

# Nagios XI - Importing Config Files From Core

## Purpose

This document describes how to migrate and import Nagios Core configuration files into Nagios XI. Importing configuration files is only required in instances where administrators wish to import configurations from existing Nagios Core installations. Importing configuration files automates setting up your existing Hosts, Services, Hostgroups, Servicegroups and Host/Service Templates in your Nagios XI installation.

## Target Audience

This document is intended for use by Nagios Administrators who are migrating from Nagios Core to Nagios XI and wish to import configuration files from an existing Nagios Core installation in order to retain their monitoring setup.

## Preparing To Import

Before importing existing Nagios Core configuration files into Nagios XI, it is recommended that you use the Nagios XI config import prep tool. Information on using this tool can be found in the following documentation:

[Using The XI Config Import Prep Tool](#)

## Example Import

In this example we are going to import a **command**, **hostgroup**, **host** and **service** ... in that order. Here are the example configs that were saved in the `/usr/local/nagios/etc/cfgprep/orig/` directory:

### **windows\_example\_command.cfg**

```
define command {
    command_name      check_nrpeversion
    command_line      $USER1$/check_nrpe -H $HOSTADDRESS$
}
```

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## **windows\_example\_hostgroup.cfg**

```
define hostgroup {  
    hostgroup_name      Windows-Common  
    alias Windows-Common  
}
```

## **windows\_example\_host.cfg**

```
define host {  
    use      windows-server  
    host_name      server01  
    address      10.25.14.52  
    hostgroups    Windows-Common
```

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## windows\_example\_service.cfg

```
define service {
    use                generic-service
    hostgroup_name     Windows-Common
    service_description NSClient++ Version
    check_command      check_nrpeversion
}
```

After running the *xiprepimport.php* tool, the files will be saved into the */usr/local/nagios/etc/cfgprep/* directory.

All the files will have the same name, however the **windows\_example\_service.cfg** will be empty and another file was created called *\_multiple\_hosts.cfg* with the content of the **windows\_example\_service.cfg**.

The purpose of the configs above is to demonstrate the need to import the configurations in a specific order. The host is a member of the hostgroup Windows-Common and the service is assigned to the hostgroup Windows-Common, hence the hostgroup Windows-Common will need to be imported before the host or service object.

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## Navigating to the Core Config Manager (CCM)

There are multiple ways to access CCM:

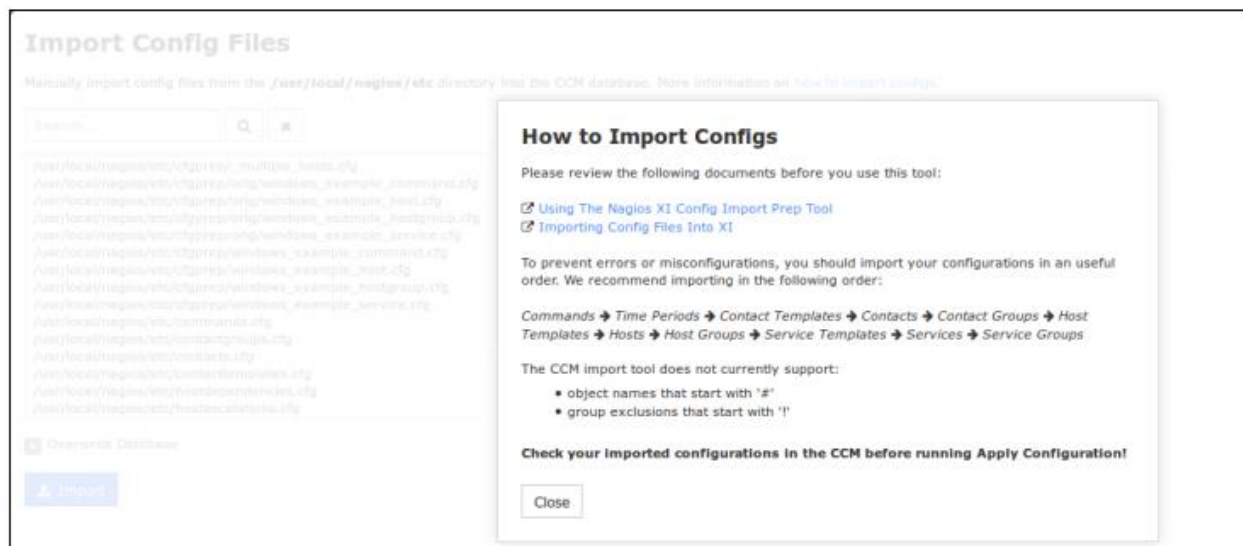
- Hovering over the **Configure** button in the top menu bar you can select **Core Config Manager**
- On the Configure tab you can select **Core Config Manager** from the left pane or from the main screen

## Importing Configuration Files

Access the import interface by selecting the **Import Config Files** menu option under **Tools**.

