

How to Use Nagios XI Dashboards 2026

Purpose

This document describes how to create and manage custom Dashboards in Nagios XI 2026.

Accessing Dashboards

To begin, navigate to the **Dashboards** menu. The first thing you will see is the built-in **localhost** Smart Dashboard. You'll also see pre-loaded Linux Servers and Websites dashboards.



Smart vs. Legacy Dashboards

To begin, a quick explanation of the two dashboard types:

Smart Dashboards

Introduced in Nagios XI 2026, [Smart](#) Dashboards provide a modern look and responsive React design, as well as a Smart Dashboard Wizard to help you automatically generate dashboards for individual hosts, groups, or Nagios XI system metrics.

Legacy Dashboards

[Legacy](#) dashboards are the traditional dashboards longtime users will be most familiar with. Both Smart and Legacy (in XI 2026R1.2+) dashlets can be added to Smart dashboards, but only Legacy dashlets can be added to Legacy dashboards.

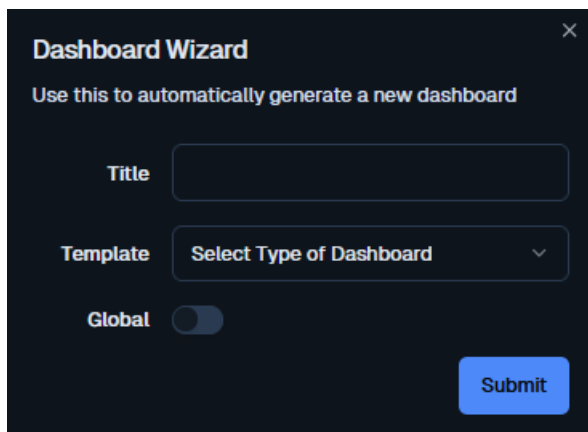
[Universal](#) dashboard management options will be covered toward the end of this document.

How to Use Nagios XI Dashboards 2026

Creating a New Smart Dashboard

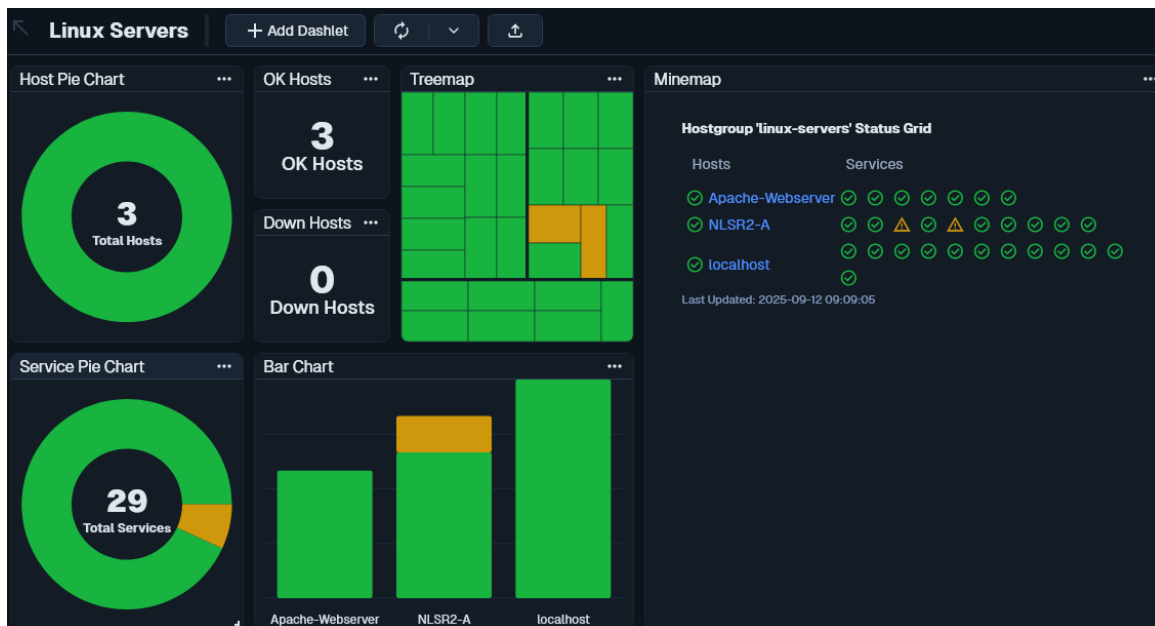
Smart Dashboard Wizard (Neptune Theme Only)

To automatically generate a new Smart dashboard, click **Smart Dashboard Wizard** in the **Dashboard Tools** section, then give it a **Title**, select the object or group you'd like to use as a data source in the **Template** dropdown. You can also choose whether to make it a personal dashboard visible only to your user, or a Global dashboard visible to all system users.



The screenshot shows the 'Dashboard Wizard' form in the Neptune theme. It has a dark background with white text. At the top, it says 'Dashboard Wizard' and 'Use this to automatically generate a new dashboard'. Below this are three fields: 'Title' with an empty text input, 'Template' with a dropdown menu showing 'Select Type of Dashboard', and 'Global' with a toggle switch that is currently turned off. A blue 'Submit' button is located at the bottom right.

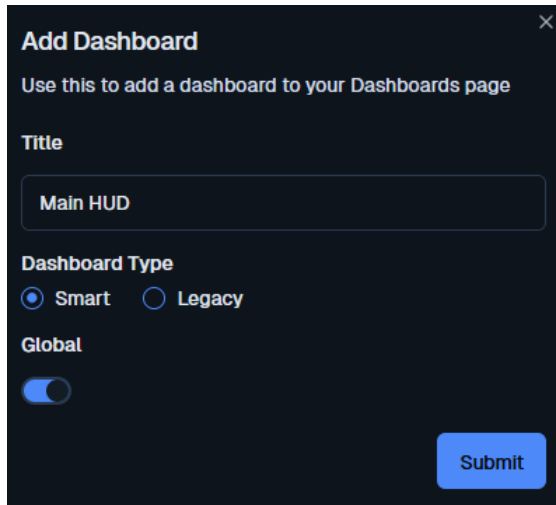
Once you make your selections, click **Submit**, and a new dashboard will be created for you. Here's an example that used the Specific Hostgroup template, showing a linux servers group:



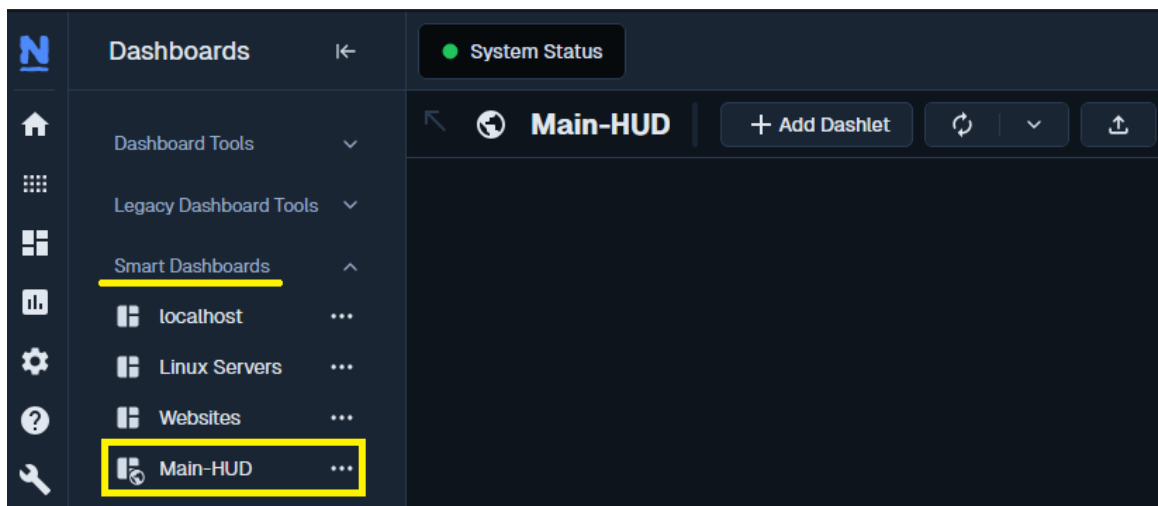
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Custom Smart Dashboard

