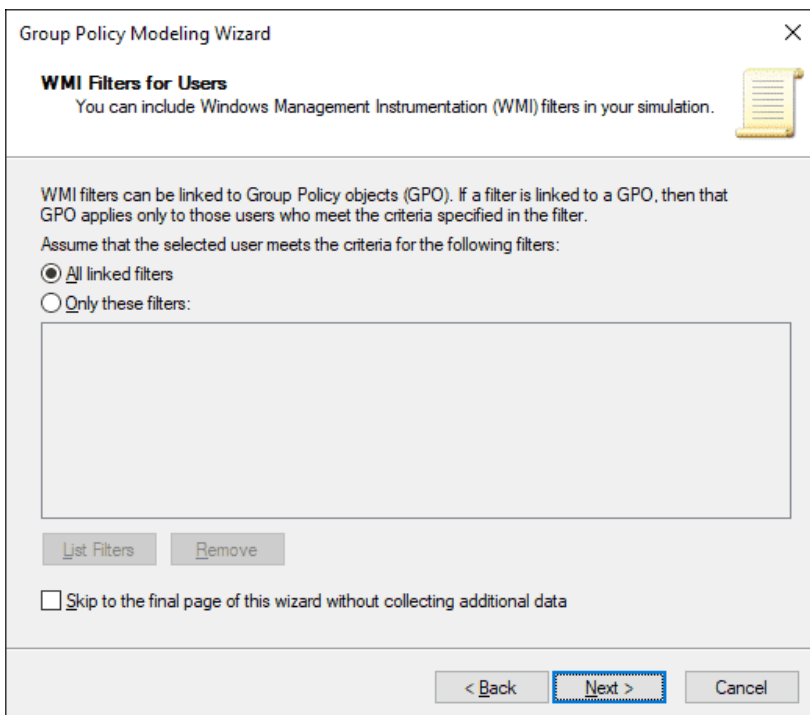
Simulate changes to the network location of a user or computer

In addition, you can simulate security group changes. What happens if you place a user or computer in a different container? The modeling wizard can help you understand the Group Policy results before making these changes.



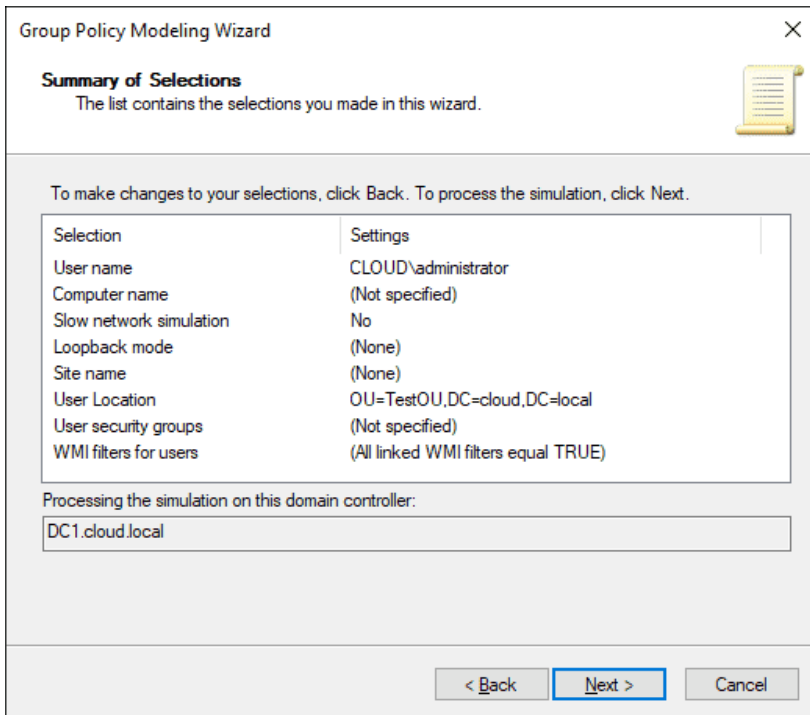
Simulate changes to user groups

You can also simulate WMI filters in your modeling simulation.



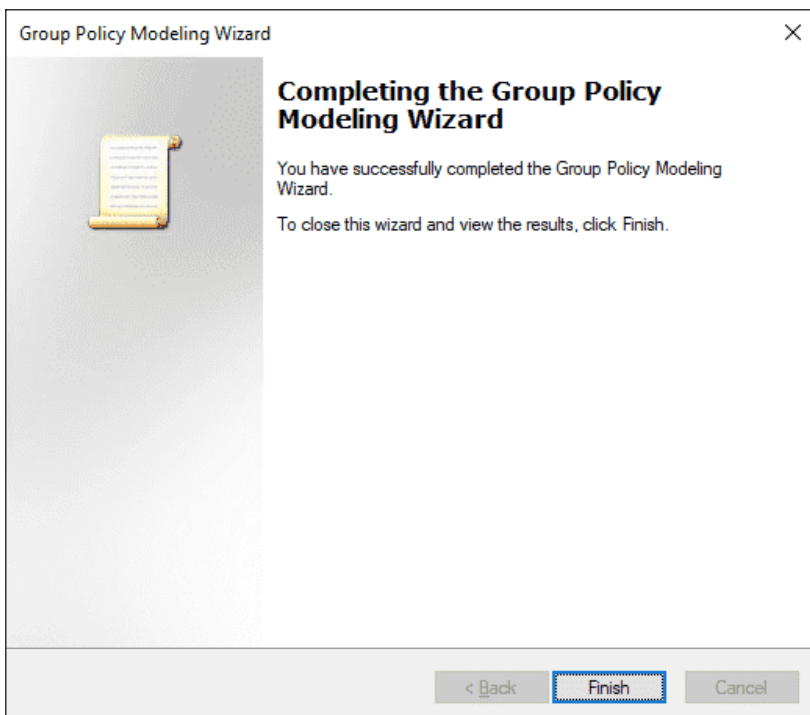
Include WMI filters in the simulation

The wizard will provide a summary of the chosen options. Click **Next**.



Summary of the Group Policy Modeling selections

Finally, you will arrive at the completing wizard screen.



Finishing the Group Policy Modeling Wizard

The modeling wizard will automatically open the report of the modeling run. Here, you can see that we have picked up an additional policy setting affecting passwords due to moving the user to the different OU specified in the modeling wizard.

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