

How To Monitor Switches And Routers in Nagios XI 2026

Purpose

This document describes how to configure monitoring of network switches and routers using the new Network Switch/Router wizard in Nagios XI 2026R1.4+, which is an updated wizard that uses a new plugin. The new wizard greatly reduces the amount of walks performed on the machine, improving information stability and response time. The new plugin is written in C, significantly improving performance. This method enables you to scan the device for interfaces and quickly configure port status and throughput monitoring via active SNMP polling, and is compatible with Nagios Mod Gearman.

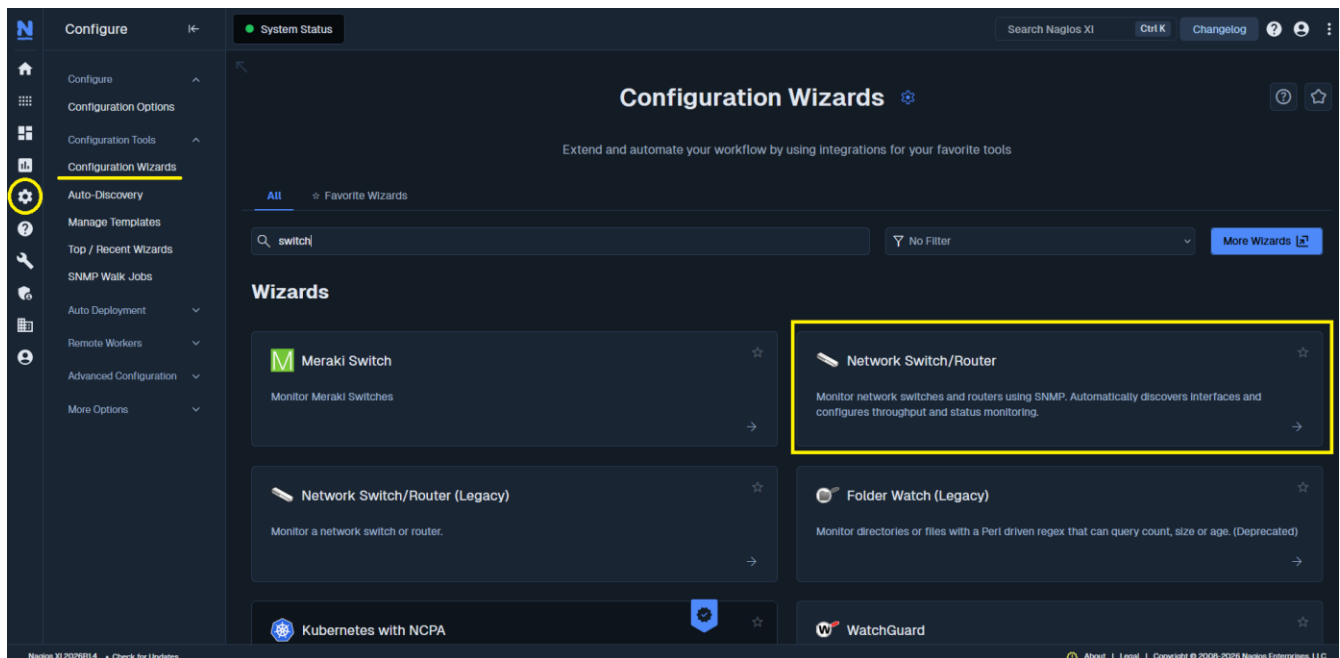
The Legacy Network Switch and Router Wizard guide can be found [here](#).

If your objective is to receive SNMP traps from your network device, please refer to [this guide](#).

Important Note: if you plan to distribute checks created using this wizard to **Nagios Mod Gearman** workers, be sure to review the [Nagios Mod Gearman Configuration](#) section for details on the necessary worker settings and considerations.

Finding the Wizard

The **Network Switch/Router** wizard can be found in the **Configure > Configuration Wizards** menu. The search bar will help you quickly locate it.



How To Monitor Switches And Routers in Nagios XI 2026

Using the Network Switch & Router Wizard

Step 1

In **Step 1** of the wizard, you will define the network equipment you'd like to monitor, and the SNMP connection settings.

First, in the **Device Information** section enter the IP Address of the device, and the Host Name (a friendly name for the device that defines how it displays in the web interface).

Network Switch/Router Configuration Wizard Step 1

This wizard performs an SNMP walk of the target device to discover its interfaces. After configuration, the monitoring plugin uses lightweight SNMP GET requests for each check. An SNMP walk will only be repeated if an interface's index number changes on the device (e.g., after a reboot or reconfiguration).

The throughput database is an internal cache used by the monitoring plugins and is not intended to be human-readable. Running this wizard multiple times against the same device may create duplicate-looking entries in the database. This is normal and does not affect monitoring accuracy.

Device Information

IP Address * ⓘ
Enter IP Address

Host Name ⓘ
Enter Host Name (optional)

Next, in the **SNMP Settings** section enter your SNMP connection settings. The **SNMP Version Settings** section below it will update with the necessary fields based on your SNMP Version selection.

SNMP Settings

Specify the settings used to scan the device via SNMP

SNMP Version * ⓘ
2c

SNMP Port * ⓘ
161

Interface Identifier (-i) * ⓘ
⚠ Numeric Index

Service Naming Scheme * ⓘ
Port Number (Index)

SNMP Version Settings

SNMP Community * ⓘ
.....

How To Monitor Switches And Routers in Nagios XI 2026

Here's an example of the **SNMP Version Settings** section if v3 is selected:

SNMP Version Settings

When using SNMP v3 you must specify authentication information

Security Level *

authPriv

Username *

Enter Username

Authentication Password *

Enter Authentication Password

Authentication Protocol *

SHA-256

Privacy Password *

Enter Privacy Password

Privacy Protocol *

AES

In the **Default Throughput Settings** section choose your Default Unit, and Default Warning and Critical Thresholds for throughput alerts.

