

# How To Use Nagios XI 2024 And 2026 Auto-Discovery

## Purpose

This document describes how to use Auto-Discovery in Nagios XI to locate hosts and devices that are not already being monitored by Nagios XI.

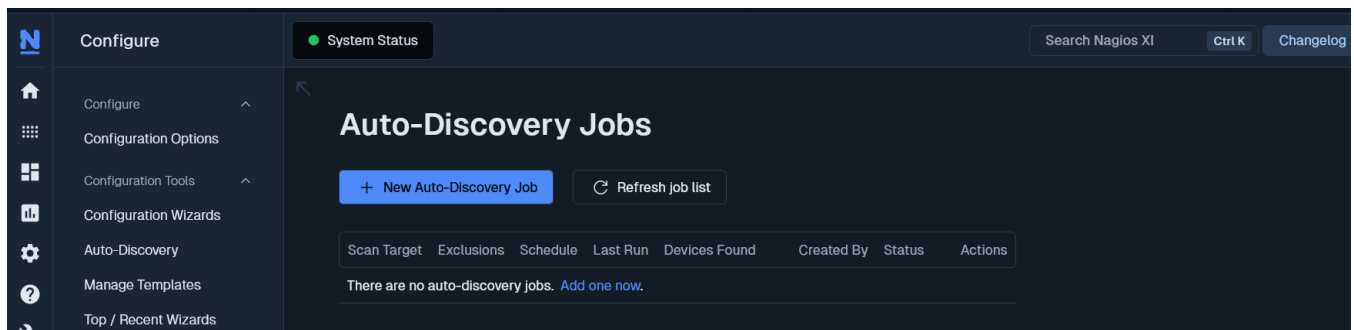
## Overview

The Auto-Discovery feature in Nagios XI comprises of two components:

- Auto-Discovery Jobs
  - This performs the discovery of hosts and devices in your network environment.
  - A network scan is performed using ping and nmap.
- Auto-Discovery Configuration Wizard.
  - Using the results of an Auto-Discovery job you can start monitoring these hosts and devices.

## Create a New Auto-Discovery Job

1. The management of Auto-Discovery jobs is located by navigating to **Configure > Configuration Tools > Auto-Discovery**.
2. To create a new job, click the **New Auto-Discovery Job** button.



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3. The options required when creating a job are self-explanatory.

This example shows the upper half of a class C subnet (a /25 in CIDR notation) being scanned with an **Excluded IP**. It has been scheduled to run one time, and the **System DNS** option has been selected to resolve the addresses to DNS records.

4. Click the **Submit** button to create the job.

## New Auto-Discovery Job

Use this form to configure an auto-discovery job.

### Auto-Discovery Setup

**Scan Target \***

Enter a network address and netmask to define the IP ranges to scan.

**Exclude IPs**

An optional comma-separated list of IP addresses and/or network addresses to exclude from the scan.

**Schedule**

One Time ▾

Specify the schedule you would like this job to be run.

### Advanced Options

**OS Detection**

On ▾

Attempt to detect the operating system of each host.

**Scan Delay**

ms

Adjust delay between probes to a given host.

**System DNS**

Off ▾

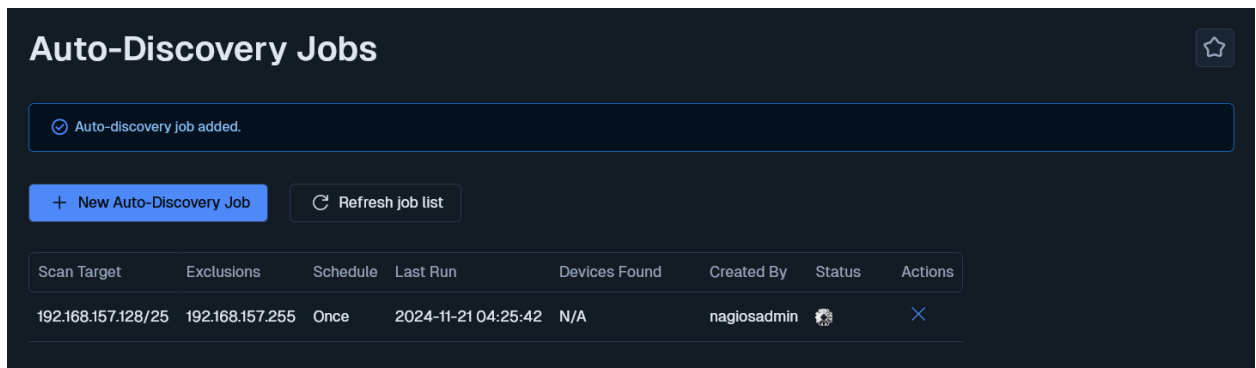
Use system DNS.

