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Training Program: Data Center

Failover clustering –capstone project

Failover Clustering

Failover Clustering in Windows Server 2019 is a feature that allows multiple servers (nodes) to work together to provide high availability (HA) for services and applications. If one server fails, another server in the cluster automatically takes over — ensuring minimal downtime.

Key Concepts of Failover Clustering

1. **Failover Cluster:** A group of independent servers (nodes) working together to increase availability.
2. **Cluster Node:** A server that is a member of the failover cluster.
3. **Cluster Resource:** Services or applications like File Server, SQL Server, VMs, etc., that are made highly available.

4. **Cluster Shared Volumes (CSV):** Shared disks that multiple cluster nodes can access simultaneously.

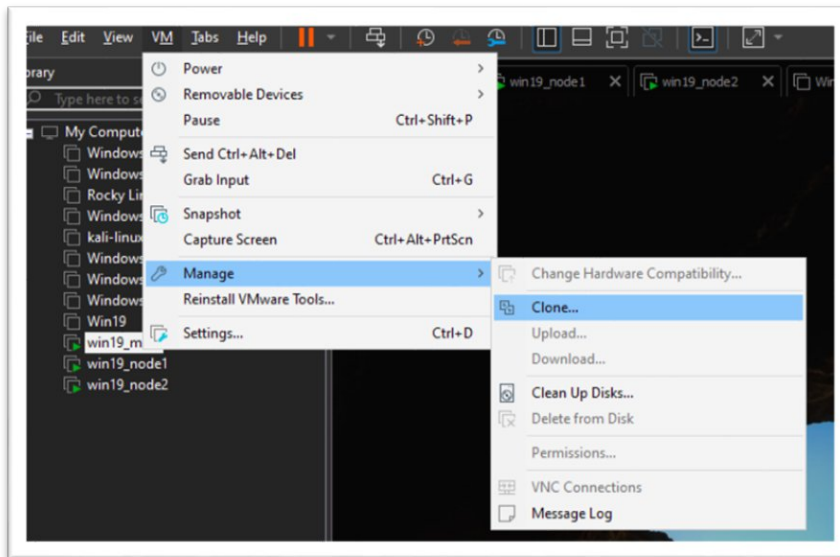
Setup Virtual Machines

Step 1 – Create the Base Windows Server 2019 VM

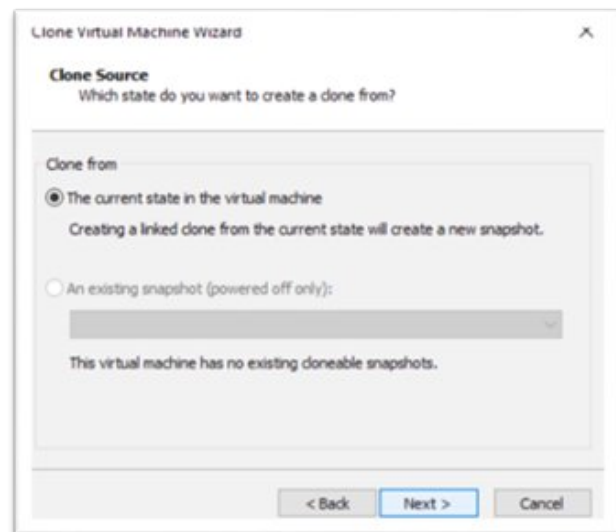
1. Open **VMware Workstation**.
2. Create a new VM:
 - a. RAM: **8 GB**
 - b. HDD: **80 GB**
 - c. Network Adapter: **NAT**
 - d. **Processors : 2**
3. Install Windows Server 2019.
4. Install **VMware Tools**.
5. Disable the firewall.
6. Rename the computer (e.g., win19base) and **reboot**.
7. Verify changes and shut down the VM.

Step 2 – Clone the Base OS

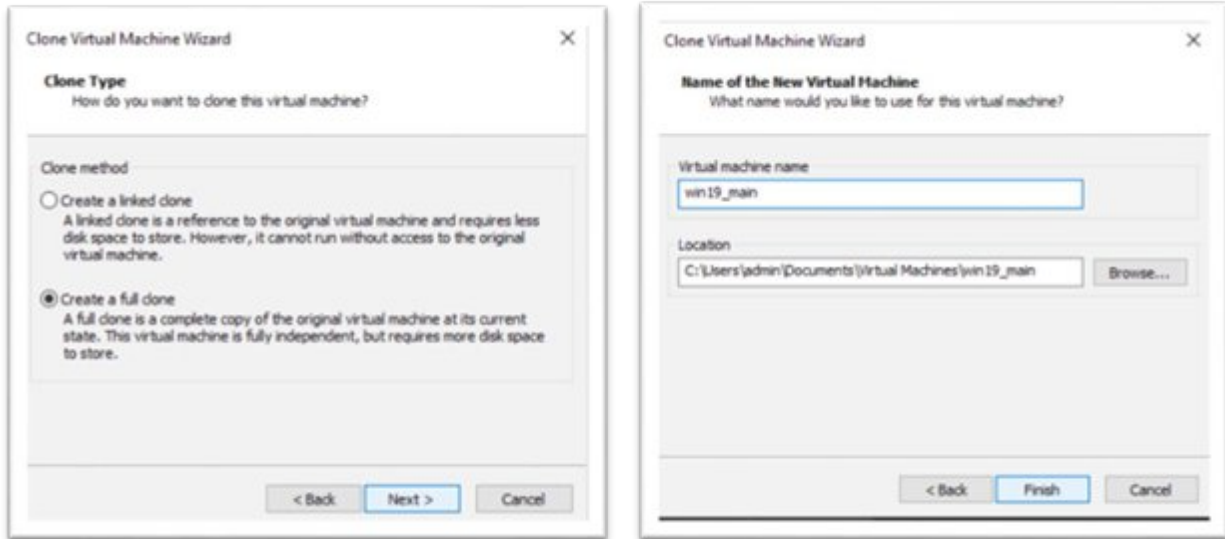
1. Right-click on the base VM → **Manage > Clone**



