

# How to Monitor Windows Using NSClient++ in Nagios XI 2024R2

## Purpose

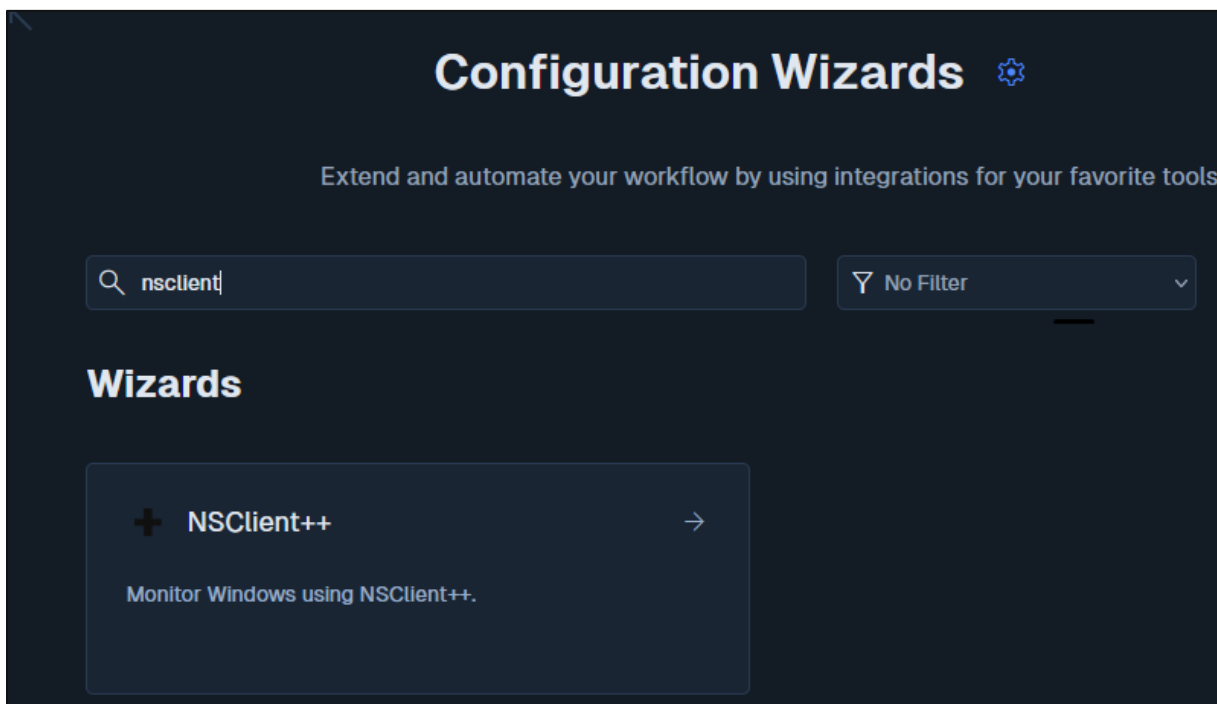
This document describes how to monitor Microsoft Windows using the NSClient++ monitoring agent in Nagios XI 2024R2.

## Installing NSClient++

NSClient++ must be installed on the target Windows machine before Nagios XI can monitor system metrics, services, processes, or performance data on the target machine. If you haven't installed the NSClient++ agent on the remote machine, please, refer to our documentation on [installing the Windows Agent NSClient++ for Nagios XI](#).

## The NSClient++ Configuration Wizard

To begin using the wizard, navigate to **Configure > Configuration Wizards** and search for 'nsclient'. This documentation will focus on the **NSClient++** wizard. In the following screenshot you can see how the search field allows you to quickly find a wizard.



# How to Monitor Windows Using NSClient++ in Nagios XI 2024R2

On **Step 1** you will be asked to supply the **IP Address** of the Windows machine running NSClient++, and whether the **Check Method** should be `check_nrpe` or `check_nt`. Both methods are supported by the Wizard, but there are key differences:

- `check_nrpe`
  - Can execute custom scripts / plugins.
  - Enables you to customize the output of data returned from checks like disk usage, performance counters, etc...
  - Supports more advanced versions of the CPU, Memory and Disk checks.
- [check\\_nt](#)
  - Provides solid basic functionality, but greatly limited customization.
  - Is **deprecated** in NSClient 0.6+.

