Automatically Running Notepad - A Handy Windows Feature

In the Windows operating system, there is a feature that allows you to automatically run Notepad when you open a folder. This feature can be quite useful for users who frequently need to create or edit text files while navigating through folders. In this article, we will explore how to enable and customize this feature in the Windows environment.

Enabling the Automatically Running Notepad feature is a simple process. All you need to do is create a desktop.ini file in the desired folder and add the following lines:

[.ShellClassInfo] LocalizedResourceName=@SystemRoot\system32\shell32.dll,-21787

This will tell Windows to execute Notepad whenever the folder is opened. The LocalizedResourceName value specifies the display name for the folder, which in this case is set to the string resource -21787 in the shell32.dll file.

To create the desktop.ini file, follow these steps:

- 1. Open the folder where you want Notepad to run automatically.
- 2. Right-click on an empty area within the folder and select "New" > "Text Document".
- 3. Rename the text document to "desktop.ini" (without the quotes).
- 4. Open the desktop.ini file in a text editor (such as Notepad).
- 5. Add the following lines to the file:

[.ShellClassInfo] LocalizedResourceName=@SystemRoot\system32\shell32.dll,-21787

6. Save the file and close the text editor.

Now, when you open the folder, Windows will automatically launch Notepad. You can customize the LocalizedResourceName value to display a different name for the folder, if desired.

It's important to note that the Automatically Running Notepad feature is specific to the Windows operating system. If you are using a different operating system, such as macOS or Linux, this feature may not be applicable. In such cases, alternative methods can be used to achieve similar functionality. For example, in macOS, you can use the Automator app to create a folder action that opens a specific application when the folder is accessed. In Linux, you can use shell scripting to achieve a similar result.