**Custom Ports**

Specify Custom ports. Ex: 22; 1-65535; U:53,111,137,T:21-25,80,139,8080,S:9

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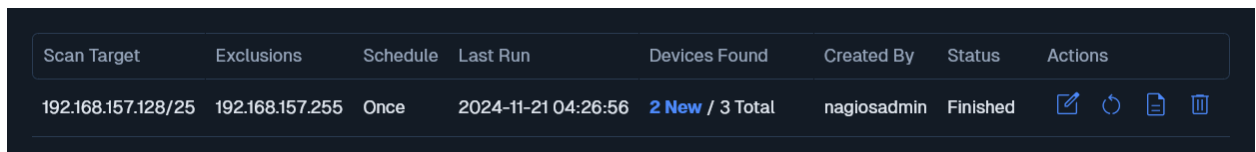
5. The new job will appear on the **Auto-Discovery Jobs** page when it reloads.
  - a. When a job is running, or scheduled and has not run yet, the **Status** column will show a spinner icon. In the **Actions** column you can click the trash icon to delete the job.



The screenshot shows the 'Auto-Discovery Jobs' page. At the top, there is a notification: 'Auto-discovery job added.' Below this, there are two buttons: '+ New Auto-Discovery Job' and 'Refresh job list'. A table lists the jobs with columns: Scan Target, Exclusions, Schedule, Last Run, Devices Found, Created By, Status, and Actions. The first job is shown with a spinner icon in the Status column.

Scan Target	Exclusions	Schedule	Last Run	Devices Found	Created By	Status	Actions
192.168.157.128/25	192.168.157.255	Once	2024-11-21 04:25:42	N/A	nagiosadmin		

- b. When the job has finished running it will show how many new devices were found.



The screenshot shows the 'Auto-Discovery Jobs' page with the same table as above. The Status column now shows 'Finished' and the Devices Found column shows '2 New / 3 Total'. The Actions column contains icons for edit, refresh, view results, and delete.

Scan Target	Exclusions	Schedule	Last Run	Devices Found	Created By	Status	Actions
192.168.157.128/25	192.168.157.255	Once	2024-11-21 04:26:56	2 New / 3 Total	nagiosadmin	Finished	

6. In the **Devices** Found column, if you click the **New** devices link you will be taken to the Auto-Discovery Wizard which is explained in the [Configuration Wizard](#) section of this document.

## Job Actions

On the **Auto-Discovery Jobs** page, the **Action** column provides the following functionality:

- **Edit Job** - Adjust the settings for the job
- **Re-Run Job** - Force the job to run now
- **View Job Results** - View detailed information about the scan results
- **Delete Job** - Discard the job and its history

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## View Job Results

The **View Job Results** icon allows you to view detailed information about the network scan that was performed.

- You can view all the hosts or just the new hosts discovered.
- You can show the services that were discovered.
- You can deploy agents to selected hosts. See [Automatic Agent Deployment](#) for more information.
- This job can be exported as a CSV.

### Scan Results

[Back to Auto-Discovery Jobs](#)

Scan Summary

Scan Date: 2024-11-21 04:27:14

Scan Address: 192.168.157.128/25

Excludes: 192.168.157.255

Initiated By: nagiosadmin

Total Hosts Found: 3 [Show all](#)

New Hosts Found: 2

Processing Options

Export Data As: [CSV](#)

Configure Basic Monitoring: [New hosts](#)

#### Discovered Items

The hosts below were discovered during the auto-discovery scan. hosts identified as linux servers with ssh available and no agent already deployed have been pre-selected for agent deployment.