When you first navigate here you are presented with the popup message that explains the order in which configuration files need to be imported. Our example will do **command** > **hostgroup** > **host** > **service** however we are doing **host** and **hostgroup** in the *opposite* order. What is important is that for the object you are importing, any other objects it uses in it's configuration need to exist. In our example the host is added to a **hostgroup** and hence the **hostgroup** needs to exist first.

Click **Close** when you've finished reading the message.



**Import Config Files**

Manually import config files from the `/usr/local/nagios/etc` directory into the CCM database. [More information on how to import configs.](#)

Search:

- `/usr/local/nagios/etc/objects/multiple_hosts.cfg`
- `/usr/local/nagios/etc/objects/windows_example_commands.cfg`
- `/usr/local/nagios/etc/objects/windows_example_host.cfg`
- `/usr/local/nagios/etc/objects/windows_example_hostgroup.cfg`
- `/usr/local/nagios/etc/objects/windows_example_service.cfg`
- `/usr/local/nagios/etc/objects/windows_example_commands.cfg`
- `/usr/local/nagios/etc/objects/windows_example_host.cfg`
- `/usr/local/nagios/etc/objects/windows_example_hostgroup.cfg`
- `/usr/local/nagios/etc/objects/windows_example_service.cfg`
- `/usr/local/nagios/etc/commands.cfg`
- `/usr/local/nagios/etc/contactgroups.cfg`
- `/usr/local/nagios/etc/contacts.cfg`
- `/usr/local/nagios/etc/contacttemplates.cfg`
- `/usr/local/nagios/etc/hostdependencies.cfg`
- `/usr/local/nagios/etc/hostescalations.cfg`

Overwrite Database

### How to Import Configs

Please review the following documents before you use this tool:

- [Using The Nagios XI Config Import Prep Tool](#)
- [Importing Config Files Into XI](#)

To prevent errors or misconfigurations, you should import your configurations in an useful order. We recommend importing in the following order:

[Commands](#) → [Time Periods](#) → [Contact Templates](#) → [Contacts](#) → [Contact Groups](#) → [Host Templates](#) → [Hosts](#) → [Host Groups](#) → [Service Templates](#) → [Services](#) → [Service Groups](#)

The CCM import tool does not currently support:

- object names that start with '#'
- group exclusions that start with '!

**Check your imported configurations in the CCM before running Apply Configuration!**

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```
/usr/local/nagios/etc/cfgprep/_multiple_hosts.cfg
/usr/local/nagios/etc/cfgprep/orig/windows_example_command.cfg
/usr/local/nagios/etc/cfgprep/orig/windows_example_host.cfg
/usr/local/nagios/etc/cfgprep/orig/windows_example_hostgroup.cfg
/usr/local/nagios/etc/cfgprep/orig/windows_example_service.cfg
/usr/local/nagios/etc/cfgprep/windows_example_command.cfg
/usr/local/nagios/etc/cfgprep/windows_example_host.cfg
/usr/local/nagios/etc/cfgprep/windows_example_hostgroup.cfg
/usr/local/nagios/etc/cfgprep/windows_example_service.cfg
/usr/local/nagios/etc/commands.cfg
/usr/local/nagios/etc/contactgroups.cfg
/usr/local/nagios/etc/contacts.cfg
/usr/local/nagios/etc/contacttemplates.cfg
```

Here you can see a list of files available for import, you can see the ones highlighted are the ones being imported in this example:

The import interface will allow you to import one or more configuration files, you can use **CTRL** or **SHIFT** on the keyboard to assist selecting multiple files. In this example we will be importing the files one at a time.



Only import configuration files that have been created in a special sub-directory, specifically for the purpose of importing. Typically the config files to be imported have been placed in the `/usr/local/nagios/etc/cfgprep/` directory after being processed by the Nagios XI config prep import tool (you can also see the original files listed in the `orig` directory).

The first file to import will be:

`cfgprep/windows_example_command.cfg`

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1. Select the file and click the **Import** button.

1 file(s) imported successfully.

## Import Config Files

Manually import config files from the `/usr/local/nagios/etc` directory into the CCM database. More information on [how to import configs](#).

Search...     Show only import directory

