

# ? Transferring FSMO Roles to Another Domain Controller

FSMO (Flexible Single Master Operations) roles are critical for Active Directory functionality. This guide shows how to transfer all FSMO roles to a new Domain Controller (`HQ-DC01`) using both GUI and PowerShell.

## ☐ FSMO Roles Overview

- Schema Master
- Domain Naming Master
- PDC Emulator
- RID Master
- Infrastructure Master

## ☐ Method 1: Transfer FSMO Roles via PowerShell

1. Open PowerShell as Administrator on **any DC**.
2. Run the following command to transfer all FSMO roles to `HQ-DC01`:

```
Import-Module ActiveDirectory
Move-ADDirectoryServerOperationMasterRole -Identity "HQ-DC01" -
OperationMasterRole 0,1,2,3,4 -Confirm:$false
```

This command transfers all five roles at once:

- 0 – PDC Emulator
- 1 – RID Master
- 2 – Infrastructure Master
- 3 – Schema Master
- 4 – Domain Naming Master

## ☐ Verify the Transfer

```
Get-ADForest | Select-Object SchemaMaster, DomainNamingMaster  
Get-ADDomain | Select-Object PDCEmulator, RIDMaster, InfrastructureMaster
```

## ☐☐ Method 2: Transfer FSMO Roles via GUI

### 1. Transfer RID, PDC, Infrastructure Master

1. Open **Active Directory Users and Computers (dsa.msc)**
2. Right-click the domain ? click **Operations Masters**
3. Go through the **RID, PDC, and Infrastructure** tabs
4. Click **Change** on each tab to transfer the role to `HQ-DC01`

### 2. Transfer Domain Naming Master

1. Open **Active Directory Domains and Trusts (domain.msc)**
2. Right-click **Active Directory Domains and Trusts** at the top left
3. Select **Operations Master**
4. Click **Change**

### 3. Transfer Schema Master

1. Run the following to register the Schema snap-in:

```
regsvr32 schmmgmt.dll
```

2. Run `mmc` ? Add Snap-in ? **Active Directory Schema**
3. Right-click **Active Directory Schema** ? **Change Active Directory Domain Controller...**
4. Select **HQ-DC01**
5. Then right-click again ? **Operations Master** ? Click **Change**

## ☐☐ Notes

- You must be a **Domain Admin** and a **Schema Admin** to transfer all roles.
- The Schema Master snap-in only connects to DCs that are **writable** and have a **replica of the schema**.
- If a DC is unreachable, roles must be **seized** rather than transferred.

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## □ Final Tip

Use `netdom query fsmo` to check current FSMO role holders at any time.

```
netdom query fsmo
```

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