This determines what thresholds are automatically populated to all of the ports that will be shown in **Step 2**, where they can be modified on an individual basis if needed.

Default Throughput Settings

Set the default unit and thresholds applied to all interfaces. You can override per-interface on the next step.

Default Unit *

Mbps

Default Warning Thresholds *

	In	800	Out	800
---	----	-----	-----	-----

Default Critical Thresholds *

	In	900	Out	900
---	----	-----	-----	-----

How To Monitor Switches And Routers in Nagios XI 2026

You'll also notice a **Bulk Configuration** section at the bottom of **Step 1**. If you have many devices with the same port bandwidth and desired alerting thresholds, paste each configuration as a CSV in the **Data** space.

Bulk Configuration

If you have many devices with the same interface layout and desired alerting thresholds, paste each configuration as a CSV in the space below.

The "IP Address" is required. Optionally, columns for "hostname" and SNMP credentials can be included.

With SNMP v3, columns for "v3_username", "v3_auth_password", "v3_priv_password", "v3_auth_proto", and/or "v3_priv_proto" can be included.

Field 1 * ⓘ Field 2 * Field 3 *

IP Address Hostname SNMP Community

Data ⓘ

```
192.168.1.123,Cisco-A,Gr3at5tring123
192.168.1.124,Cisco-B,4nother5tring456
```

Next >

Click **Next** to proceed to **Step 2**.

Step 2

In **Step 2**, choose which ports to monitor, and either keep the default throughput alert thresholds you chose in Step 1, or adjust them as needed on a per-port basis.

- Use the checkboxes in the **Interface** column to choose which ports to monitor.
- The **Status** column indicates whether the port is currently administratively up or down.
- Use the checkboxes in the **Throughput/Port Status** column to choose whether to monitor those metrics on the ports.
- Use the fields in the **Service Configuration** column to adjust thresholds.

How To Monitor Switches And Routers in Nagios XI 2026

Network Switch/Router Configuration Wizard Step 2

Device Details

Device Address: 192.168.105.163

Host Name: Cisco-163

Network Interfaces

Select the interfaces and monitoring types below. Throughput monitoring requires in/out octets OIDs.

Interface	Status	Available OIDs	Throughput	Port Status	Service Configuration
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> O/1 Port 1 Index: 1	Up 1000 Mbps	✓ In/Out Octets (64-bit) ✓ Operational Status	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Throughput <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Port Status		Mbps ▲ In 800 Out 800 ● In 900 Out 900
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> O/2 Port 2 Index: 2	Up 1000 Mbps	✓ In/Out Octets (64-bit) ✓ Operational Status	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Throughput <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Port Status		Mbps ▲ In 800 Out 800 ● In 900 Out 900
<input type="checkbox"/> O/3 Port 3 Index: 3	Down 0 Mbps	✓ In/Out Octets (64-bit) ✓ Operational Status	<input type="checkbox"/> Throughput <input type="checkbox"/> Port Status		Mbps ▲ In 800 Out 800 ● In 900 Out 900

After making your selections, click **Next** to proceed to **Step 3**.

How To Monitor Switches And Routers in Nagios XI 2026

At the top of **Step 3** you will see an overview of the selections you've made.



If you need to make changes, click the **Back** button at the bottom. If everything looks good, complete the wizard by choosing the required options in **Step 3 – Step 5**.

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

This will create 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.

Adding Services to an Existing Switch or Router

Simply re-run the Network Switch/Router wizard on the existing host IP address to re-scan for ports and add any additional ones, or to make changes to existing ones (for example to modify warning and critical threshold values). Make sure to use the same **Host Name** in **Step 1** as the existing host, which will employ the additive property of the wizards, and only select the checkboxes of ports you wish to add or modify.

How To Monitor Switches And Routers in Nagios XI 2026

Nagios Mod Gearman Configuration

To distribute checks created with this wizard to Nagios Mod Gearman (NMG) workers, special steps and considerations apply.

1. In order to monitor throughput, data from the most recent port check is stored in a SQLite database on the worker to compare the next result to.

So, you must use a dedicated worker which single-handedly handles each port check. For example NMG Worker A alone handles port checks for HostA, HostB, and HostC, and NMG Worker B alone handles port checks for HostD, HostE, HostX.

This can be done using Hostgroups or Servicegroups. Add the corresponding network device group(s) to the sole worker that should check them, and make sure that the group is **not** assigned to any other worker. Group settings are added in the **Hostgroups/Servicegroups** field in the worker's **Distribution Settings**. You can learn more about worker settings here starting on page 8:

[Managing Nagios Mod Gearman in the Nagios XI UI](#)

2. Note that if the dedicated worker fails, the checks it handles will fail until it recovers, so monitor your workers closely and fix them quickly if they break to avoid gaps in check data.
3. If the dedicated worker fails, the first check it runs after recovery will be an innacurate result because it will be based on that last reference result in the DB, which was \times amount of time in the past.
4. If you configure monitoring of a new network device, or new port checks for an existing network device, you must re-sync the dedicated worker to add the necessary entries to it's SQLite Database (see page 6 of the above linked guide).

Finishing Up

This completes the documentation on Monitoring Switches and Routers in Nagios XI 2026R1.4+. If you have additional questions or other support-related questions, please visit the Nagios Support Forum, Nagios Documentation Hub, or Nagios Library:

[Visit Nagios Support Forum](#)

[Visit Documentation Hub](#)

[Visit Nagios Library](#)