To create a custom Smart dashboard, click **Add New Dashboard** in the **Dashboard Tools** section. Enter a **Title**, select **Smart**, and choose whether to make the dashboard personal or **Global** (visible to all other XI system users).



Click **Submit**, and your new dashboard will appear in the **Smart Dashboards** section.



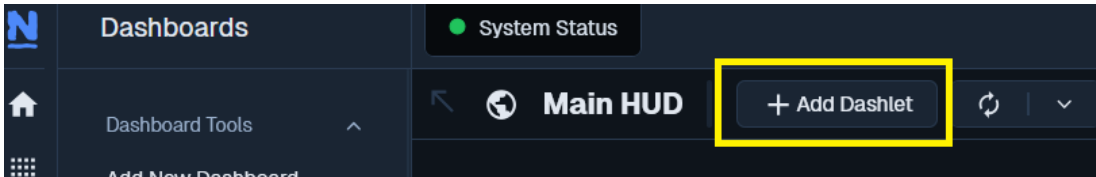
Click the title to be brought to your new blank dashboard so you can begin customizing it by adding dashlets.

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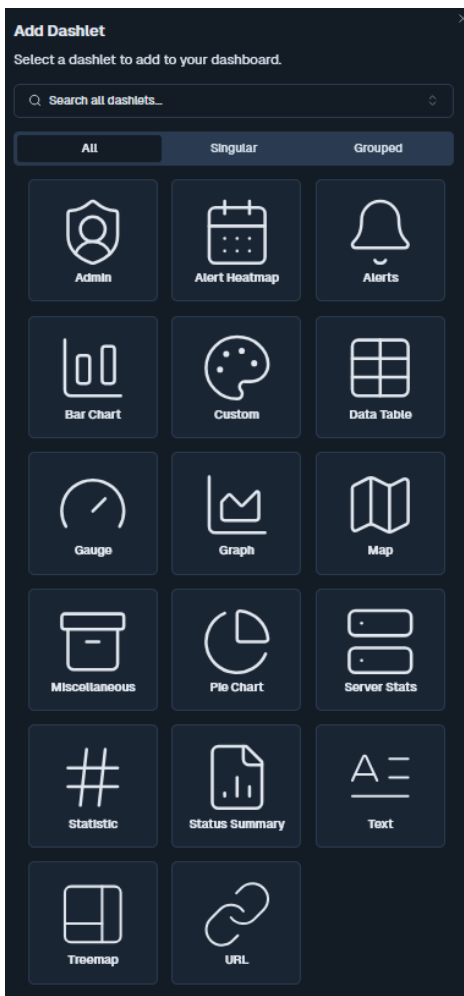
Creating, Using, and Managing Smart Dashlets

Adding Smart Dashlets

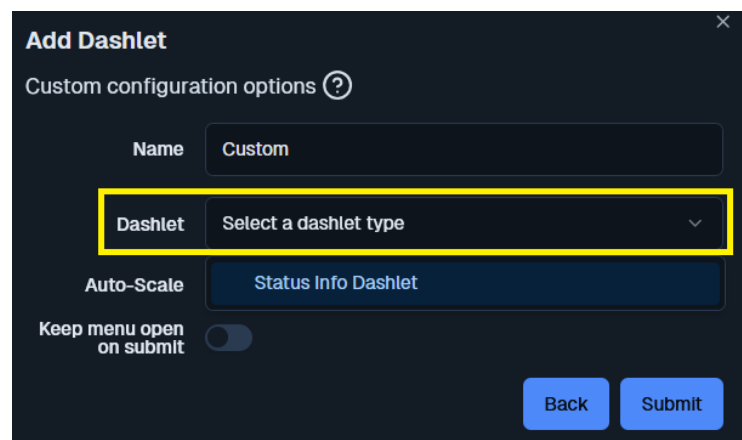
To add a new dashlet, click **+ Add Dashlet** at the top of the dashboard:



Next, click the type of dashlet you'd like to use from the many available options.



Note that the **Custom** dashlet type enables you to add custom dashlets you've created to your Smart dashboards. Any dashlets you've added in the **Admin > System Extensions > Manage Dashlets** menu will appear in the **Dashlet** dropdown in the setup window for the Custom type.

