# How To Configure Downtime In Nagios XI 5

## Purpose

The purpose of this document is to show how you can schedule downtime for a service, host, hostgroup or servicegroup within Nagios XI. Scheduling downtime is an effective way to prevent unnecessary or unwanted notifications from being received during a period of expected service interruption.

Note: If you are using Nagios XI 2024, please refer to the updated document.

## The Scheduled Downtime Menu

From the **Home** menu of Nagios XI, expand **Incident Management** and select **Scheduled Downtime**. This will display the main control panel for **Scheduled Downtime**.



From this screenshot you can see any scheduled downtime that is currently in-effect or scheduled for a future time. In this example there is an entry for the **localhost** object.

To begin the process of scheduling downtime, click the **Schedule Downtime** button and select **For Host(s)** or **For Services(s).**

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The selections available for hosts are as follows:

There are options that apply to both hosts and services that are explained in the Common Options section below. The options that are specific to hosts are as follows:

In the top part of the screen, you need to select **host(s)** and click the **Add Selected** button to add them to the list of hosts that this downtime will be created for. When selecting hosts, you can use **SHIFT** or **CTRL** on the keyboard to help select multiple hosts. In the Filter field start typing to narrow down the available hosts to select from.

You have the option to change the **Child Hosts** behavior when this downtime goes into effect. This is useful when a host's service interruption will affect its children.

**Add Host Downtime**

Schedule downtime for a particular host or multiple hosts. More information about downtimes.

Host Name(s) ✱

| Filter... | Selected Hosts **2** | Remove All |
|---|---|---|
| localhost | 10.25.14.52 | ✖ |
| | 10.25.5.70 | ✖ |

Add Selected ❯

| Author ✱ | Nagios Administrator |
|---|---|
| Comment ✱ | Rebooting Hosts |
| Triggered By | None |
| Type | Fixed |
| Start Time ✱ | 2016-11-01 14:43:03 📅 |
| End Time ✱ | 2016-11-01 16:43:03 📅 |
| Child Hosts | Do nothing with child hosts |
| Services | Do nothing with associated services |

Schedule   Cancel

You can also select if you want to schedule downtime for the services of these host(s).

The selections available for services are as follows:

In the top part of the screen, you need to select a host from the drop-down list which will present you with a list of all the services on that host.

Select the desired **service(s)** and click the **Add Selected** button to add them to the list of services that this downtime will be created for. When selecting services, you can use **SHIFT** or **CTRL** on the keyboard to help select multiple services.

You can select different hosts to schedule downtime for services from multiple hosts.

**Add Service Downtime**

Schedule downtime for a particular service or multiple services. More information about downtimes.

| | |
|---|---|
| 10.25.5.70 | Selected Services 2 — Remove All |
| CPU Stats | 10.25.14.52 :: CPU Usage ✖ |
| HTTP | 10.25.5.70 :: Load ✖ |
| Memory Usage | |
| Ping | |
| Yum Updates | |

Add Selected >

| | |
|---|---|
| Author ✱ | Nagios Administrator |
| Comment ✱ | Performing Load Testing |
| Triggered By | None |
| Type | Fixed |
| Start Time ✱ | 2016-11-01 14:44:50 📅 |
| End Time ✱ | 2016-11-01 16:44:50 📅 |

Schedule   Cancel

## Common Options

You are required to enter a comment indicating what the purpose of the downtime is. You can also configure a downtime to be **Triggered By** another scheduled downtime event.

By default, the type of downtime in the pre-populated fields is a **fixed** downtime that is scheduled immediately for the next 2 hours. The type of downtime can be fixed or flexible:

### Fixed downtime

- Starts and stops at the exact start and end times that you specify when you schedule it.

### Flexible downtime

- Intended for times when you know that a host or service is going to be down for X minutes (or hours), but you don't know exactly when that event will start.

- When you schedule flexible downtime, Nagios XI will start the scheduled downtime sometime between the start and end times you specified.

- The downtime will last for as long as the duration you specified when you scheduled the downtime.

- This assumes that the host or service for which you scheduled flexible downtime either goes down (or becomes unreachable) or goes into a non-OK state sometime between the start and end times you specified.

- The time at which a host or service transitions to a problem state determines the time at which Nagios XI actually starts the downtime.

- The downtime will then last for the duration you specified, even if the host or service recovers before the downtime expires

When you click the **Schedule** button you will be returned to the list with the items you just scheduled. Please note that it may take up to a minute before they show up on the list.



## Recurring Scheduled Downtime

If you have regular periods of downtime and do not wish to schedule those periods individually, you can configure recurring periods of downtime instead. From the **Home** menu of Nagios XI, expand **Incident Management** and select the **Recurring Downtime** option.

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There are 4 tabs at the top of this control panel that allow you to configure regular periods of downtime for a given **Host**, **Service**, **Hostgroup** or **Servicegroup**.

To begin the process of scheduling recurring downtime, click **the Add Schedule** button under the respective tab. You will be presented with the **Schedule Settings**, the screenshot to the right is of a Host (they are all similar).

The first field is the **Host** field. When you start typing in this field, the list of hosts will start to appear that match what is being typed. You can use the **arrow keys** and press **Enter** on the keyboard to select the host you want or simply click it with the mouse. This behavior is the same when scheduling **Service**, **Hostgroup** or **Servicegroup** recurring downtime.



For a **Host** or **Hostgroup** you can choose to include its associated services in the period of scheduled downtime.

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A comment is not required but does make it easy to understand why you created it.

The **Start Time** is when you what the recurring downtime to begin and the **Duration** is how long you want it to apply for.

Define the time of day you want the recurring downtime to start and then choose from the options of **Valid Months**, **Valid Weekdays** and **Valid Days of Month**. Choices from the sections will allow you to define exactly what you want like **Jan + Mon + Tue** will only create recurring downtime for **Mondays** and **Tuesdays** in **January** @ the time you specify.

Click the **Submit Schedule** button to create the recurring downtime schedule.

## Scheduling Downtime From The Host Or Service Status Page

When you are on the **Host Status Detail** page OR the **Service Status Detail** page you can schedule downtime from the **Advanced** tab under **Commands**. All the options are the same as described earlier.

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## Scheduling Downtime From The Host/Service Group Status Page

You can schedule downtime for all hosts or services in a host group via **Home > Details > Hostgroup Summary.**

Click on the **View Hostgroup Commands** button for a specific hostgroup under **Status Summary For All Host Groups.**



Click on the **Schedule downtime for all hosts in this hostgroup** or **Schedule downtime for all services in this hostgroup**.

## How To Schedule Downtime via Mass Acknowledge Component

It is very easy to schedule downtime for hosts and services that are already in "non-OK" state under the **Mass Acknowledge and Downtime Scheduling** component. From the Nagios XI Home screen navigate to **Incident Management > Mass Acknowledge**.

Select all the hosts and services that you would like to place in scheduled downtime. Then select **Schedule Downtime** from the **Command Type** drop-down menu, enter a comment if you don't wish to use the default one and then click **Submit Commands**.

The following page shows an example screenshot of this.



## Finishing Up

This completes the documentation on configuring downtime in Nagios XI. If you have additional questions or other support-related questions, please visit us at our Nagios Support Forum, Nagios Knowledge Base, or Nagios Library:

[Visit Nagios Support Forum](#)          [Visit Nagios Knowledge Base](#)          [Visit Nagios Library](#)