Choose **Current State of VM** → Next.



3. Select **Full Clone**:
 - Name: win19_main



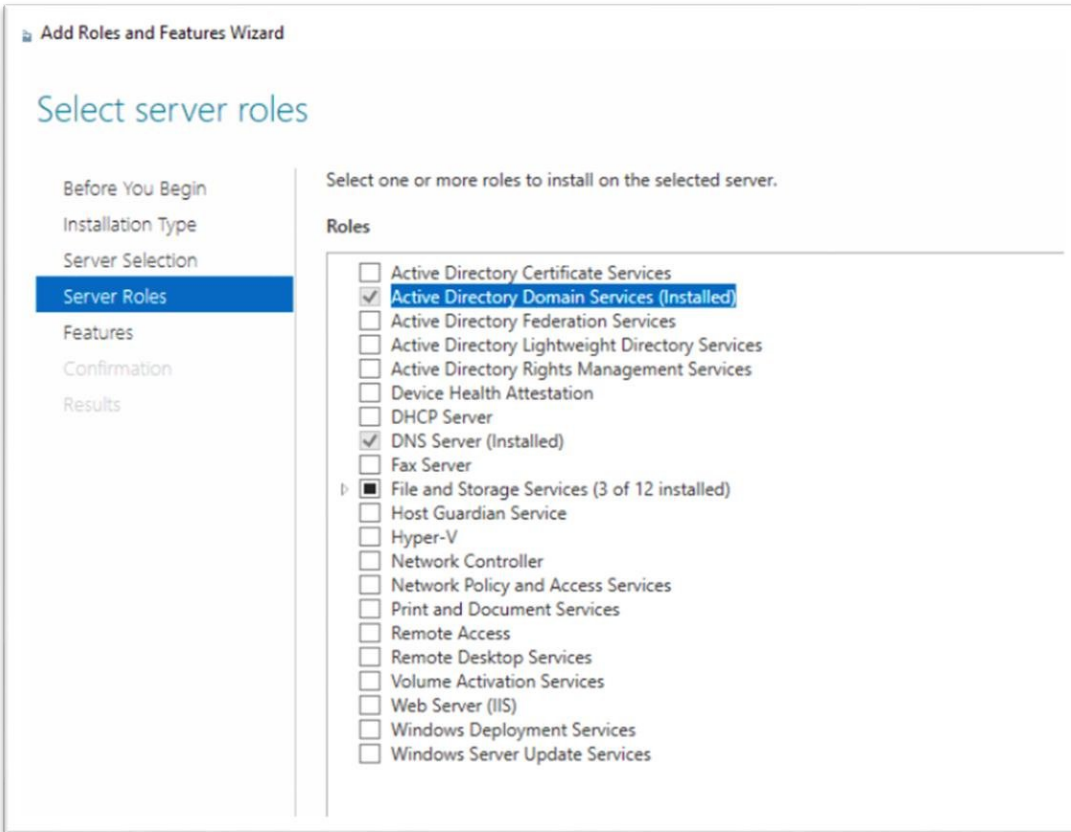
4. Now Create 2 more VMs name that machine win19_node1 and win19_node2

Step 3 – Setup Main Server

1. Set Static Ip to 192.168.1.50
2. Rename the Os to win19main

Install AD DS and DNS Roles

3. Server Manager > Add roles and features > Server Roles
4. Select Active Directory Domain Services and DNS Server and install

