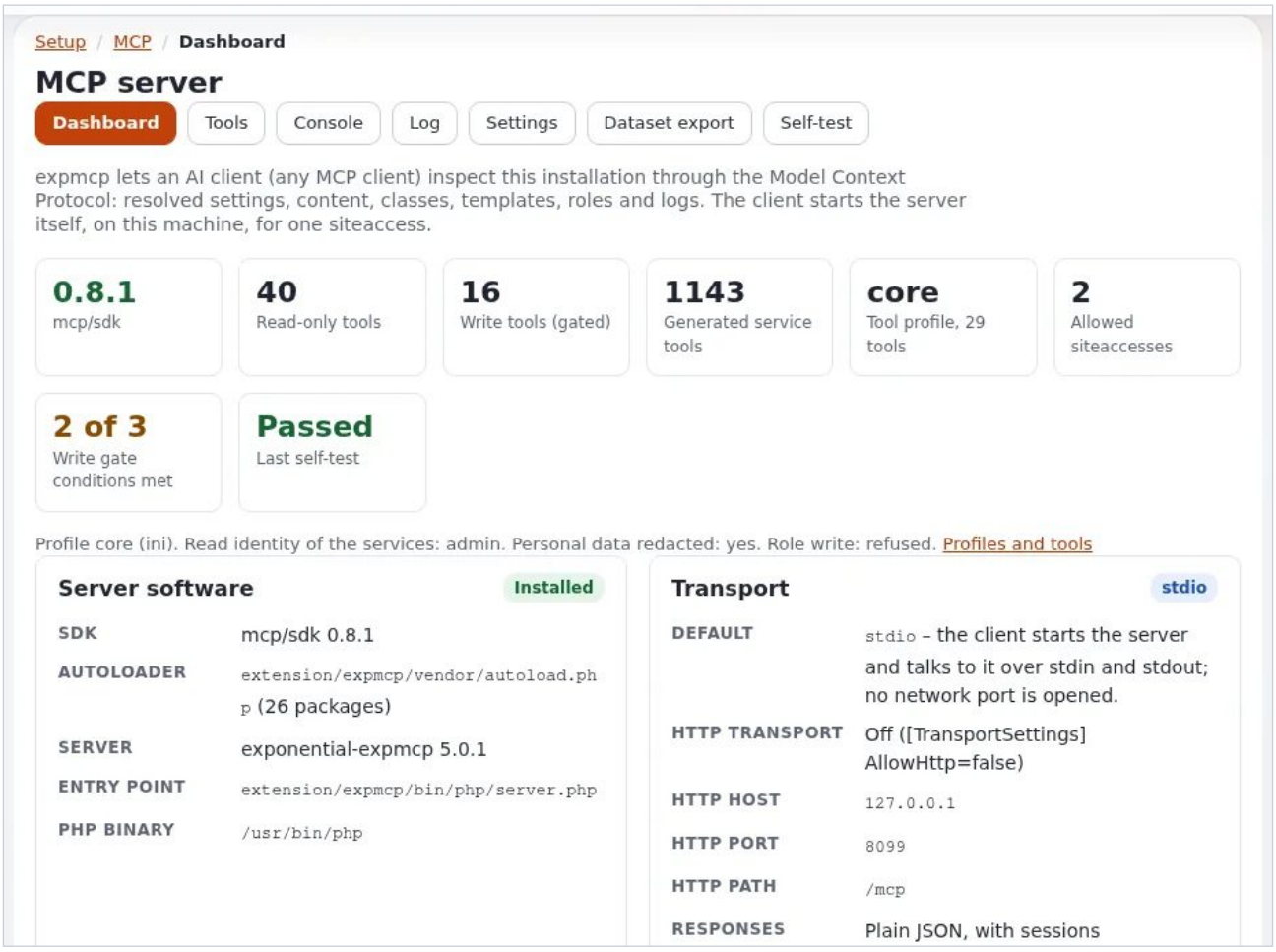
# CLI scripts with eZScript

Write command line tools for an application - the class-based Command with script(), startup() and options, the classic eZScript pattern, eZCLI output, siteaccess and user, exit codes, dry runs and safety.

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This page is for application creators who write command line tools: imports, maintenance, reports. A script boots the kernel with `eZScript`, reads options, does its work and exits with a status. New scripts are classes extending `Exponential\Runnable\Command`; the console runs them as `ext:<ext>:<name>`.




*Setup, MCP server: the read-only tools an assistant can use to inspect the installation*

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## The class-based command

From Commands as classes:

**PHP**

```php
<?php
// extension/expdemo/classes/runnable/commands/report.php
namespace Exponential\Command\Extension\Expdemo;

class Report extends \Exponential\Runnable\Command
{
    public function run()
    {
        $this->script( array( 'description' => "Writes the monthly report",
                              'use-session' => false, 'use-modules' => true, 'use-extensions' =>
true ) );
        $options = $this->startup( '[month:][dry-run]', '', array(
            'month'   => 'The month, YYYY-MM',
            'dry-run' => 'Show what would be written, write nothing' ) );

        $this->output( \expDemoReportService::build( $options['month'], !empty( $options['dry-run
'] ) ) );
        $this->shutdown( 0 );
    }
}
```

**PHP**

```php
#!/usr/bin/env php
<?php
// extension/expdemo/bin/php/report.php
require_once 'autoload.php';
\Exponential\Command\Extension\Expdemo\Report::main( __FILE__ );
```

`php bin/php/console ext:expdemo:report --month=2026-10 --dry-run`.

## The classic pattern

Many scripts use `eZScript` directly, as `update/common/scripts/6.0/createbookmarkviewtable.php` does:

**PHP**

```php
require_once 'autoload.php';
$cli = eZCLI::instance();
$script = eZScript::instance( array( 'description' => 'What it does', 'use-session' => false,
                                     'use-modules' => true, 'use-extensions' => true ) );
$script->startup();
$options = $script->getOptions( '[file:][dry-run]', '', array( 'file' => 'The input file' ) );
$script->initialize();
// work
$script->shutdown( 0 );
```

`getOptions()` takes a config string (`[name:]` with a value, `[name]` a flag), arguments and help texts; `--help`, `-s/--siteaccess`, `--allow-root-user` and the debug options are added for you.

## Output

`$cli->output()`, `$cli->notice()`, `$cli->warning()`, `$cli->error()`; colors switch off when output is redirected. End with a summary line and an exit code: `shutdown( 0 )` success, `shutdown( 1 )` failure.

## Siteaccess and user

- `-s <siteaccess>` selects the settings; extensions active only in that siteaccess need it.
- The user is anonymous. A script that writes content logs in a dedicated user (`eZUser::setCurrentlyLoggedInUser( $user, $user->id() )`), never the shared administrator.

## Safety rules

- A `--dry-run` for every command that writes or deletes.
- Read help before running other people's commands: some delete without `--help` (`exp:cleanupversions`).
- Never accept passwords as options (they show in the process list); read them from settings or the environment.
- Run as the web server's user; files written by root break the site later.

## Related pages

- Console commands
- Writing a cronjob script
- Command pattern
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