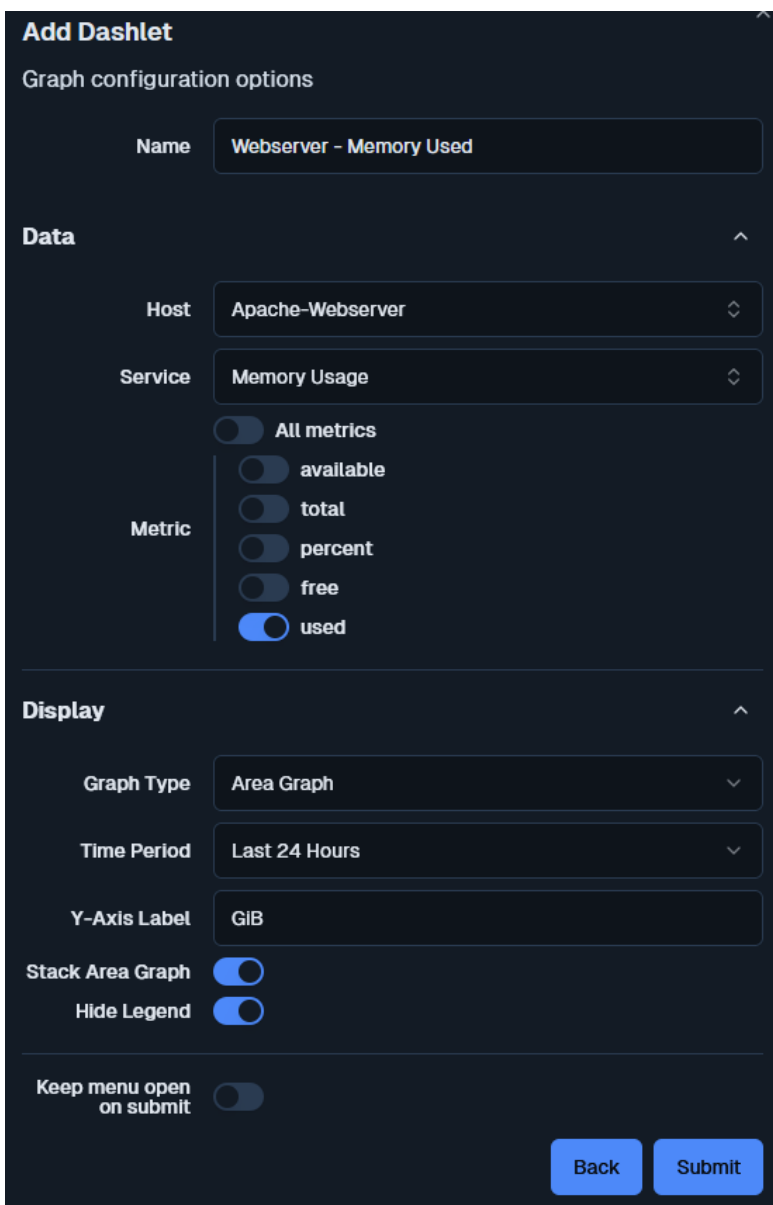


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For this example, we'll create a **Graph** dashlet. First, assign a **Name** for your dashlet, which will appear on it's upper left to help you identify it on your dashboard.

Next, choose the **Host**, **Service**, and **Metric** you'd like to create a graph dashlet of, such as Memory Usage (used) on a Webserver. Also customize the **Display** options such as Graph Type and Time Period, and Hide Legend.

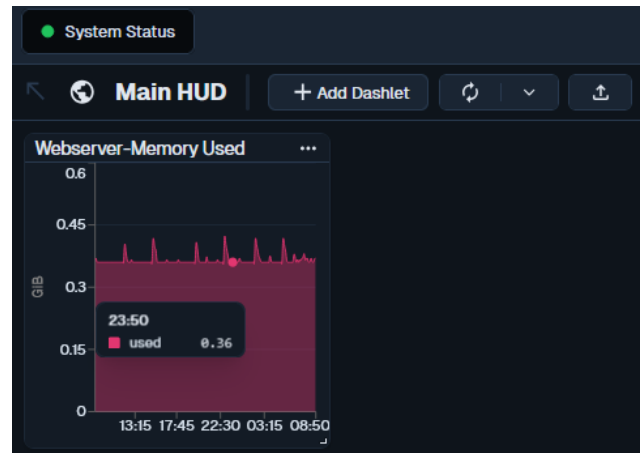
If you toggle **Keep menu open on submit**, the Add Dashlet dialog will remain open after creation, enabling you to immediately create another one.



The screenshot shows the 'Add Dashlet' dialog box in Nagios XI. The dialog is titled 'Add Dashlet' and has a close button in the top right corner. Below the title is the section 'Graph configuration options'. The 'Name' field is set to 'Webserver - Memory Used'. The 'Data' section is expanded and contains 'Host' (Apache-Webserver) and 'Service' (Memory Usage). Under 'Metric', there are five toggle switches: 'All metrics' (off), 'available' (off), 'total' (off), 'percent' (off), and 'used' (on). The 'Display' section is also expanded and contains 'Graph Type' (Area Graph), 'Time Period' (Last 24 Hours), and 'Y-Axis Label' (GiB). There are two more toggle switches: 'Stack Area Graph' (on) and 'Hide Legend' (on). At the bottom, there is a 'Keep menu open on submit' toggle switch (off) and two buttons: 'Back' and 'Submit'.

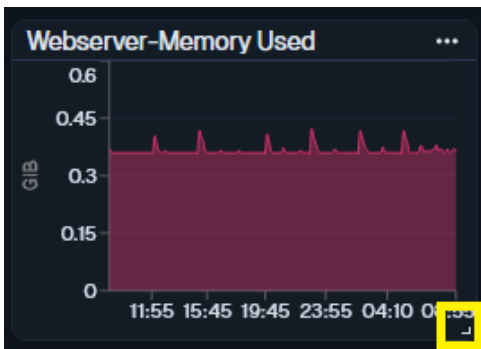
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When finished, click **Submit**, and your new dashlet will appear on your dashboard.

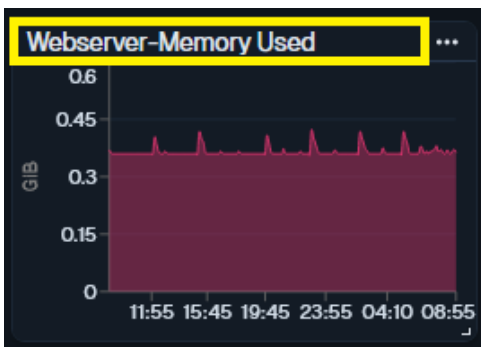


Resizing and Moving Smart Dashlets

To resize a Smart dashlet, click and hold on the bottom right corner, and drag it to the desired size.



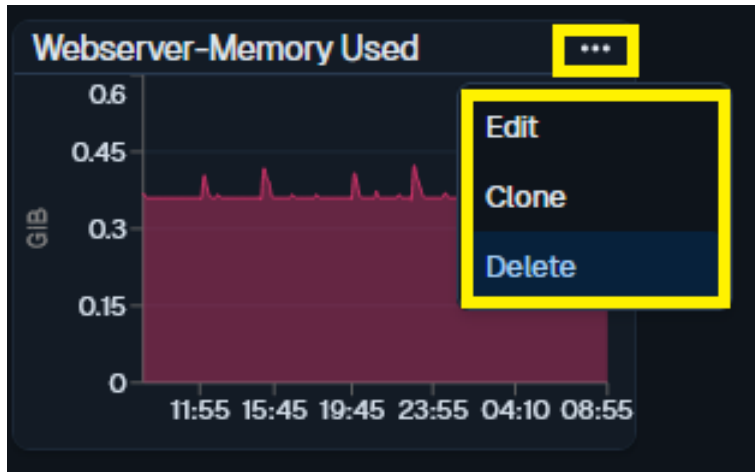
To move a dashlet, click and hold on the top title bar, and move it where you'd like it to go. Other dashlets will dynamically move to accommodate it's new location, and can be re-arranged as you see fit once your re-located dashlet is in place.



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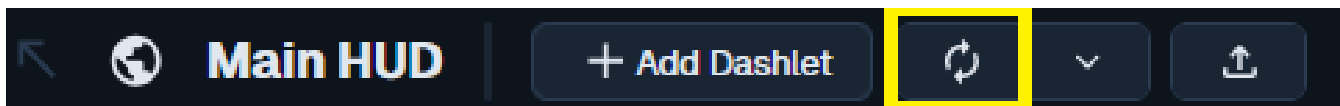
Editing, Cloning, and Deleting Smart Dashlets

Click the Actions icon on the upper right of a dashlet to edit its settings, clone it, or delete it.

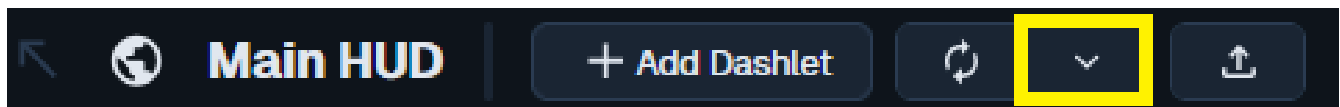


Refreshing and Adjusting the Auto Refresh Interval

To refresh your dashboard so that it reflects the latest Nagios check data, click the **Refresh** icon.



