

# Nagios XI - Monitoring the Nagios XI "localhost"

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## Overview

This guide on Best Practices is about monitoring the Nagios XI server itself and what services you could deploy.

## Monitoring the Nagios XI "localhost"

Do you know how your XI server is performing?

- Services you should ideally be monitoring
  - `crond`, `httpd`, `mysqld`, `ndo2db`, `npcd`, `ntpd`, `postgresql`
    - `postgresql` is not used on fresh installations of XI 5.x onwards. If you upgraded to XI 5 from a previous version `postgres` is still used.
  - `snmptrapd` and `snmpd` are not present until you follow the XI SNMP Trap procedure
  - The plugin called `check_init_service` that is part of the [linux-nrpe-agent.tar.gz](http://linux-nrpe-agent.tar.gz) package can be used to monitor these services
    - Requires the following line in `/etc/sudoers`
      - `nagios ALL=NOPASSWD: /usr/local/nagios/libexec/check_init_service`
    - Your command definition needs to be:
      - `sudo $USER1$/check_init_service $ARG1$`
- File counts - check these folders to make sure the temp files are being processed
  - NPCD Perfdata spool directory
    - `/usr/local/nagios/var/spool/perfdata/`
  - xidpe spool directory
    - `/usr/local/nagios/var/spool/xidpe/`
  - Check results folder
    - `/usr/local/nagios/var/spool/checkresults/`
  - `snmpd` spool folderNOTE: These locations can vary if a [RAM Disk](#) has been implemented
    - `/var/spool/snmpd/`
  - Use the **Folder Watch** wizard to create services to monitor these folders
- Has the nagios user account expired?
  - In some customer installations, it's possible that the nagios user account expires. This isn't always that obvious to troubleshoot, so checking that it hasn't expired is a good precautionary measure.
  - `check_pass_expire.pl` is the plugin you can use
    - [https://exchange.nagios.org/directory/Plugins/Operating-Systems/Linux/check\\_pass\\_expire/details](https://exchange.nagios.org/directory/Plugins/Operating-Systems/Linux/check_pass_expire/details)
  - File permission changes required:

```
▪ setfacl -m u:nagios:r-- /etc/shadow
```

- Plugin also needs line 23 changed

- From:

```
▪ use lib ".";
```

- To:

```
▪ use lib "/usr/local/nagios/libexec";
```

- root mailbox size

- If you're not a Linux person then you probably don't know about the system mailbox. This is a local mail system on the linux server where messages are sometimes sent.
- Certain components used in Nagios XI such as MRTG will send messages to this mailbox when it has a problem. An incorrect MRTG configuration can cause a message to be sent every five minutes as this is when MRTG runs. That's about 288 messages a day. Over time the root mailbox can grow to GB in size causing issues. I wrote a plugin which can monitor this and let you know when it gets too big.

- `box293_check_mbox.pl` is the plugin you can use

- [https://exchange.nagios.org/directory/Plugins/Email-and-Groupware/box293\\_check\\_mbox/details](https://exchange.nagios.org/directory/Plugins/Email-and-Groupware/box293_check_mbox/details)

- File permission changes required:

```
▪ setfacl -m u:nagios:r-- /var/spool/mail/root
```

- MySQL / MariaDB Databases

- If the tables are crashed and go undetected, this can have a severe impact on the system and you may not be storing important data and it may cause strange problems.

- `box293_check_mysql_table_status` is the plugin you can use to check this:

- [https://exchange.nagios.org/directory/Plugins/Databases/MySQL/box293\\_check\\_mysql\\_table\\_status/details](https://exchange.nagios.org/directory/Plugins/Databases/MySQL/box293_check_mysql_table_status/details)

- Another problem can occur if the database engine runs on a different timezone to the local system.

- `box293_check_mysql_date` is the plugin you can use to check this:

- [https://exchange.nagios.org/directory/Plugins/Databases/MySQL/box293\\_check\\_mysql\\_date/details](https://exchange.nagios.org/directory/Plugins/Databases/MySQL/box293_check_mysql_date/details)

- Monitor `Max_used_connections` and `Threads_connected`

- `check_mysql_query` is the plugin you can use to check this, here is a guide that explains it all:

- [Nagios XI - MySQL/MariaDB - Max Connections](#)

- Overall Load

- This service is included by default in Nagios XI
- `check_load` is the plugin included with Nagios XI (5)

- Memory Free – Physical

- Make sure your XI server doesn't run out of memory
- `check_memory.sh` is the plugin you can use

- [https://exchange.nagios.org/directory/Plugins/Operating-Systems/Linux/check\\_memory-2Esh/details](https://exchange.nagios.org/directory/Plugins/Operating-Systems/Linux/check_memory-2Esh/details)

- Swap Usage
  - If the system runs out of physical memory and starts swapping to disk, the system performance will be greatly impacted.
  - This service is included by default in Nagios XI
  - `check_swap` is the plugin included with Nagios XI (5)
  
- Disk Free
  - Disk free space is very important.
  - This service is included by default in Nagios XI however it only monitors /
  - If you have different volumes mounted then you should be monitoring each one of these.
  - `check_disk` is the plugin included with Nagios XI (5)

## Final Thoughts

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For any support related questions please visit the [Nagios Support Forums](#) at:

<http://support.nagios.com/forum/>

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