

# How To Use Nagios XI 2024 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.

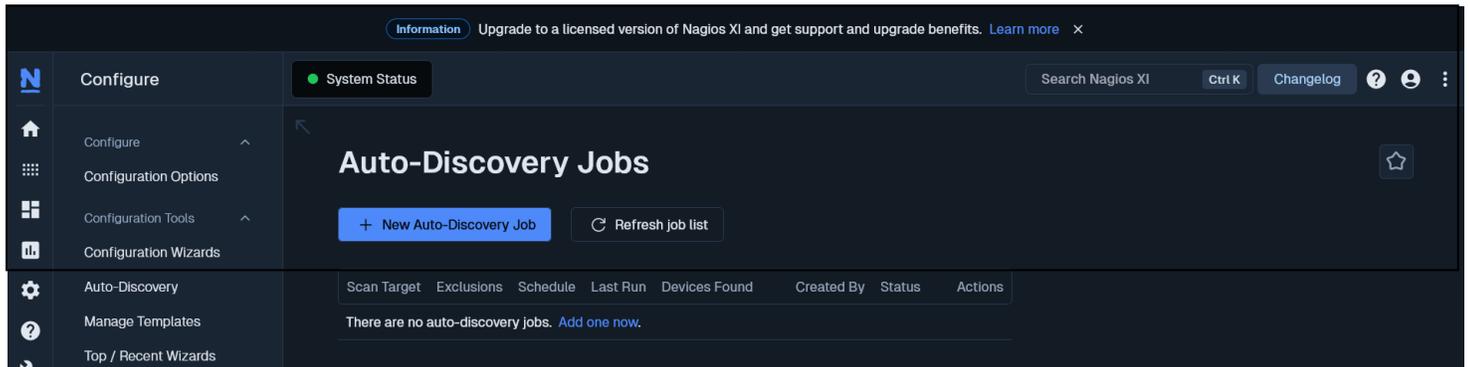
## Overview

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.

## Auto-Discovery Jobs

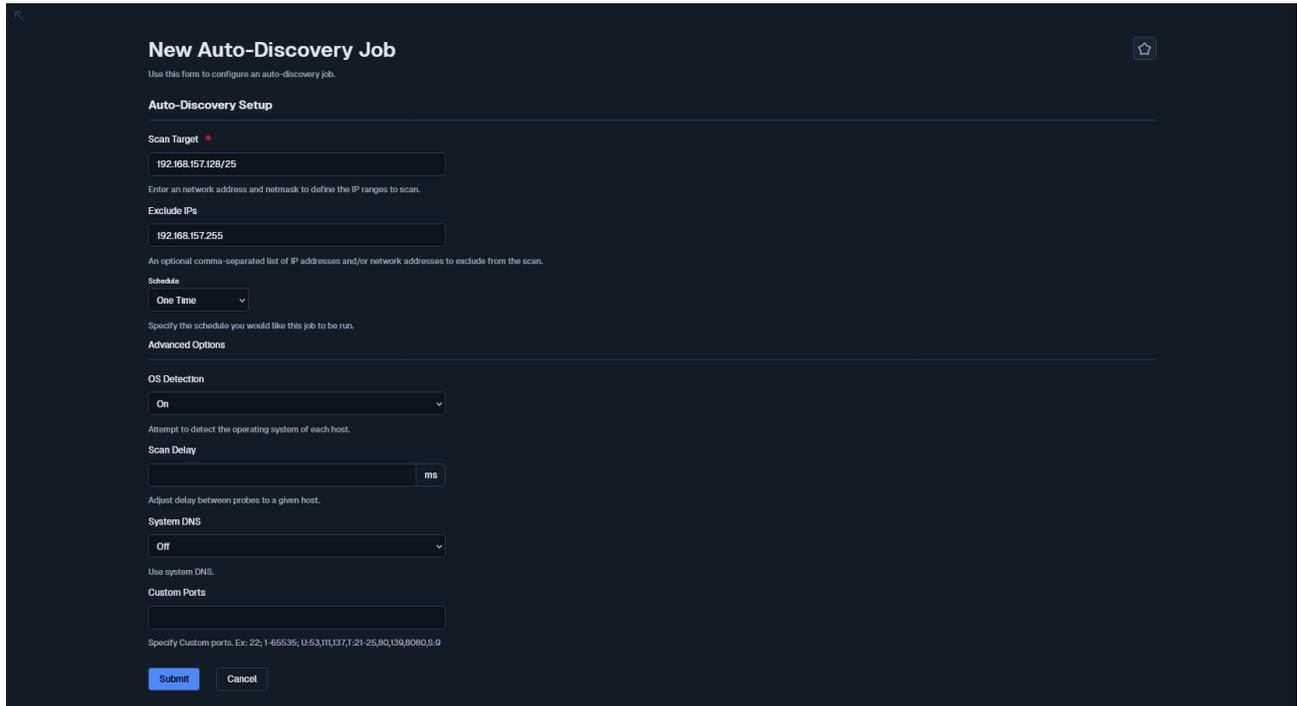
The management of Auto-Discovery jobs is located by navigating to **Configure > Configuration Tools > Auto-Discovery**.