To adjust the Auto Refresh interval (default 5 minutes), click the down-arrow to the right of the Refresh icon, and select your desired rate.

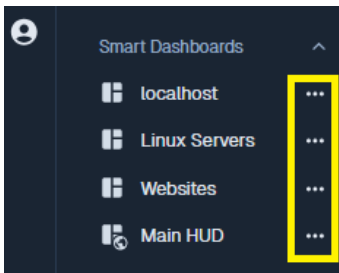


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Managing Smart Dashboards

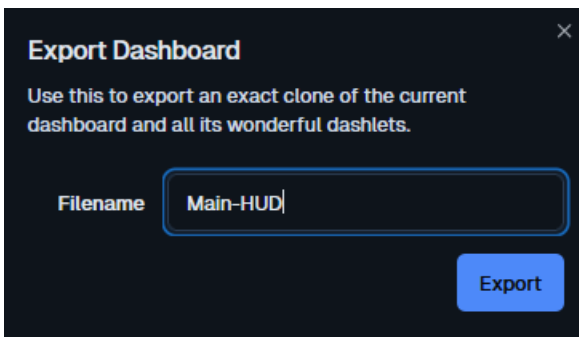
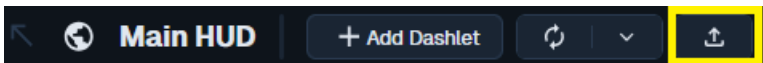
Renaming and Deleting Smart Dashboards

To rename or delete an existing dashboard, click the Actions icon to the right of its name in the lefthand **Smart Dashboards** section of the **Dashboards** menu.

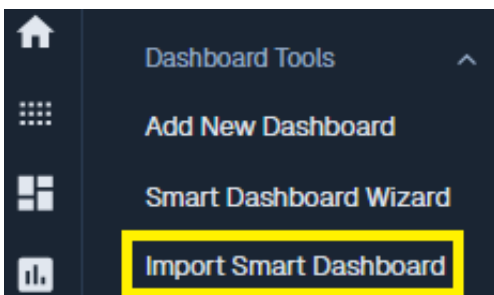


Exporting and Importing Smart Dashboards

Dashboards can be exported as a json file to be shared with other users. To export a dashboard, click the Export button, then select a filename and click **Export**.

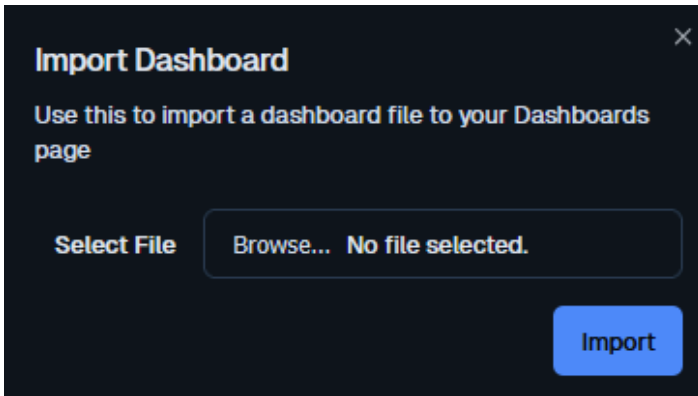


To import a dashboard using a json file, click **Import Smart Dashboard** in the lefthand **Dashboard Tools** section:



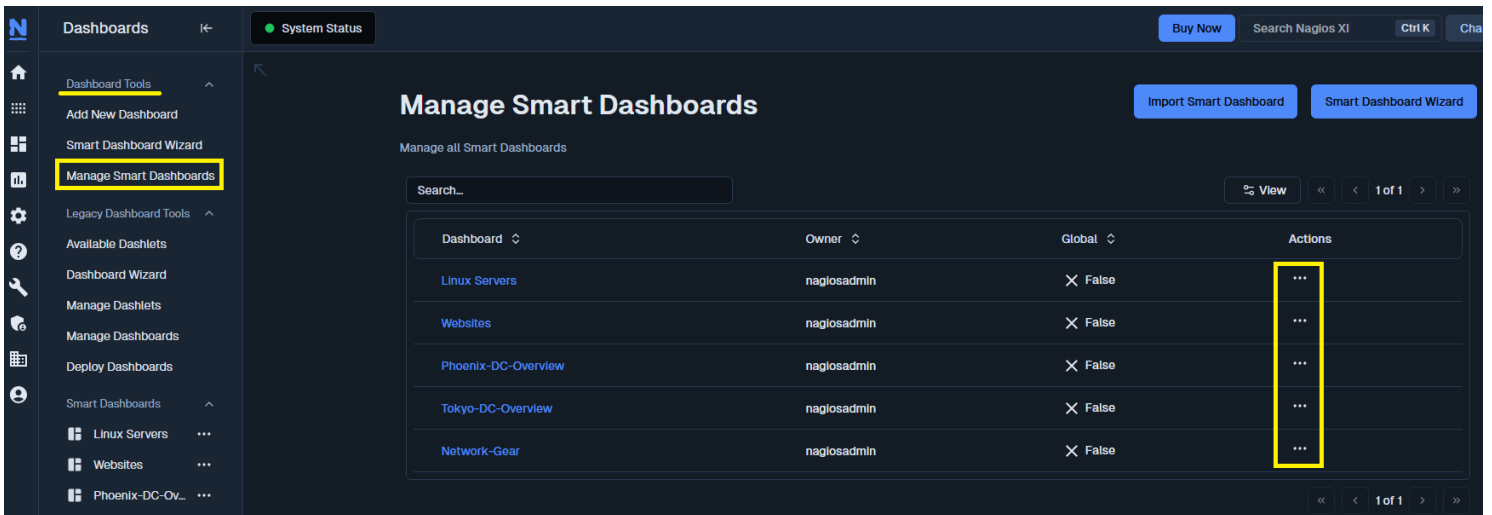
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Next, select your file and click **Import**.



Globally Managing Smart Dashboards

In the **Dashboard Tools > Manage Smart Dashboards** menu, administrators can view all Dashboards in the system across all users, and Rename, Make Default, Toggle Global Status, and Delete them with the **Actions** dropdown:

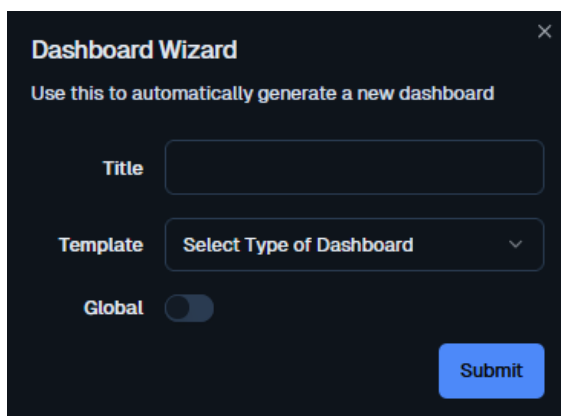


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Creating a New Legacy Dashboard