```
/usr/local/nagios/etc/cfgprep/_multiple_hosts.cfg
/usr/local/nagios/etc/cfgprep/orig/windows_example_command.cfg
/usr/local/nagios/etc/cfgprep/orig/windows_example_host.cfg
/usr/local/nagios/etc/cfgprep/orig/windows_example_hostgroup.cfg
/usr/local/nagios/etc/cfgprep/orig/windows_example_service.cfg
/usr/local/nagios/etc/cfgprep/windows_example_command.cfg
/usr/local/nagios/etc/cfgprep/windows_example_host.cfg
/usr/local/nagios/etc/cfgprep/windows_example_hostgroup.cfg
/usr/local/nagios/etc/cfgprep/windows_example_service.cfg
/usr/local/nagios/etc/commands.cfg
/usr/local/nagios/etc/contactgroups.cfg
/usr/local/nagios/etc/contacts.cfg
/usr/local/nagios/etc/contacttemplates.cfg
```

Overwrite Database

2. Once the import is complete you will receive a success message.
3. After importing an object it's always good to check to make sure it was imported as expected. In CCM navigate to **Commands** and search for `check_nrpeversion` and you should see the following:

## Commands

nrpever

*Displaying 1-1 of 1 results*

<input type="checkbox"/>	Command Name	Command Line	Active	Actions	ID
<input type="checkbox"/>	check_nrpeversion	\$USER1\$/check_nrpe -H \$HOSTADDRESS\$	Yes	<input type="button" value="🔍"/> <input type="button" value="📄"/> <input type="button" value="📄"/> <input type="button" value="👤"/> <input type="button" value="🗑️"/>	31

15

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1. Repeat the above import steps for `cfgprep/windows_example_hostgroup.cfg`, `cfgprep/windows_example_host.cfg`, `cfgprep/_multiple_hosts.cfg` and you should see the new objects created.

## Host Groups

△ Changes detected! **Apply Configuration** for new changes to take effect.

*Displaying 1-1 of 1 results*

<input type="checkbox"/>	Host Group Name	Alias	Active	Actions	ID
<input type="checkbox"/>	Windows-Common	Windows-Common	Yes		7

## Hosts

△ Changes detected! **Apply Configuration** for new changes to take effect.

*Displaying 1-1 of 1 results*

<input type="checkbox"/>	Host Name	Alias	Active	Status	Actions	ID
<input type="checkbox"/>	server01		Yes	Not Applied		8

## Services

△ Changes detected! **Apply Configuration** for new changes to take effect.

*Displaying 1-1 of 1 results*

<input type="checkbox"/>	Config Name	Service Description	Active	Status	Actions	ID
<input type="checkbox"/>	_multiple_hosts	NSClient++ Version	Yes	Not Applied		34

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## Post Import Actions

Once you've imported all the necessary Nagios Core configuration files, before Applying Configuration it's best to validate that the configuration files are valid.

