

## The Industry Standard in IT Infrastructure Monitoring

### Purpose

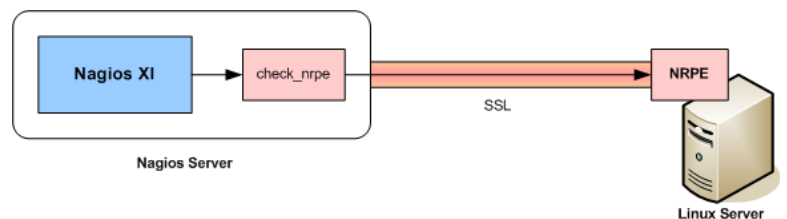
This document describes how to monitor hosts with Nagios XI by using NRPE.

### Target Audience

This document is intended for use by Nagios XI Administrators who want to setup custom monitoring of servers using NRPE or who have existing hosts with the NRPE agent already installed and configured.

### NRPE Overview

NRPE is a monitoring agent and protocol that is often used to monitor Linux and Unix machines with Nagios.



The NRPE add-on consists of two parts:

- A client (check\_nrpe plugin) that runs on the Nagios server
- A daemon that runs on the remote Linux/Unix server, processes requests from the client, and returns status information.

Communication between client and the server can be encrypted to ensure secure data transmission.

**Note:** The NRPE protocol is supported by various Windows agents as well, so this documentation can be generally applied to monitoring Windows machines using NRPE. However, the configuration examples provided below are specific to the NRPE server that runs on Linux/Unix machines.

### Simplified Linux Agent

If you want to monitor a CentOS or RHEL machine that **does not** currently have NRPE installed on it please install the pre-packaged Nagios XI Linux agent (a combination of NRPE and various plugins) on each Linux machine you want to monitor by following the instructions found in the separate document located at the following URL:

[https://assets.nagios.com/downloads/nagiosxi/docs/Installing\\_The\\_XI\\_Linux\\_Agent.pdf](https://assets.nagios.com/downloads/nagiosxi/docs/Installing_The_XI_Linux_Agent.pdf)

## Manually Installing NRPE

If you need to manually install NRPE and monitoring plugins on a remote Linux/Unix server, you can still monitor the machine using Nagios XI. Instructions for installing NRPE and plugins on various operating systems and Linux distributions can be found in the following KB article:

<https://support.nagios.com/kb/article.php?id=515>

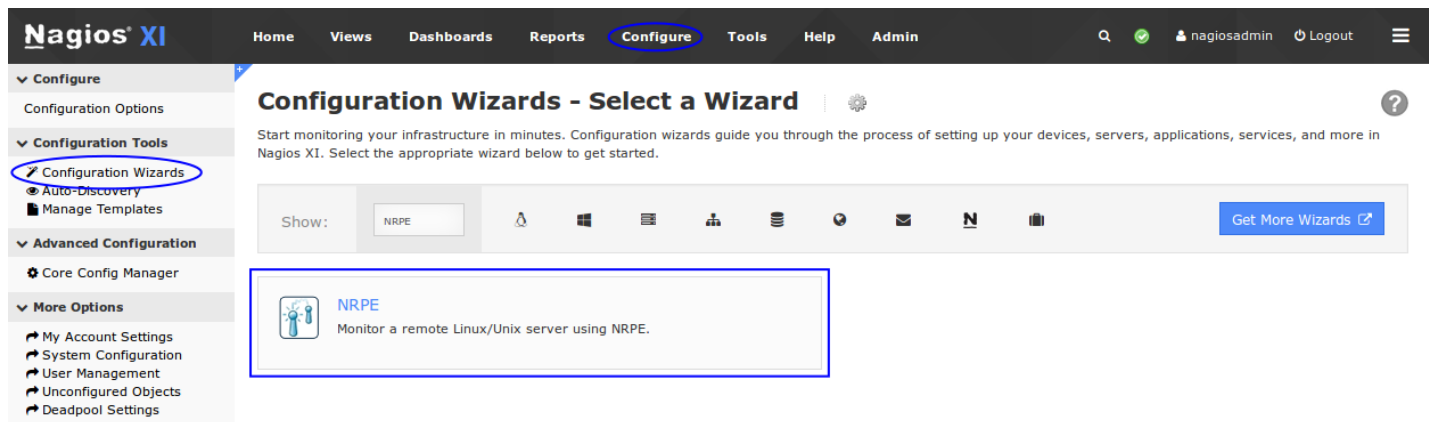
## Existing NRPE Installations

If you were previously using Nagios Core to monitor Linux/Unix machines, you likely have NRPE already installed and configured on these machines. Nagios XI can monitor these machines using your existing NRPE setup. You may need to update the required configuration files to allow your Nagios XI server to communicate, one of the following files will contain the required settings:

```
/etc/xinetd.d/nrpe
/usr/local/nagios/etc/nrpe.cfg
```

## NRPE Monitoring Wizard

To begin using the NRPE wizard navigate via the top menu bar to **Configure > Run a configuring wizard**, and select the **NRPE** wizard. In the following screenshot you can see how the search field allows you to quickly find a wizard.



On Step 1 you will be asked to supply the **address** of the machine running the NRPE client.

You will also have to select the **Operating System**, in this case it is CentOS.

Click Next to progress to step 2.



On step 2 you will configure all of the options for monitoring.

To start off with make sure a valid **Host Name** has been entered.

The NRPE Agent section can be ignored because you have already installed it.

The NRPE wizard allows you to specify which NRPE commands should be executed and monitored and what display name (service description) should be associated with each command.

The commands you enter in the wizard must correspond to the command names that you defined in the NRPE configuration file on your server.

In the screenshot to the right you can see there are two commands defined with their respective arguments.

**Configuration Wizard: NRPE - Step 2**

**Server Details**

IP Address: 10.25.13.30

Operating System: CentOS

Host Name: 10.25.13.30  
The name you'd like to have associated with this host.

**NRPE Agent**

Specify options that should be used to communicate with the remote NRPE agent.

Agent Download: [Download Agent](#)

Agent Install Instructions: [Agent Installation Instructions](#)

SSL Encryption: Enabled (Default)  
Determines whether or not data between the Nagios XI server and NRPE agent is encrypted.  
**Note:** Legacy NRPE installations may require that SSL support be disabled.

**Server Metrics**

Specify which services you'd like to monitor for the server.

**Ping**  
Monitors the server with an ICMP Ping. Useful for watching network latency and general uptime.

**NRPE Commands**

Specify any remote NRPE commands that should be monitored on the server. Multiple command arguments should be separated with a space.

Display Name	Remote NRPE Command	Command Args
Current Users	check_users	'-w 3 -c 10'
Current Load	check_load	'-w 5,4,3 -c 10,6,4'

[Add Row](#) | [Delete Row](#)






[Back](#) [Next](#)

Click Next and then complete the wizard by choosing the required options in Step 3 – Step 5.

To finish up, click on **Finish** in the final step of the wizard.

This will create the new hosts and services and begin monitoring.

Once the wizard applies the configuration, click the **View status details for xxxxx** link to see the new host and services that were created.

Host	Service	Status	Duration	Attempt	Last Check	Status Information
10.25.13.30   	Current Load 	Ok	1m 1s	1/5	2016-12-02 17:44:40	OK - load average: 0.00, 0.01, 0.05
	Current Users 	Ok	14s	1/5	2016-12-02 17:45:27	USERS OK - 1 users currently logged in

This completes the steps required to monitor your server using NRPE.

## Finishing Up

If you have any issues with configuring NRPE service checks within your Nagios XI system, please post your questions on the Nagios Support Forums at the following URL:

<https://support.nagios.com/>