# How To Understand Nagios XI 5 Requirements

## Purpose

This document is intended to provide general guidelines on the hardware requirements needed to run Nagios XI. As each IT infrastructure differs, the hardware requirements for monitoring can vary. For example, the guidelines below assume that you are running active checks. If you are utilizing many passive checks, the requirements will be lower than those seen in the guidelines below. If you are using Nagios XI 2024, refer to the updated document.

## Requirements

The table below provides hardware recommendations based on a node (host) to service ratio of 1:5.

| Monitored Nodes / Hosts | Monitored Services | Hard Drive Space | CPU Cores | RAM |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 50 | 250 | 40 GB | 1 − 2 | 1 − 4 GB |
| 100 | 500 | 80 GB | 2 − 4 | 4 − 8 GB |
| > 500 | > 2500 | >120 GB | > 4 | > 8 GB |

## Overview

For installations monitoring more than 1000 hosts or 5000 services, we generally recommend installing Nagios XI on a physical server as opposed to a VM. Because of shared hardware resources and the way VM's handle process forking, virtual machines may not be able to meet the hardware needs of large environments even with performance enhancements.

## Performance Enhancements

There are several modifications that you can make to Nagios XI to increase performance, and by therefore increasing the number of nodes and services you can monitor with less hardware. These include:

- Offloading the MySQL database to a remote server
- Using a ramdisk
- Enabling rrdcache

## Finishing Up

This completes the documentation on Nagios XI hardware requirements. 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