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## Create a New Job

1. To create a new job, click the **+ New Auto-Discovery Job** button.



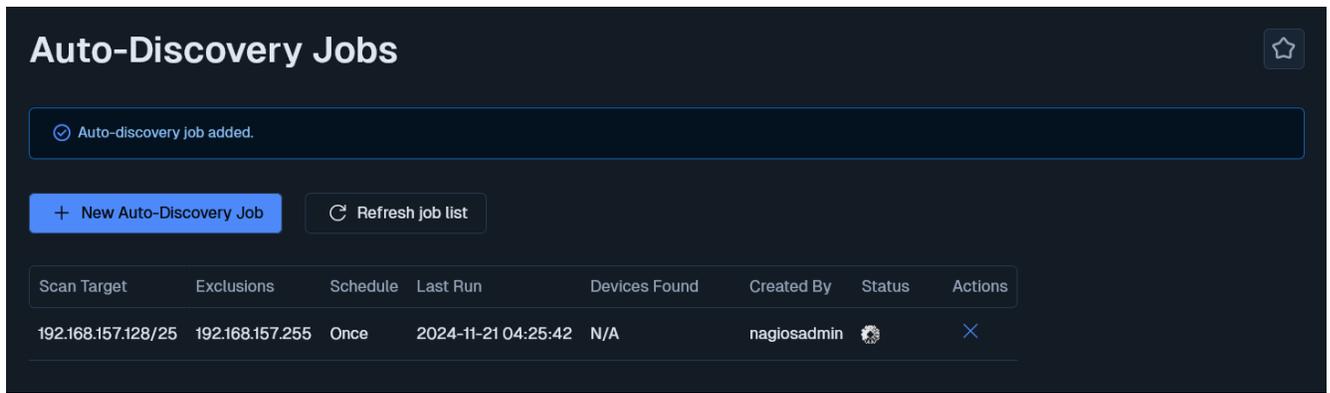
The screenshot shows the 'New Auto-Discovery Job' configuration page in Nagios XI. The page is titled 'New Auto-Discovery Job' and includes a subtitle 'Use this form to configure an auto-discovery job.' Below the title is a 'Show Advanced Options +' link. The form is divided into several sections: 'Auto-Discovery Setup', 'Scan Target', 'Exclude IPs', 'Schedule', and 'Advanced Options'. The 'Scan Target' field contains '192.168.157.128/25'. The 'Exclude IPs' field contains '192.168.157.255'. The 'Schedule' dropdown is set to 'One Time'. The 'Advanced Options' section includes 'OS Detection' (set to 'On'), 'Scan Delay' (set to 'ms'), 'System DNS' (set to 'Off'), and 'Custom Ports' (empty). At the bottom of the form are 'Submit' and 'Cancel' buttons.

2. The options required when creating a job are self-explanatory. The screenshot shows the additional options available after clicking the **Show Advanced Options +** link.

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.

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



4. The new job will appear on the Auto-Discovery page when it reloads.
  - When a job is running, or scheduled and has not run yet, the Status column will show an icon. In the Actions column you can click the icon to delete the job.
  - When the job has finished running it will show how many new devices were found.



5. In the screenshot above, if you click the **New Devices** link you will be taken to the Auto-Discovery configuration wizard which is explained in the [Configuration Wizard](#) section of this document.