[Show discovered services](#)

<input type="checkbox"/>	Address	Host Name	Type	Device/Operating System [Accuracy] ⓘ	Mac Vendor	Agent Deployed ⓘ	Status
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	192.168.157.131	192.168.157.131	Linux Server	Linux 4.15 - 5.8 [100%]	VMware	No	New
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	192.168.157.133	192.168.157.133	Linux Server	Linux 5.0 - 5.4 [98%]	VMware	No	New

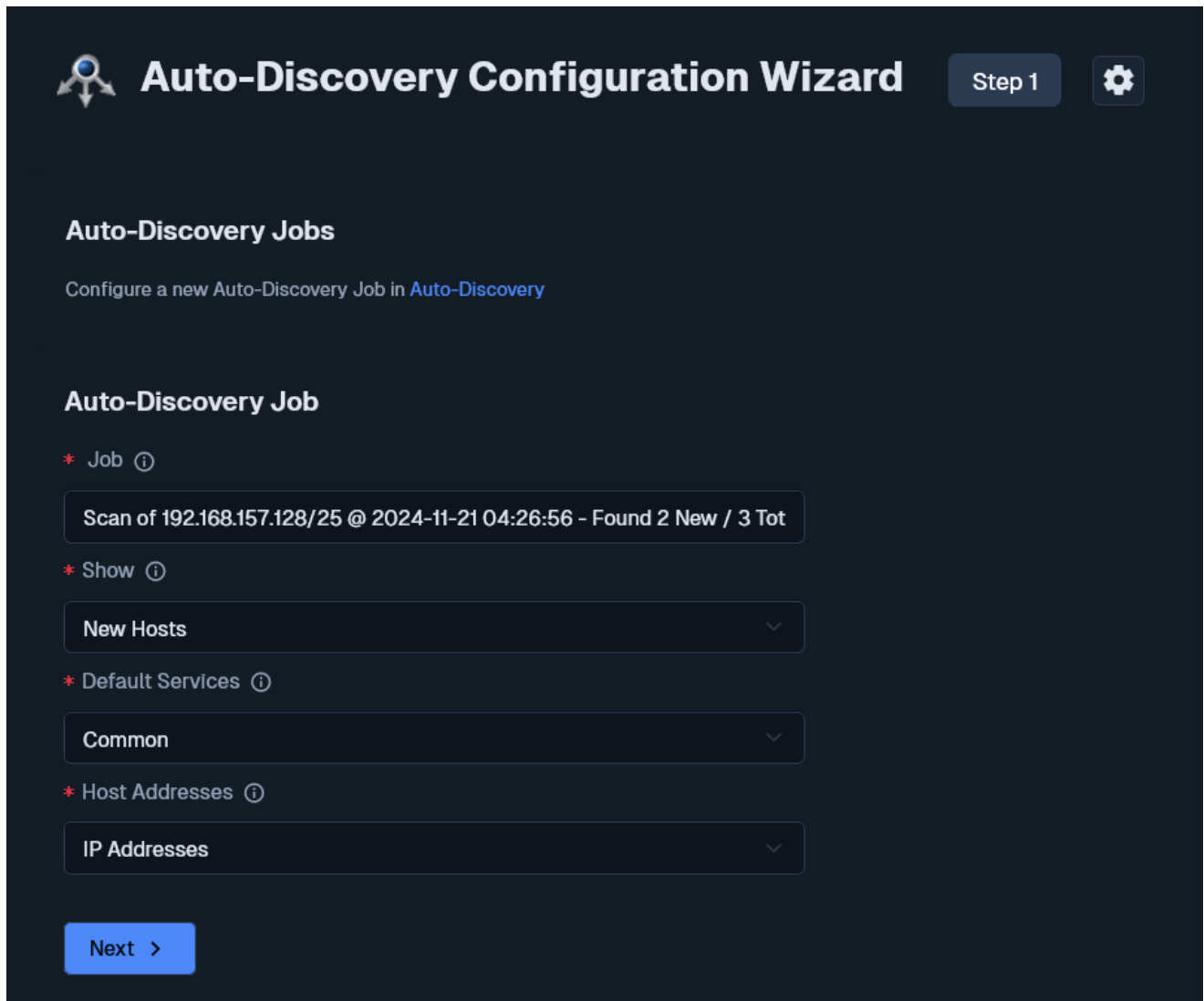
[Deploy Agents to Selected Hosts](#)

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## Configuration Wizard

The **Auto-Discovery Wizard** is what turns the Auto-Discovery job results into monitored devices.