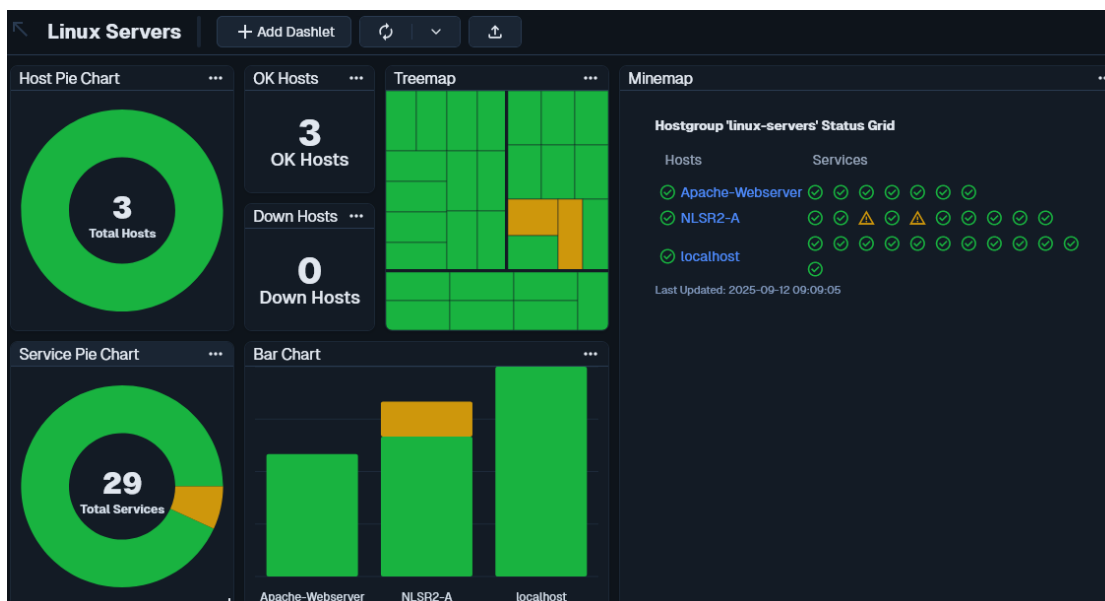
Dashboard Wizard (Neptune Theme Only)

To automatically generate a new Legacy dashboard, click **Dashboard Wizard** in the **Legacy Dashboard Tools** section, then give it a **Title**, select the object or group you'd like to use as a data source in the **Template** dropdown. You can also choose whether to make it a personal dashboard visible only to your user, or a Global dashboard visible to all system users.



The screenshot shows the 'Dashboard Wizard' dialog box. It has a title bar with a close button (X). Below the title, it says 'Use this to automatically generate a new dashboard'. There are three main fields: 'Title' with an empty text input box, 'Template' with a dropdown menu showing 'Select Type of Dashboard', and 'Global' with a toggle switch that is currently turned off. A blue 'Submit' button is located at the bottom right.

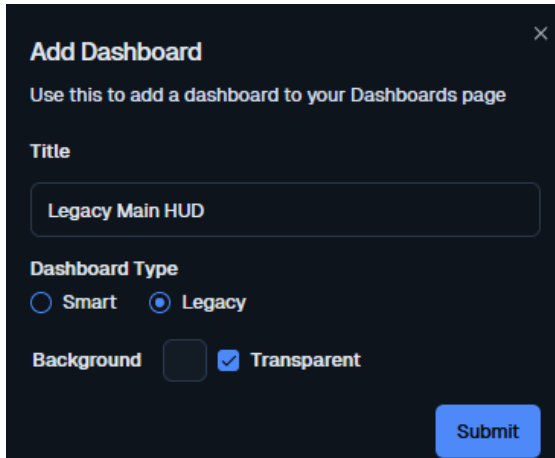
Once you make your selections, click Submit, and a new dashboard will be created for you. Here's an example that used the **Specific Hostgroup** template, showing a linux servers group:



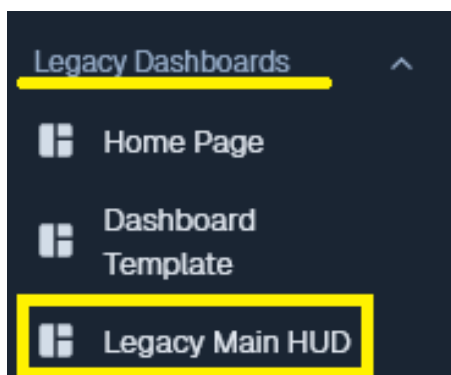
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Custom Legacy Dashboard

To create a new Legacy dashboard, click the **Add New Dashboard** link under the **Dashboard Tools**, and select **Legacy**. Enter a title, choose either a Transparent background or a custom background color, then click **Submit** to create your dashboard.




Once the dashboard has been created it will now appear in the Legacy Dashboards section in the lefthand menu. Clicking it will reveal an empty dashboard.



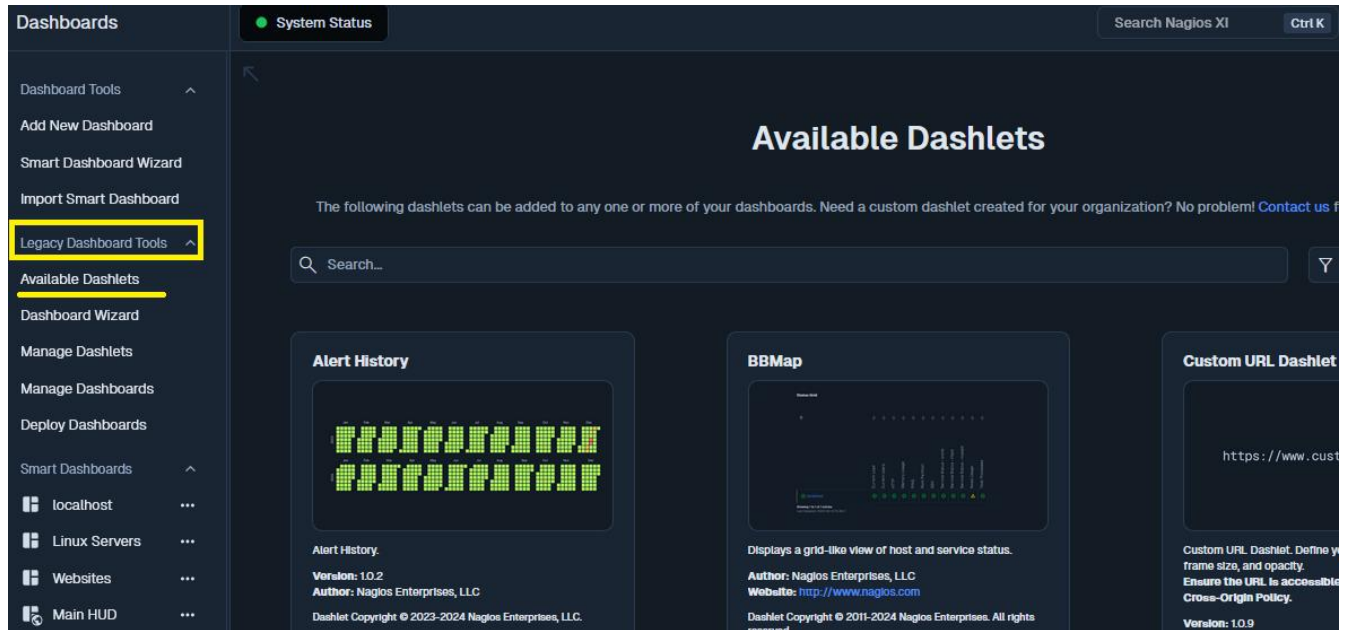
Adding, Using, and Managing Legacy Dashlets