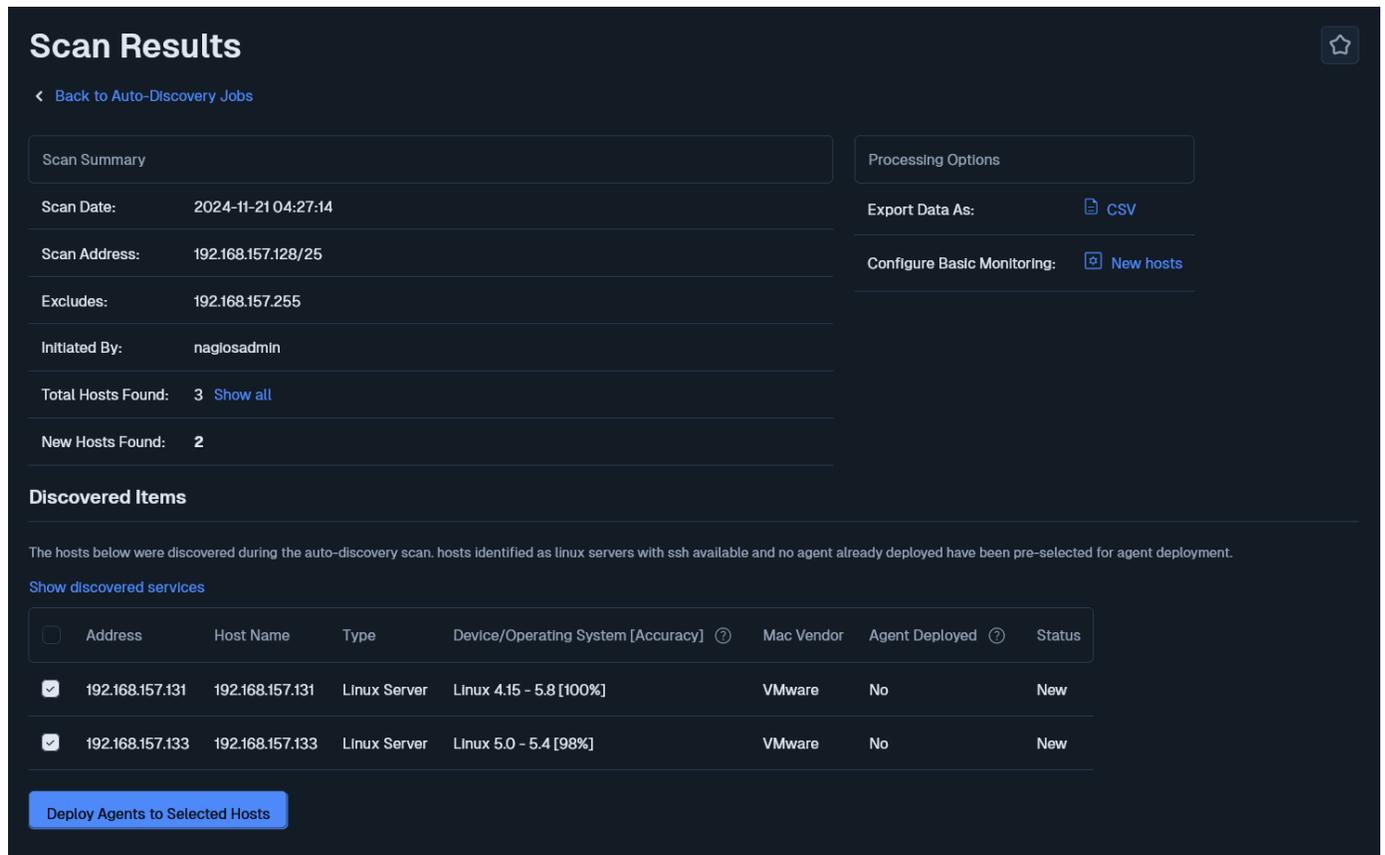
## Job Actions

On the Auto-Discovery Jobs page, the job 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

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- **Delete Job** - Discard the job and its history



The screenshot shows the 'Scan Results' page in Nagios XI. It features a 'Scan Summary' section with details like Scan Date (2024-11-21 04:27:14), Scan Address (192.168.157.128/25), Excludes (192.168.157.255), and Initiated By (nagiosadmin). It also shows 'Total Hosts Found: 3' and 'New Hosts Found: 2'. A 'Processing Options' section includes 'Export Data As: CSV' and 'Configure Basic Monitoring: New hosts'. Below this is a 'Discovered Items' section with a table of hosts and a 'Deploy Agents to Selected Hosts' button.

