



## 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 $HOSTADDRESS$
}
```

**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
}
```

**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 save 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.

## Navigating to the Core Config Manager (CCM)

There are multiple ways to access CCM:

- Hovering 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

The screenshot shows the Nagios XI web interface. The top navigation bar includes 'Home', 'Views', 'Dashboards', 'Reports', 'Configure', 'Tools', 'Help', and 'Admin'. The 'Configure' menu is expanded, showing 'Configuration Wizards' and 'Core Config Manager'. The left sidebar has a 'Configure' section with 'Core Config Manager' highlighted. The main content area is titled 'Configuration Options' and contains two cards: 'Start Monitoring Now' and 'Auto-Discovery'.

## 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.

**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!**

Close

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.

```
/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
/usr/local/nagios/etc/hostdependencies.cfg
/usr/local/nagios/etc/hostescalations.cfg
```

**Note:** 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
```

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

Once the import is complete you will receive a success message.

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:

1 file(s) imported successfully!

## Import Config Files

Manually import config files from the `/usr/local/nagios/etc` 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
```

<input type="checkbox"/>	↑ Command Name	↑ Command Line	↑ Active	Actions	↑ ID
<input type="checkbox"/>	check_nrpeversion	\$USER1\$/check_nrpe -H \$HOSTADDRESS\$	Yes		26

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.



[+ Add New](#)

Displaying 1-1 of 1 results

<input type="checkbox"/>	↑ Host Group Name	↑ Alias	↑ Active	Actions	↑ ID
<input type="checkbox"/>	Windows-Common	Windows-Common	Yes		4

## Hosts

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

server01



+ Add New

Displaying 1-1 of 1 results

<input type="checkbox"/>	Host Name	Alias	Active	Status	Actions	ID
<input type="checkbox"/>	server01		Yes	Not Applied		5

## Services

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

version



+ Add New

Displaying 1-1 of 1 results

Config Name

<input type="checkbox"/>	Service Name	Service Description	Active	Status	Actions	ID
<input type="checkbox"/>	_multiple_hosts	NSClient++ Version	Yes	Not Applied		43

+ Add New

Apply Configuration

With checked

Go

Results per page

15

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

The screenshot shows the Nagios XI Core Config Manager (CCM) interface. The top navigation bar includes Home, Views, Dashboards, Reports, Configure, Tools, Help, and Admin. The left sidebar lists various tools, with 'Config File Management' highlighted in blue. The main content area is titled 'Config File Management' and contains instructions on how to use the tool to manually manage Nagios object configurations. It includes a note that users should first use 'Delete Files' and then run 'Write Configs' followed by a verification (optional) and restart to fully apply the configuration. Below the text are four buttons: 'Write Configs', 'Delete Files', 'Verify Files', and 'Restart Nagios Core'.

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

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

Now click the **Verify Files** button.

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.

Resolve any config problems by going to the respective configuration area in CCM and fix the issues that are highlighted. Retry the **write** / **verify** process until the verify is successful.

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**.

Write Configs Delete Files Verify Files Restart Nagios Core

```
Write host configurations ...
Configuration file: server01.cfg successfully written!
Host configuration files successfully written!

Write service configurations ...
Configuration file: _multiple_hosts.cfg successfully written!
Service configuration files successfully written!

Configuration file: hostgroups.cfg successfully written!
Configuration file: servicegroups.cfg successfully written!
Configuration file: hosttemplates.cfg successfully written!
Configuration file: servicetemplates.cfg successfully written!
Configuration file: timeperiods.cfg successfully written!
Configuration file: commands.cfg successfully written!
Configuration file: contacts.cfg successfully written!
Configuration file: contactgroups.cfg successfully written!
Configuration file: contacttemplates.cfg successfully written!
Configuration file: servicedependencies.cfg successfully written!
Configuration file: hostdependencies.cfg successfully written!
Configuration file: serviceescalations.cfg successfully written!
Configuration file: hostescalations.cfg successfully written!
Configuration file: serviceextinfo.cfg successfully written!
Configuration file: hostextinfo.cfg successfully written!
```

Write Configs Delete Files Verify Files Restart Nagios Core

```
Nagios Core 4.1.1
Copyright (c) 2009-present Nagios Core Development Team and Community Contributors
Copyright (c) 1999-2009 Ethan Galstad
Last Modified: 08-19-2015
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...
```

```
Warning: Service 'Drive C: Disk Usage' on host '10.25.14.52' has a notification interval less than its
check interval! Notifications are only re-sent after checks are made, so the effective notification
interval will be that of the check interval.
```

```
Warning: Service 'Drive C: Disk Usage' on host 'SERVER02' has a notification interval less than its
check interval! Notifications are only re-sent after checks are made, so the effective notification
interval will be that of the check interval.
```

```
Warning: Service 'Drive C: Disk Usage' on host 'SERVER03' has a notification interval less than its
check interval! Notifications are only re-sent after checks are made, so the effective notification
interval will be that of the check interval.
```

```
Checked 34 services.
```

```
Checked 7 hosts.
```

```
Checked 3 host groups.
```

```
Checked 1 service groups.
```

```
Checked 4 contacts.
```

```
Checked 2 contact groups.
```

```
Checked 127 commands.
```

```
Checked 10 time periods.
```

```
Checked 0 host escalations.
```

```
Checked 0 service escalations.
```

```
Checking for circular paths...
```

```
Checked 7 hosts
```

```
Checked 0 service dependencies
```

```
Checked 0 host dependencies
```

```
Checked 10 timeperiods
```

```
Checking global event handlers...
```

```
Checking obsessive compulsive processor commands...
```

```
Checking misc settings...
```

```
Total Warnings: 3
```

```
Total Errors: 0
```

```
Things look okay - No serious problems were detected during the pre-flight check
```

## Apply Configuration

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.

Notice that there is an asterisk \* next to the word Apply Configuration (*in the left pane*), this indicates there are changes waiting to be applied.

The screenshot shows the Nagios XI Core Config Manager interface. The top navigation bar includes 'Home', 'Views', 'Dashboards', 'Reports', and 'Configure'. The main content area is titled 'Apply Configuration' and contains the text: 'Use this feature to apply any outstanding configuration changes to Nagios Core. Changes will be applied and the monitoring engine will be restarted with the updated configuration.' Below this text is a blue button labeled 'Apply Configuration'. On the left side, under 'Quick Tools', the 'Apply Configuration' option is circled in red and has an asterisk next to it, indicating pending changes.

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

## Apply Configuration

✔ Configuration applied successfully.

Nagios Core was **restarted** with an updated configuration.

[View configuration snapshots](#)

[Show Written Configs](#)

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:

- 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 config files from Nagios Core into Nagios XI.

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

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

The Nagios Support Knowledgebase is also a great support resource:

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