1. When on the **Auto-Discovery** page, click the **New** link in the **Devices Found** column to start the Wizard. You can also run the Wizard by navigating to **Configure > Configuration Wizards > Auto-Discovery Wizard**.
2. The job will be automatically selected. The available options are clearly explained in the screenshot. This example will **Show New Hosts** and the **Host Addresses** option is set to **IP Addresses**.
3. Click **Next** to proceed to **Step 2**.



The screenshot shows the 'Auto-Discovery Configuration Wizard' interface. At the top, there is a title 'Auto-Discovery Configuration Wizard' with a 'Step 1' indicator and a settings icon. Below the title, the section is titled 'Auto-Discovery Jobs' with a sub-header 'Configure a new Auto-Discovery Job in Auto-Discovery'. The main section is 'Auto-Discovery Job' and contains four configuration fields, each with a red asterisk and an information icon:

- Job**: Scan of 192.168.157.128/25 @ 2024-11-21 04:26:56 - Found 2 New / 3 Tot
- Show**: New Hosts
- Default Services**: Common
- Host Addresses**: IP Addresses

At the bottom of the form, there is a blue 'Next >' button.

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- Step 2** allows you to select exactly what host and service objects will be created. The following screenshot is of the first host in the list.

**Auto-Discovery Configuration Wizard** Step 2

**Scan Results**

The hosts and services below were discovered during the auto-discovery scan. Select the hosts and services you would like to monitor.

<input type="checkbox"/>	Address	Type	OS	Status	Host Name	Services			
						<input type="checkbox"/> Service Name	Service	Port	Protocol
<input type="checkbox"/>	192.168.157.131	Linux Server	Linux 4.15 - 5.8	New	192.168.157.131	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SSH	ssh	22	TCP
						<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> HTTP	http	80	TCP
<input type="checkbox"/>	192.168.157.133	Linux Server	Linux 5.0 - 5.4	New	192.168.157.133	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SSH	ssh	22	TCP
						<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> HTTP	http	80	TCP

< Back    Next >    Cancel

- You can change the name of the host and services. The services created are basic port monitoring services, more specific monitoring like **Load** and **Disk Space** will require you to run a Configuration Wizard that provides that functionality.
- You can select or deselect a host by using the check box next to the host **Address** in the left column. Deselecting a host means that none of the services selected to the right will be monitored.  
  
The check box in the upper left corner will select ALL hosts in the Wizard. The same applies to the **Services** check box in the header row.
- After making your selections click **Next** and then complete the Wizard by choosing the required options in **Step 3 - Step 5**.

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- To finish up, click **Finish** in the final step of the Wizard. This will create new hosts and services and begin monitoring.

Showing 1-15 of 20 total records

Host ↓	Service ↓	Status ↓	Duration ↓	Attempt ↓	Last Check ↓	Status Information ↓
● 192.168.157.131	HTTP	● Ok	5m 13s	1/5	2024-11-21 04:56:11	HTTP OK: HTTP/1.1 302 Found - 198 bytes in 0.040 second response time
	Ping	● Ok	N/A	1/5	2024-11-21 04:52:28	OK - 192.168.157.131: rta 8.812ms lost 0%
	SSH	● Ok	N/A	1/5	2024-11-21 04:53:28	SSH OK - OpenSSH_9.2p1 Debian-2+deb12u3 (protocol 2.0)
● 192.168.157.133	HTTP	● Ok	N/A	1/5	2024-11-21 04:54:26	HTTP OK: HTTP/1.1 302 Found - 237 bytes in 0.011 second response time
	Ping	● Ok	N/A	1/5	2024-11-21 04:55:26	OK - 192.168.157.133: rta 1.187ms lost 0%
	SSH	● Ok	N/A	1/5	2024-11-21 04:51:29	SSH OK - OpenSSH_8.7 (protocol 2.0)

## Newly Discovered Hosts

In the future, re-running the Auto-Discovery job (manually or scheduled) will detect new hosts that are not already being monitored by Nagios XI. Here is that job again after two hosts were brought online.

Scan Target	Exclusions	Schedule	Last Run	Devices Found	Created By	Status	Actions
10.25.5.0/24	10.25.5.1	Daily 10:00 AM	2017-08-17 16:16:52	<b>2 New</b> / 15 Total	nagiosadmin	Finished	✖

You can see now there are 15 in total with 2 New devices being detected. Clicking **2 New** will allow you to start monitoring these new devices.

## Finishing Up

This completes the documentation on Auto-Discovery in Nagios XI. 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](#)