Adding Legacy Dashlets

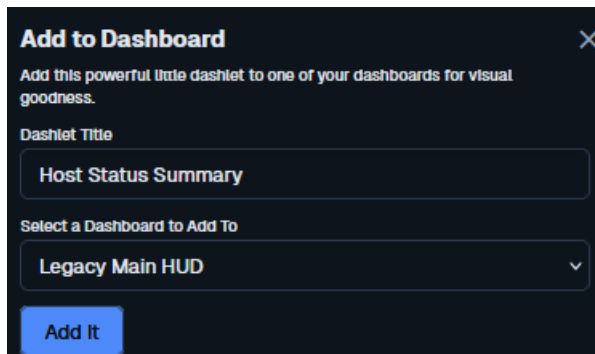
A dashboard is simply an empty page until you add a dashlet to it. Dashlets are nearly everywhere in the Nagios XI interface. Wherever you see the dashify icon, , you can click it to add that graphical element to any Smart or Legacy dashboard.

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1. Click the **Available Dashlets** link in the left pane under **Legacy Dashboard Tools** to view a list of available dashlets.



2. To add a dashlet to a dashboard, click the image for that dashlet.
3. The **Add to Dashboard** window appears. The dashlet being added in this example requires you to provide a **Dashlet Title**.
4. You also need to select which dashboard you want to add the dashlet to.
5. Click the **Add It** button to add the dashlet.



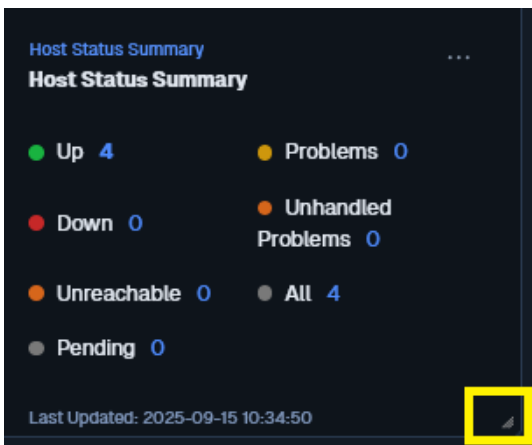
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6. After adding the dashlet, navigate to the dashboard you added it to (under **Legacy Dashboards**).

Note that you can also right-click any empty space in a dashboard and select Add Dashlet to open the Available Dashlets menu and choose a new dashlet.

Resizing and Moving Legacy Dashlets

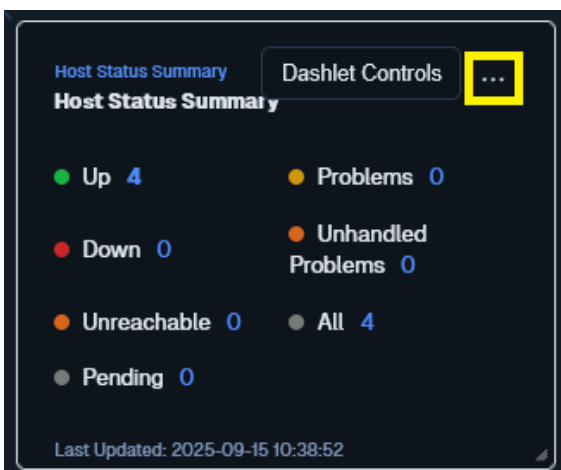
To resize a Legacy Dashlet, click-hold on the bottom right corner and drag it to your desired size.



To move a dashlet, click-hold on it, then drag it to where you'd like it to go.

Legacy Dashlet Controls

To access dashlet control options, either click the Actions icon if it is a small dashlet:

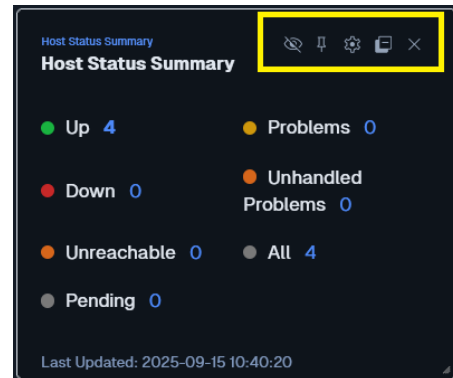


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...or hover over the dashlet to see icons for the available actions if the dashlet is large enough to show them →

Hide Title (eye icon)

This enables you to hide the blue dashlet title:



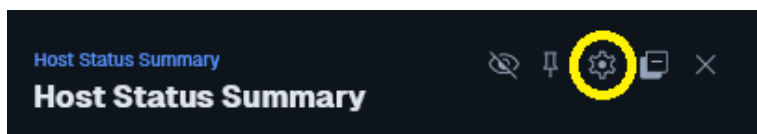
Pin (pin icon)

This enables you to pin a dashlet in place, so that it cannot be moved, and won't dynamically arrange itself when other dashlets are moved, until un-pinned.



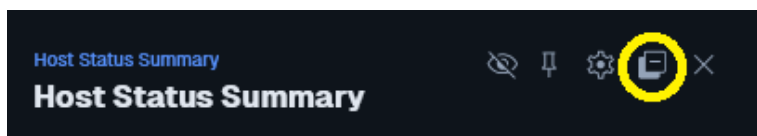
Re-configure (gear icon)

This option enables you to re-configure some basic settings of your dashlet, such as its Title.



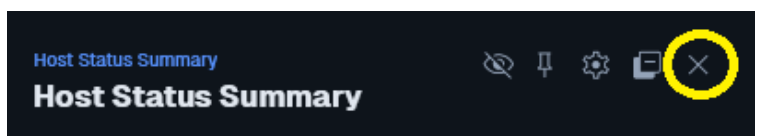
Hide Background (2 squares icon)

This option can be used to make the dashlet background transparent.



Delete (x icon)

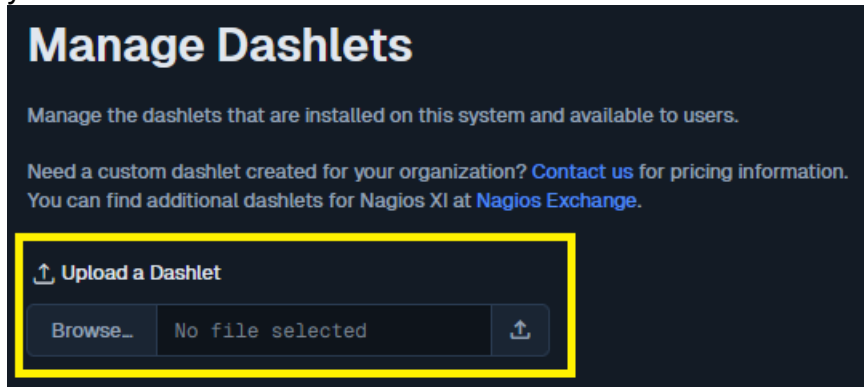
Use this option to permanently delete a dashlet from a dashboard.



