

Install and configure NRPE

There are several sources on Internet explain how to install and configure NRPE but non of them include an out of the box working solution. Various chmod etc things are missing thus giving you for free plenty of hours troubleshooting a simple HOWTO :)

Let's start...

Step 1 --> Download and install Nagios plugins

Download the latest nagios-plugins package direct from Nagios web site.

<http://www.nagios.org/download/plugins>

Example with wget:

```
wget
```

```
http://downloads.sourceforge.net/project/nagiosplug/nagiosplug/1.4.15/nagios-plugins-1.4.15.tar.gz?r=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.nagios.org%2Fdownload%2Fplugins&ts=1318834296&use_mirror=kent
```

On some Linux distributions (like Debian) the above mirror link might need to be renamed like:

```
mv nagios-plugins-1.4.15.tar.gz\?r=http\:%2F%2Fwww.nagios.org%2Fdownload%2Fplugins
```

```
nagios-plugins-1.4.15.tar.gz
```

Extract the file and cd into the directory:

```
tar xzvf nagios-plugins-1.4.15.tar.gz
```

```
cd nagios-plugins-1.4.15
```

Create user nagios:

```
server1:/usr/local/src# useradd nagios
```

```
server1:/usr/local/src# passwd nagios
```

```
Enter new UNIX password:
```

```
Retype new UNIX password:
```

```
passwd: password updated successfully
```

Configure & install nagios plugins:

```
./configure
```

```
make
```

```
make install
```

Set permissions:

```
chown -R nagios:nagios /usr/local/nagios
```

Step 2 --> Install and configure NRPE and Xinetd

yum install xinetd or apt-get install xinetd if you are on Debian

Edit /etc/services and add: nrpe 5666/tcp #NRPE

Download NRPE from nagios web site:

<http://exchange.nagios.org/directory/Addons/Monitoring-Agents/NRPE--2D-Nagios-Remote-Plugin-Executor/details>

Example direct download using wget:

```
wget
```

```
http://downloads.sourceforge.net/project/nagios/nrpe-2.x/nrpe-2.12/nrpe-2.12.tar.gz?r=http%3A%2F%2Fexchange.nagios.org%2Fdirectory%2FAddons%2FMonitoring-Agents%2FNRPE--2D-Nagios-Remote-Plugin-Executor%2Fdetails&ts=1318835326&use_mirror=garr
```

In some cases you might need to rename the file like:

```
mv
```

```
nrpe-2.12.tar.gz\?r=http\:%2F%2Fexchange.nagios.org%2Fdirectory%2FAddons%2FMonitoring-Agents%2FNRPE--2D-Nagios-Remote-Plugin-Executor%2Fdetails nrpe-2.12.tar.gz
```

Extract, cd into the directory and install the package:

```
tar xzvf nrpe-2.12.tar.gz
```

```
cd nrpe-2.12
```

```
./configure
```

```
make all
```

```
make install-plugin
```

```
make install-daemon
```

```
make install-daemon-config
```

```
make install-xinetd
```

Edit `/etc/xinetd.d/nrpe` and replace `127.0.0.1` with your server (where Nagios is running) IP.

Restart xinetd: `service restart xinetd` or `/etc/init.d/xinetd restart` if you are on Debian, Ubuntu etc.

Edit (create if missing and give nagios permissions) `/usr/local/nagios/etc/nrpe.cfg` and check that `allowed_hosts` line is something like:

```
allowed_hosts=127.0.0.1,MyServerIP
```

where `MyServerIP` is the IP of your Nagios server.

Double check the `check_disk` command to suit your host installation:

```
command[check_disk]=/usr/local/nagios/libexec/check_disk -w 20% -c 10% -p /dev/md1
```

In the above example we configured to check our root directory which is on software RAID and on 2nd partition.

All done, add some extra services on your host definitions and try out the NRPE in action.