TECHRUNBOOK

Free Technical Sample

Windows Server — RPC Server Unavailable Troubleshooting

A practical preview from the TechRunbook IT Infrastructure Troubleshooting Toolkit — Volume 1.

The problem

Remote administration, WMI, management tools, or applications can fail with an RPC server unavailable error. The cause may be network connectivity, DNS, TCP 135, firewall rules, RPC services, WMI, domain connectivity, or dynamic RPC port filtering.

Quick diagnostic sequence

```
$Server = "SERVER01"

Test-Connection $Server -Count 4
Resolve-DnsName $Server
Test-NetConnection $Server -Port 135
Test-WSMan $Server
Get-CimInstance Win32_OperatingSystem -ComputerName $Server
```

Check RPC-related services

```
Get-Service RpcSs,RpcEptMapper,DcomLaunch
```

Check Windows Firewall

```
Get-NetFirewallProfile

Get-NetFirewallRule -DisplayGroup "Windows Management Instrumentation (WMI)"

Get-NetFirewallRule -DisplayGroup "Remote Service Management"
```

Check domain connectivity

```
Test-ComputerSecureChannel
nltest /dsgetdc:YOURDOMAIN
```

Troubleshooting sequence

1. Confirm the destination server is online.
2. Verify DNS resolves the correct IP address.
3. Test TCP 135.
4. Verify RPC-related services.
5. Review Windows Firewall and network ACLs.
6. Test WMI/CIM and WinRM separately.
7. Review domain connectivity and event logs.
8. If TCP 135 succeeds but RPC still fails, investigate dynamic RPC ports and application-specific requirements.

Production checklist

[ ] Network connectivity
[ ] DNS resolution
[ ] TCP 135
[ ] RPC services
[ ] Firewall rules
[ ] WMI/CIM
[ ] Domain connectivity
[ ] Event logs
[ ] Original application verification

Want the complete toolkit?

The full TechRunbook IT Infrastructure Troubleshooting Toolkit — Volume 1 contains 30+ practical resources covering Windows, VMware, Hyper-V, Azure, PowerShell and MABS, including troubleshooting runbooks, scripts, command references and production checklists.

Launch price: ■499