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Importing Legacy Dashlets

If you've developed a new dashlet of your own, or would like to add a dashlet found somewhere like the Nagios Exchange community site, goto **Legacy Dashboard Tools > Manage Dashlets** and select your file.



Downloading and Deleting Dashlets from the System

To download a dashlet file, click the download icon on it's upper right in **Legacy Dashboard Tools > Manage Dashlets**.



To permanently delete a dashlet from the system, click the delete (trashcan) icon.

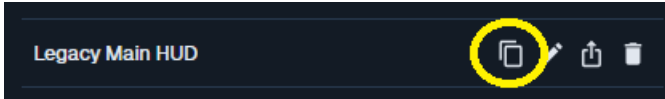


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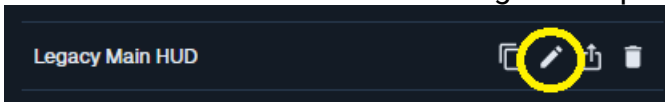
Managing Legacy Dashboards

Legacy Dashboard Tools > Manage Dashboards Menu Options

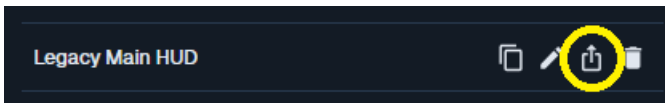
To **clone** a dashboard click the Clone icon. Select a Title for the new dashboard, then click **Clone**.



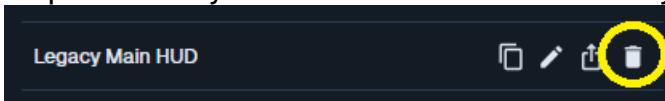
To **edit** a dashboard Title and background options, click the Edit icon.



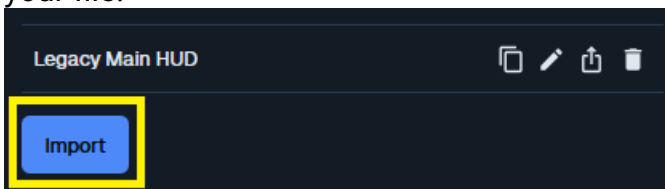
To **export** a .txt file containing the dashboard settings that can be shared and imported, click the Export icon.



To permanently **delete** a dashboard from the system, click the delete icon.



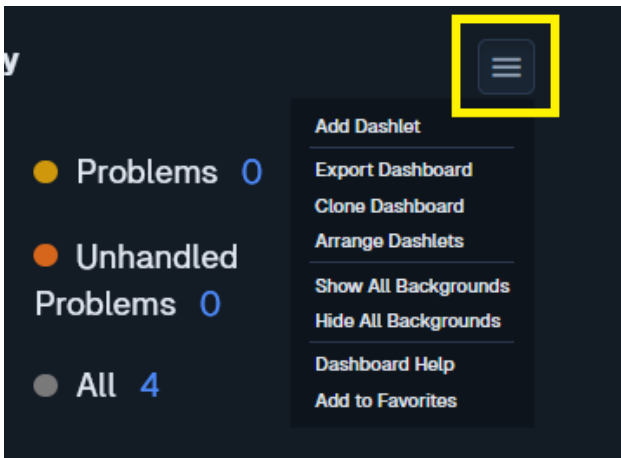
To **import** a dashboard txt file that has been shared with you, click the blue Import button, then select your file.



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In-Dashboard Menu Options

You also can access various options by either right-clicking on any empty space in a dashboard, or by clicking the Actions icon on the upper right of a legacy dashboard.



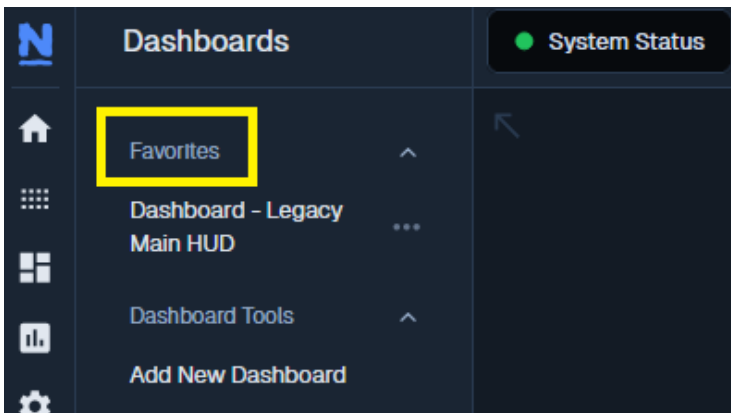
Export and **Clone** function as described above in the previous section.

Arrange Dashlets will auto-arrange the dashlets on your dashboard.

Show/Hide All Backgrounds will either show or hide the background on all dashlets on your dashboard.

Dashboard Help will provide you with links to resources to help you manage Dashboards.

Add to Favorites will add the dashboard to your menu Favorites.



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Deploying Legacy Dashboards

Nagios XI allows you to deploy your dashboards to other Nagios XI users. Only a Nagios XI Administrator can deploy dashboards.

This can be performed via **Legacy Dashboard Tools > Deploy Dashboards**.

The screenshot shows the 'Dashboard Deployment Tool' interface. It includes a title, a brief description of the tool's purpose, a note about re-deploying, and two main sections: 'Dashboards To Deploy' and 'Deploy To Users'. The 'Dashboards To Deploy' section contains a table with columns for 'Deploy', 'ID', 'Local Name', 'Destination Name', and 'Keep Synced'. The 'Deploy To Users' section contains a list of users with checkboxes for selection. At the bottom, there are 'Deploy Dashboards' and 'Cancel' buttons.

Dashboard Deployment Tool

This tool allows admins to deploy one or more of their own dashboards to other users. This can be useful when you design a dashboard that other users may want access to. If you want each user's copy of your dashboard to stay synchronized with your dashboard, select the 'Keep Synced' option.

Note: Re-deploying a dashboard that has already been deployed will overwrite the user's old copy of the deployed dashboard.

Dashboards To Deploy

Specify which of your dashboards should be deployed.

Deploy	ID	Local Name	Destination Name	Keep Synced
All / None				All / None
<input type="checkbox"/>	home	Home Page	Home Page	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	cool	Dashboard Template	Dashboard Template	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	MGFMCKK	IT Dashboard	IT Dashboard	<input type="checkbox"/>

Deploy To Users

Specify which users the dashboards should be deployed to. Check All / Uncheck All

joesmith (Joe)

Deploy Dashboards Cancel

When using the Dashboard Deployment Tool there are several options available:

1. Select which dashboards you want to deploy by checking the boxes in the **Deploy** column.
2. You can change the name of the dashboard by updating the field in the **Destination Name** column.
3. The **Keep Synced** option ensures that if a dashboard is updated, it will be updated to all the users it was deployed to.
4. Select the users in the Deploy To Users list that you want to receive the dashboards chosen in the options above.
5. Click the Deploy Dashboards button to deploy the dashboards to the users.

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Note: It is worth mentioning that there is no central way to manage every user's dashboards on one screen. You can only manage Legacy dashboards for the user that you are currently logged in as, be they personal or deployed.