<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

## View Job Results

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

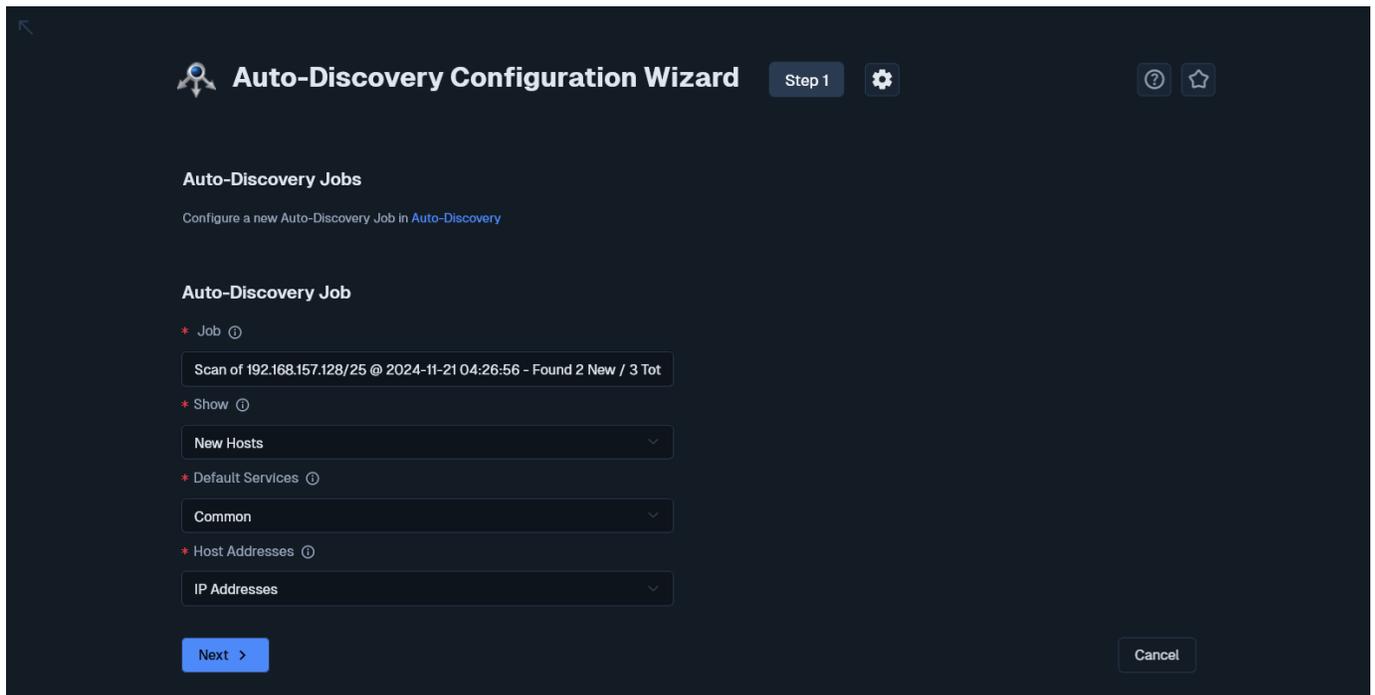
- You can view all the hosts, or just the new hosts discovered.
- You can show the services that were discovered.
- You can deploy agents to selected hosts. See [Automatic Agent Deployment](#) for more information.
- This job can be exported as a CSV.

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## Configuration Wizard

The **Auto-Discovery** configuration 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.

