How To Configure And Use The WinRM Wizard In Nagios XI 2024 And 2026

Purpose

This document describes how to configure the WinRM configuration wizard in Nagios XI.

Setup

In order to monitor a Windows machine with the WinRM wizard, the target machine will need to be configured to utilize the WinRM protocol. The process is defined below.

Initialization

1. Open PowerShell running as the local computer Administrator account.
2. Run the following command to initialize WinRM:

```
winrm quickconfig
```

3. When the tool displays **Make these changes [y/n]?**, type **y.**

Enabling Basic HTTP

1. Run the following commands in PowerShell:

```
winrm set winrm/config/service/auth '@{Basic="true"}'` ''
winrm set winrm/config/service '@{AllowUnencrypted="true"}'
```

Enabling Basic HTTPS

Note: WinRM HTTPS requires a valid SSL certificate, and you will need to generate one if you do not already have one.

Generating a Self-Signed Certificate

2. Run the following command in PowerShell (note that this is a single long command) :

```
New-SelfSignedCertificate -DnsName "[SERVER_HOSTNAME] -CertStoreLocation
Cert:\LocalMachine\My
```

3. Copy the thumbprint that is generated and continue to the **Create WinRM HTTPS Listener** section

Adding an Existing Certificate With Microsoft Management Console

4. Search for and Run `mmc.exe`
5. In the top left, click **File -> Add/Remove Snap-in**
6. Select **Certificates** from the list of available snap-ins, and click **Add**
7. Select **Computer account** and click **Next**
8. Click **Finish**, then **Ok**
9. Navigate to **Console Root -> Certificates (Local Computer)** and ensure your certificate is in both:
    a. **Personal -> Certificates**
    b. **Trusted Root Certification Authorities -> Certificates**

Note: If you do not see the certificate in the **Trusted Root Certification Authorities** and **Personal** folders, it must manually be installed.

10. Navigate to **Console Root -> Certificates (Local Computer) -> Personal -> Certificates** and double click the certificate you wish to use
11. Click **Details**
12. Scroll to the bottom, copy the **Thumbprint**, and continue to the **Create WinRM HTTPS Listener** section

Create WinRM HTTPS Listener

13. Create a HTTPS listener with the server's host name and the certificates thumbprint using the following command in PowerShell (note that this is a single long command wrapped over two lines) :

```
winrm create winrm/config/Listener?Address=*+Transport=HTTPS
'@{Hostname="[SERVER_HOSTNAME]"; CertificateThumbprint="[CERTIFICATE_THUMBPRINT]"}'
```

Users

Note: User accounts using WinRM must be part of either the local administration or a local group with WinRM execute permissions.

To create a new local user account run the following commands in PowerShell:

1.

```
$Password = Read-Host -AsSecureString
```

This will prompt you for a password and store it in the `$Password` *variable as a secure string*

2. (Note that this is a single long command wrapped over two lines) :

```
New-LocalUser -Name '[username]' -Password $Password -FullName '[user full
name]' -Description '[user descrip-tion]'
```

To create a new local group with WinRM execute permissions do the following:

1. Create a new local group with the following command in PowerShell:

```
New-LocalGroup -Name '[local group name]'
```

2. Open the WinRM SDDL permissions configuration by running the following in PowerShell:

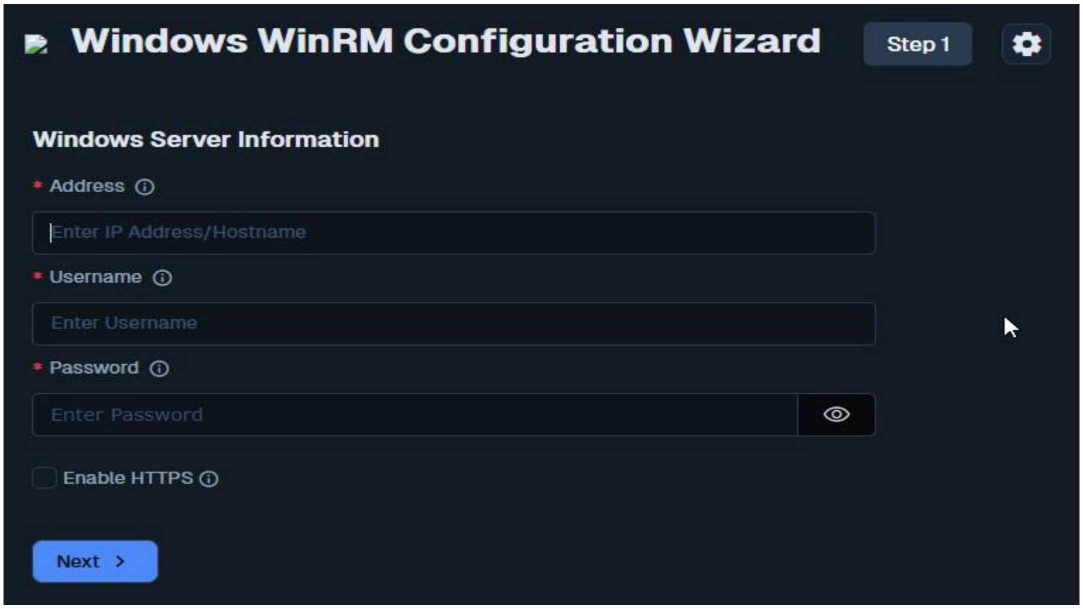
```
winrm configSDDL default
```

3. Add the newly created local group:

- Click **Add**
- Type the name of the local group and click **Ok**
- Select the local group
- Check **Allow** next to the **Execute(Invoke)** option
- Click **Apply** then **Ok**

Wizard Usage

1. Navigate to **Configure > Configuration Wizards > Windows WinRM**



Windows WinRM Configuration Wizard

Step 1

Windows Server Information

* Address ⓘ

Enter IP Address/Hostname

* Username ⓘ

Enter Username

* Password ⓘ

Enter Password

□ Enable HTTPS ⓘ

Next >

2. In the first step of the **WinRM** wizard, enter the IP address, username, and password for the windows machine you intend on monitoring. Here you are also given the option to use either HTTP or HTTPS to communicate with the target machine. (The default is HTTP)

   Note: If any of the Windows details/credentials are invalid, the wizard will prevent you from moving to the next step.

3. In the second step of the WinRM wizard, configure the services you wish to monitor:
   a. **Memory Usage** - The memory usage of the target machine.
   b. **CPU Usage** - The CPU usage of the target machine.
   c. **Disk Usage** - The disk space usage of the specified disk.
   d. **Windows Services** - The current state of the specified Windows service(s).
   e. **Windows Processes** - The memory usage, CPU usage, or total count of the specified Windows process(es).

4. Continue with **Steps 3-5**, then click **Finish**.

More Information

To learn more about the common aspects and settings of configuration wizard steps, please refer to the guide:

Understanding and Using Configuration Wizards

Finishing Up

This completes the documentation configuring and using the WinRM wizard 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