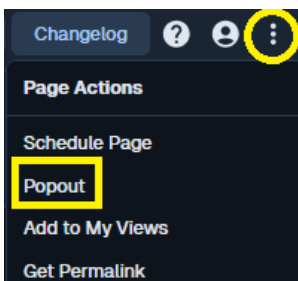
If you plan on creating Legacy dashboards that you will be deploying to many users and updating these dashboards on a regular basis, it is recommended to create a dedicated Nagios XI user account for this specific purpose. This allows you to centrally manage these dashboards and means you do not have any issues when a user is no longer granted access to Nagios XI (if a user left the company and their Nagios XI user account was deleted, their dashboards will be lost).

Popout or Fullscreen a Smart or Legacy Dashboard

Sometimes you do not need the **Navigation** pane or menu bar when viewing a dashboard. There are two ways that you can achieve this functionality in both Smart and Legacy Dashboards.

Popout

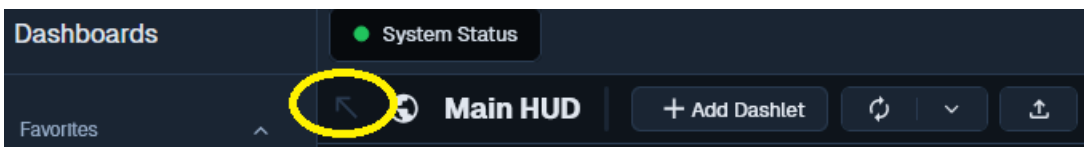
On the far right of the top menu bar there is an icon with three vertical dots. When you hover over this icon a drop-down list of options appears. Click the **Popout** icon to open the current dashboard into a new tab / window.



Fullscreen

You can click the upward pointing **arrow** icon that appears in the upper left of a dashboard to expand it to fill the browser window.

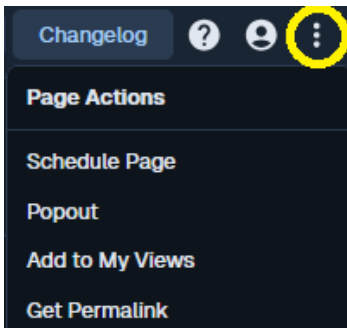
After clicking the **arrow** icon the dashboard will appear without any navigation pane or menu bar. There is now a downward pointing arrow icon in the upper left that will allow you to close the full screen mode to restore the navigation pane and menu bar.



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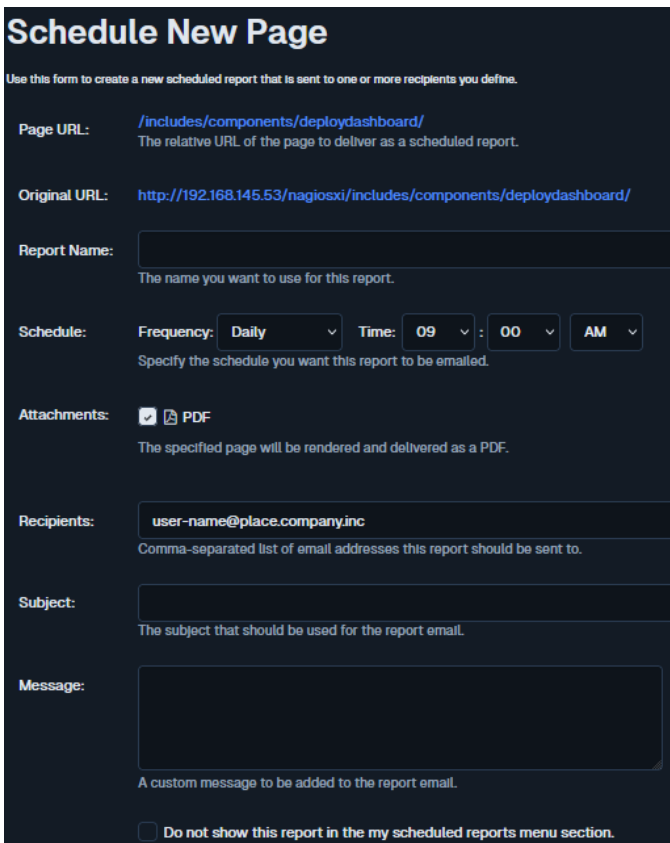
Other Smart and Legacy Dashboard Options

You will notice several other options available when you click the three vertical dots icon on the upper right.



Schedule Page

To schedule a dashboard for automatic delivery as a PDF (available in the Enterprise Edition), choose this option, then customize the various settings:

A screenshot of the 'Schedule New Page' form in Nagios XI. The form is titled 'Schedule New Page' and includes the following fields and options:

- Page URL:** /includes/components/deploydashboard/ (The relative URL of the page to deliver as a scheduled report.)
- Original URL:** http://192.168.145.53/nagiosxi/includes/components/deploydashboard/
- Report Name:** (Empty text input field. The name you want to use for this report.)
- Schedule:** Frequency: Daily (dropdown), Time: 09 : 00 AM (dropdowns). (Specify the schedule you want this report to be emailed.)
- Attachments:** PDF (The specified page will be rendered and delivered as a PDF.)
- Recipients:** user-name@place.company.inc (Comma-separated list of email addresses this report should be sent to.)
- Subject:** (Empty text input field. The subject that should be used for the report email.)
- Message:** (Empty text area. A custom message to be added to the report email.)
- Do not show this report in the my scheduled reports menu section.

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Add to My Views

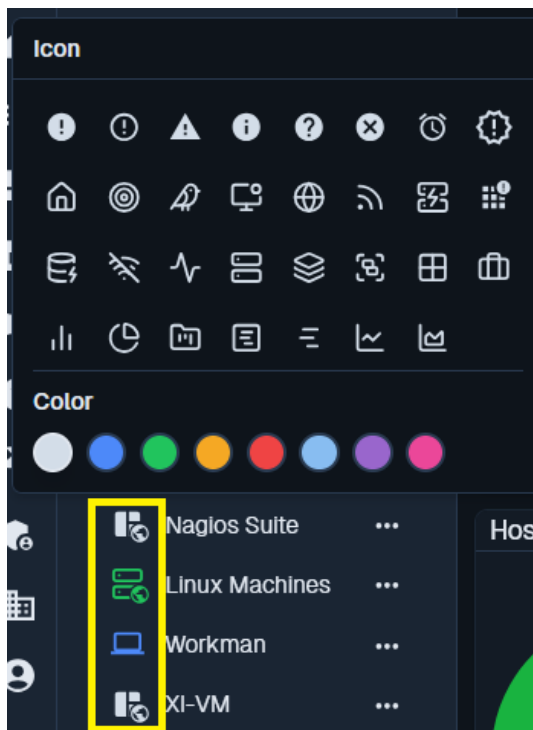
Choose this option to add a Dashboard to your Views rotation. Enter a **View Title**, then click **Submit**.

Get Permalink

Use this option to generate a URL that goes directly to the dashboard.

Changing Dashboard Icons and Icon Colors

To choose a custom icon, or adjust the icon color, simply click the current icon next to the dashboard title in the Dashboards menu, then select your preferred icon and color:



Using Dashboards as Your Home Landing Page

To learn more about how to make your Home page a custom dashboard, you can refer to this document:

[Customizing the Landing Page in Nagios XI 2026](#)

How to Use Nagios XI Dashboards 2026

Finishing Up

This completes the documentation on Using Dashboards in Nagios XI 2026. 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](#)