1. In CCM expand **Tools** and select **Config File Management**.

### Config File Management

Use this tool to manually manage (write, delete, update) Nagios object configurations physical configuration files.

**Note:** To manually apply configuration, first use *Delete Files* and then run *Write Configs* followed by a verification (optional) and restart to fully apply the configuration.

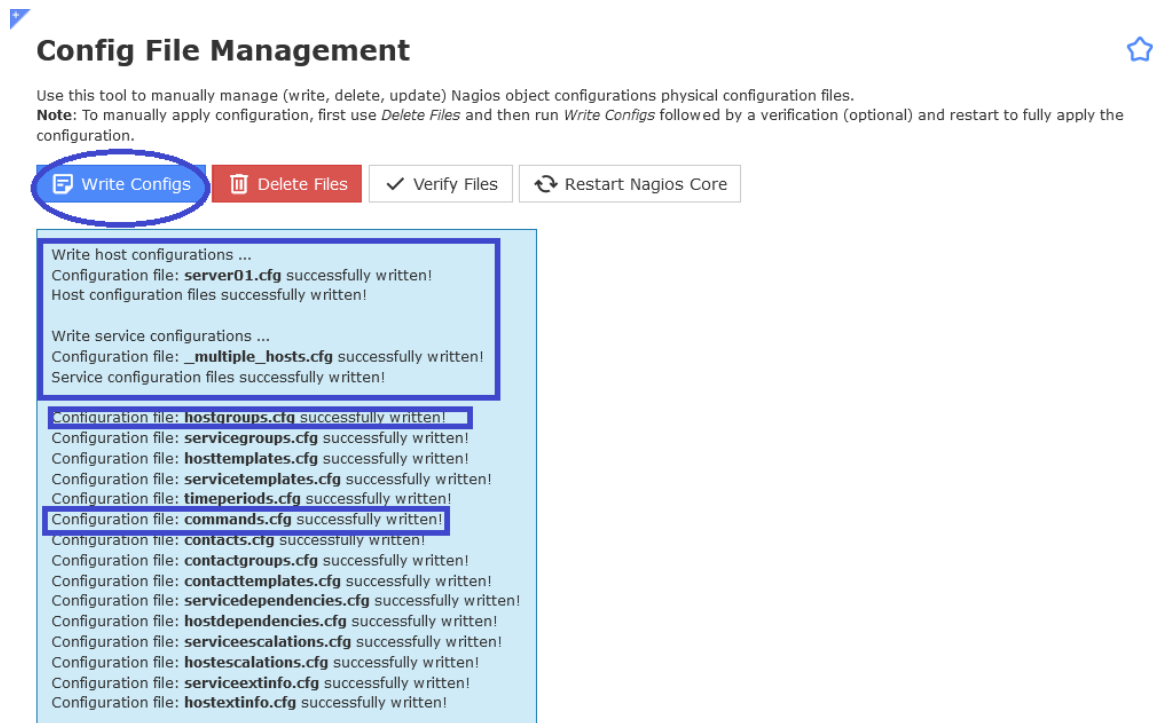
 Write Configs	 Delete Files	 Verify Files	 Restart Nagios Core
---	--	--	---



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2. Click the **Write Configs** button to create / update the config files on the Nagios XI server.

You can see in the screenshot that the host and service config files were **created** and the existing hostgroups and commands config files were **updated**.



The screenshot displays the 'Config File Management' interface. At the top, there are four buttons: 'Write Configs' (circled in blue), 'Delete Files', 'Verify Files', and 'Restart Nagios Core'. Below the buttons, a light blue box contains a list of configuration files that were successfully written. The files listed are: server01.cfg, \_multiple\_hosts.cfg, hostgroups.cfg, servicegroups.cfg, hosttemplates.cfg, servicetemplates.cfg, timeperiods.cfg, commands.cfg, contacts.cfg, contactgroups.cfg, contacttemplates.cfg, servicedependencies.cfg, hostdependencies.cfg, serviceescalations.cfg, hostescalations.cfg, serviceextinfo.cfg, and hostextinfo.cfg. The 'Write Configs' button and the 'commands.cfg' entry are highlighted with blue boxes.

3. Now click the **Verify Files** button.

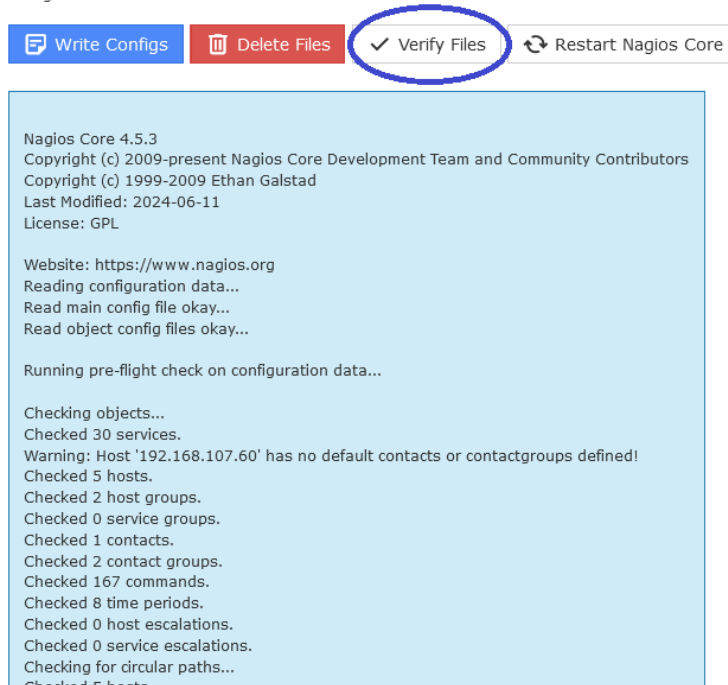
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4. Check the output for an error messages, if there are any CRITICAL error messages the background color will be red. Error messages will indicate problems that are encountered in the config objects Check the output for an error messages, if there are any CRITICAL error messages the background color will be red. Error messages will indicate problems that are encountered in the config objects and will be clearly identified.
5. Resolve any config problems by going to the respective configuration area in CCM and fix the

## Config File Management ☆

Use this tool to manually manage (write, delete, update) Nagios object configurations physical configuration files.

**Note:** To manually apply configuration, first use *Delete Files* and then run *Write Configs* followed by a verification (optional) and restart to fully apply the configuration.



Write Configs Delete Files **Verify Files** Restart Nagios Core

