

# How to Permanently Remove Deleted Users from Office 365

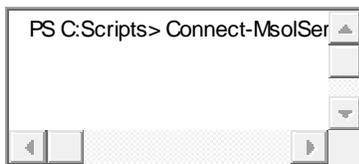
by [Paul Cunningham](#)

When you delete a user from the [Office 365](#) control panel they are moved into a recycle bin for 30 days so that they can be recovered easily if the deletion was not intended.

However, if you want to permanently remove a deleted user in Office 365 you can use PowerShell. For this task you will need the [Azure Active Directory for PowerShell module](#) installed on your computer.

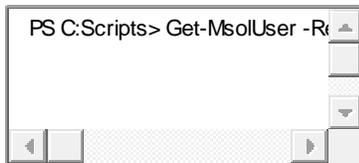
First, connect to your Azure Active Directory by running `Connect-MsolService` and entering your admin credentials in the dialog box that appears.

**Caution:** do not proceed unless you are completely sure that you want to permanently remove the users.



```
1 PS C:Scripts> Connect-MsolService
```

To see a list of the deleted users run `Get-MsolUser` with the `-ReturnDeletedUsers` switch.

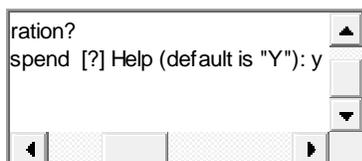


```
1 PS C:Scripts> Get-MsolUser -ReturnDeletedUsers
```

```
PS C:\Scripts> Get-MsolUser -ReturnDeletedUsers
```

UserPrincipalName	DisplayName	isLicense
Adm:		False
Sel:		False
sbse:		False
sbse:		False
Char:		False
Ke L:		False
SBSI:		False
Adm:		False
Naor:		False
Shar:		False
Lynn:		False
Ke L:		False
Hay:		False
Dal:		False
SBSI:		False
Off:		False
Dal:		False
bacl:		False
Cait:		False
Hay:		False
Kat:		False
Rebe:		False
bacl:		False
Anne:		False
Tiar:		False
Off:		False
Anne:		False

You can remove a specific deleted user with `Remove-MsolUser` and the `-RemoveFromRecycleBin` switch.



```
PS C:\Scripts> Remove-MsolUser -UserPrincipalName Lynn@office365bootcamp.com -
1 RemoveFromRecycleBin
2
3 Confirm
4 Continue with this operation?
5 [Y] Yes [N] No [S] Suspend [?] Help (default is "Y"): y
```

To remove all deleted users you can pipe the `Get-MsolUser` output to `Remove-MsolUser` and add the `-Force` switch to avoid being prompted for each removal.

**Caution:** be very careful here not to accidentally delete all users from your Azure Active Directory.