## Using check\_nrpe

**NSClient++ Configuration Wizard** Step 1

**Host Information**

IP Address \* ⓘ  
Enter IP Address

Check Method ⓘ  
\*  
check\_nrpe

**Check Method**

check\_nrpe is the preferred method to communicate with NSClient++.

**WARNING:** If you are still using the default NSClient++ DH key, you will need to update your NSClient++ DH key and configuration as seen here: [Enabling the NRPE Listener in NSClient 0.4+](#)

**Download Agent (version 0.5.2.41):**  
[32bit](#) | [64bit](#)

Next > Cancel

Before you click **Next** to proceed to **Step 2**, take note of the Warning. If you are still using the default NSClient++ DH key, you'll need to update your NSClient++ DH key and configuration as outlined in this doc:

[Enabling the NRPE Listener in NSClient 0.4+](#)

# How to Monitor Windows Using NSClient++ in Nagios XI 2024R2

In **Step 2**, you will:

- Enter a **Host Name**
- Choose an **SSL Encryption** option
- Choose whether to monitor **Ping**
- Define the **NRPE Commands** you wish to run to check services on your Windows host.

You'll notice that CPU Usage, Memory Usage, and Disk Usage checks are pre-populated. You will need to enable arguments in NSClient++ in order to define **Command Args** such as warning and critical thresholds.

**NSClient++ Configuration Wizard** Step 2

**Server Details**

IP Address: 192.168.55.123

Host Name: 192.168.55.123

**NRPE Agent**

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

SSL Encryption: Enabled (Default)

**Server Metrics**

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

☒ Ping

**NRPE Commands**

Specify any remote NRPE commands that should be monitored on the server. Multiple command arguments should be separated with a space. Arguments are defined with check\_nrpe using -a and are single quoted on the command line. If you put in -w 10, -c 20 then the config wizard will do -a '-w 10, -c 20'

Note: By default, NSClient++ disables arguments for security reasons. To use arguments with check\_nrpe for NSClient++, you need to enable arguments in the NSClient++ configuration.

☒ I acknowledge that I have enabled arguments on my NSClient++ client

Display Name	Remote NRPE Command	Command Args
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CPU Usage	alias_cpu	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Memory Usage	alias_mem	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Disk Usage	alias_disk	

Once you have finished selecting all the items you wish to monitor click **Next** and then complete the wizard by choosing the required options in **Step 3 - Step 5**.

# How to Monitor Windows Using NSClient++ in Nagios XI 2024R2

## Using check\_nt

In **Step 2**, you'll begin by entering a **Host Name**, and (assuming you've enabled a password in NSClient++, which is recommended for security purposes) enter your **Agent Password**. If you do not use a password, you can leave this field blank.

**NSClient++ Configuration Wizard** Step 2

**Host Details**

IP Address: 192.168.55.123

Host Name: 192.168.55.123

The name you'd like to have associated with this Windows system.

**NSClient++ Agent**

You'll need to install an agent on the Windows system in order to monitor it. For security purposes, it is recommended that you set a password for the agent.

Agent Password:

Valid characters include: a-zA-Z0-9.\!:\_-@

Next, you'll select all of the **server metrics** you wish to monitor and adjust the thresholds as required.

Though ultimately not nearly as flexible as `check_nrpe`, the `check_nt` method does come pre-loaded with checks for CPU, Memory, Uptime, Disk Usage, Services, Processes, and Performance Counters.

# How to Monitor Windows Using NSClient++ in Nagios XI 2024R2

### Server Metrics

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

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

☒ **CPU**  
Monitors the CPU (processor usage) on the server.  
▲ 80 % 🔴 90 %

☒ **Memory Usage**  
Monitors the memory usage on the server.  
▲ 80 % 🔴 90 %

☒ **Uptime**  
Monitors the uptime on the server.

☒ **Disk Usage**  
Monitors disk usage on the server.  
Drive: C: ▲ 80 % 🔴 95 %  
Drive: ▲ 80 % 🔴 95 %  
Drive: ▲ 80 % 🔴 95 %  
Drive: ▲ 80 % 🔴 95 %  
Drive: ▲ 80 % 🔴 95 %  
[Add Row](#) | [Delete Row](#)

Once you have finished selecting all the items you wish to monitor click **Next** and then 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 **status details** for **<your host>** link to see the new host and services that were created.

# How to Monitor Windows Using NSClient++ in Nagios XI 2024R2

## Finishing Up

This completes the documentation on How to Monitor Microsoft Windows using the NSClient++ 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](#)