```
Nagios Core 4.5.3
Copyright (c) 2009-present Nagios Core Development Team and Community Contributors
Copyright (c) 1999-2009 Ethan Galstad
Last Modified: 2024-06-11
License: GPL

Website: https://www.nagios.org
Reading configuration data...
Read main config file okay...
Read object config files okay...

Running pre-flight check on configuration data...

Checking objects...
Checked 30 services.
Warning: Host '192.168.107.60' has no default contacts or contactgroups defined!
Checked 5 hosts.
Checked 2 host groups.
Checked 0 service groups.
Checked 1 contacts.
Checked 2 contact groups.
Checked 167 commands.
Checked 8 time periods.
Checked 0 host escalations.
Checked 0 service escalations.
Checking for circular paths...
Checked 5 hosts
```

issues that are highlighted. Retry the **write** / **verify** process until the verify is successful.

6. On the screenshot to the right, you can see some WARNING messages, however these are for some other objects that existed before we attempted an import. We can assume all is OK with the objects imported as they are not shown in the output.

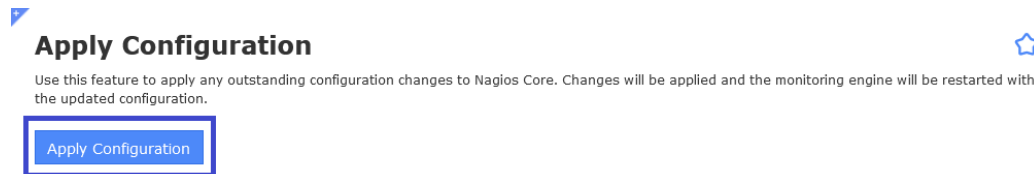
The final line tells us that things look okay.

## Apply Configuration

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Once you have successfully verified the configuration, it is recommended that you use the Apply Configuration function to restart Nagios core with the new configuration.

You can access this option by selecting the **Apply Configuration** menu item and clicking the **Apply Configuration** button.



The apply configuration features will perform the following steps:

- Export the database configuration to disk
- Verify the configuration files
- Restart Nagios Core
- Create a new configuration snapshot



**Note:** Another option is to use the **Restart Nagios Core** button on the **Config File Management** page. However, this option will not create a snapshot like the **Apply Configuration** button, which is why we recommend the Apply Configuration option.

## Other Steps

Additional steps may be required once you finish importing Nagios Core configuration files into Nagios XI. These steps may include:

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- Uploading missing plugins or event handlers to Nagios XI
- Creating user accounts in Nagios XI

For more information on these topics, refer to the documentation [Migrating from Nagios Core to Nagios XI](#):

[Migrating From Nagios Core to Nagios XI](#)

## Finishing Up

This completes the documentation on importing Nagios Core Config Files.

If you have additional questions or other support related questions, please visit us at our Nagios Support Forums or Knowledgebase:

[Visit Nagios Support Forum](#)

[Visit Nagios Knowledgebase](#)