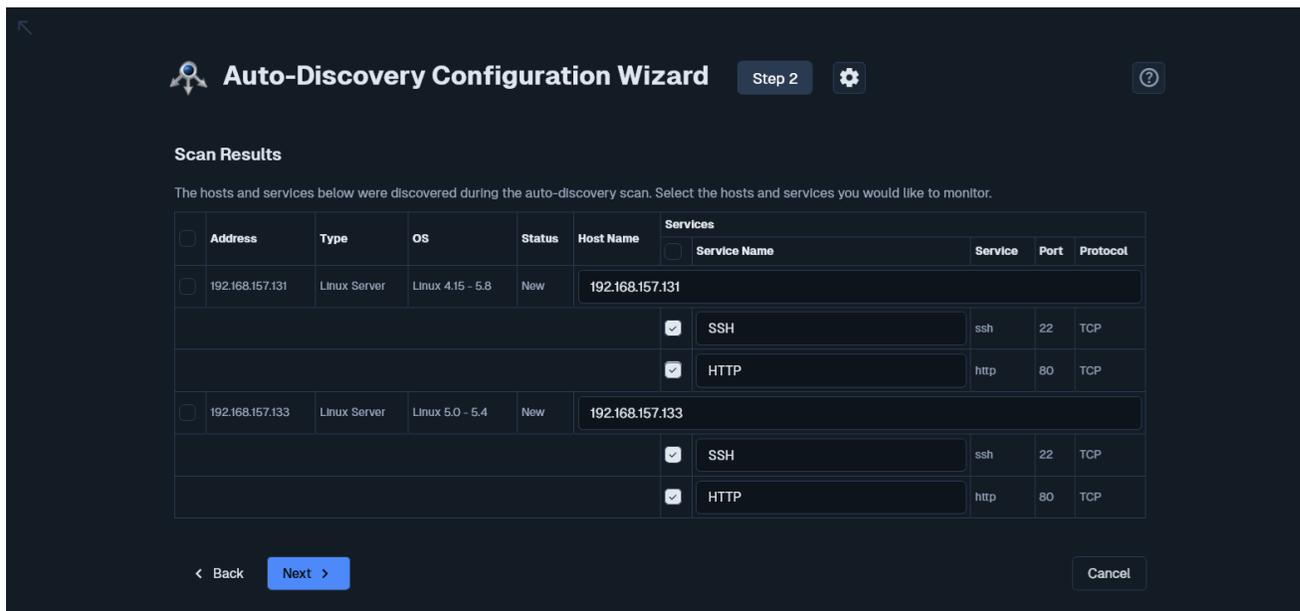


The screenshot shows the 'Auto-Discovery Configuration Wizard' interface. At the top, there is a title bar with a back arrow, a magnifying glass icon, the title 'Auto-Discovery Configuration Wizard', a 'Step 1' indicator, a settings gear icon, and help and favorite icons. Below the title bar, the main content area is titled 'Auto-Discovery Jobs' with a subtitle 'Configure a new Auto-Discovery Job in Auto-Discovery'. Underneath, there is a section for 'Auto-Discovery Job' with four expandable sections: 'Job' (containing a text box with 'Scan of 192.168.157.128/25 @ 2024-11-21 04:26:56 - Found 2 New / 3 Tot'), 'Show' (containing a dropdown menu set to 'New Hosts'), 'Default Services' (containing a dropdown menu set to 'Common'), and 'Host Addresses' (containing a dropdown menu set to 'IP Addresses'). At the bottom of the form, there are two buttons: 'Next >' and 'Cancel'.

2. The job will be automatically selected. The available options are clearly explained in the screenshot above, this example will be showing New Hosts, and the Host Addresses option is set to DNS Names.
3. **Click Next** to proceed to Step 2.

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



4. You can change the name of the host and the 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.
5. 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.
6. 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 on **Finish** in the final step of the wizard. This will create new hosts and services and begin monitoring.

The screenshot shows a table with columns: Host, Service, Status, Duration, Attempt, Last Check, and Status Information. It displays monitoring data for two hosts: 192.168.157.131 and 192.168.157.133. Each host has entries for HTTP, Ping, and SSH services, all with a status of 'Ok'.

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	2 New / 15 Total	nagiosadmin	Finished	

You can see now there are 15 in total with 2 New devices being detected. Clicking the 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 us at our Nagios Support Forum, Nagios Knowledge Base, or Nagios Library:

[Visit Nagios Support Forum](#)

[Visit Nagios Knowledge Base](#)

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