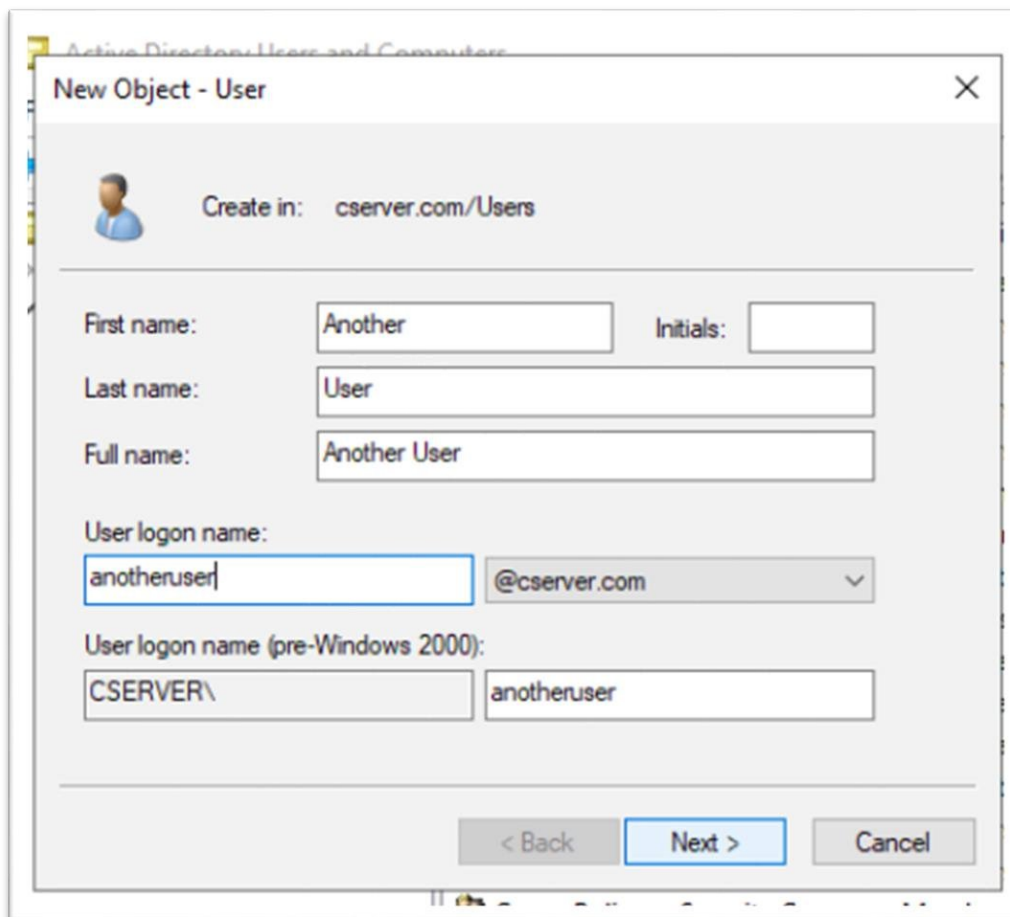
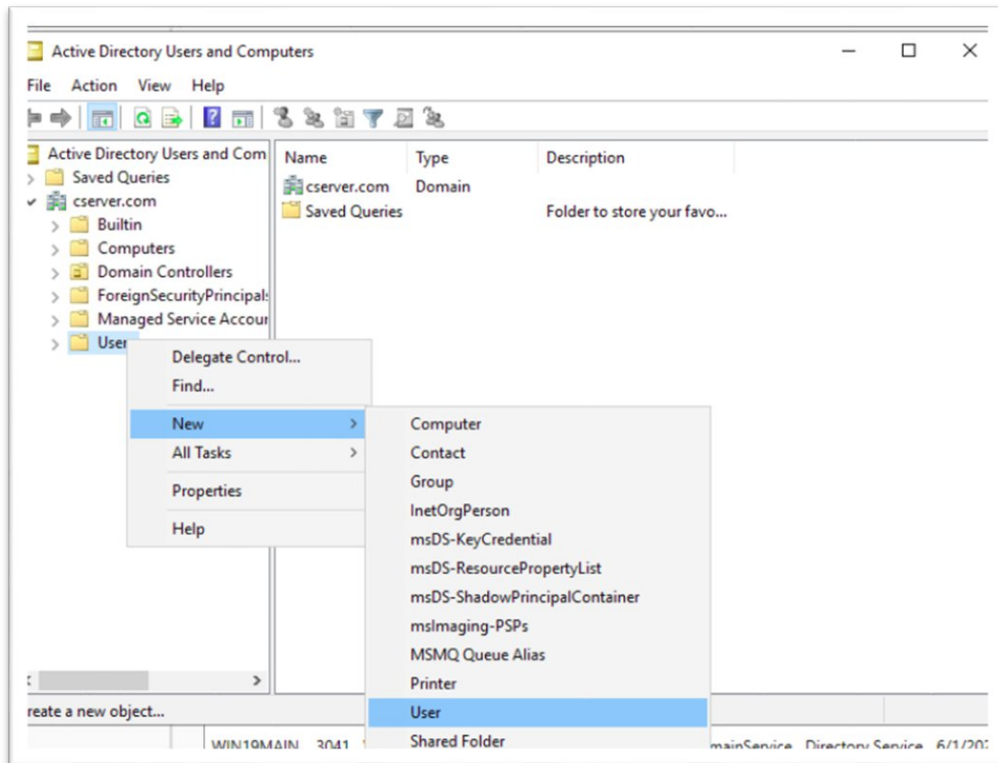


Promote to Domain Controller

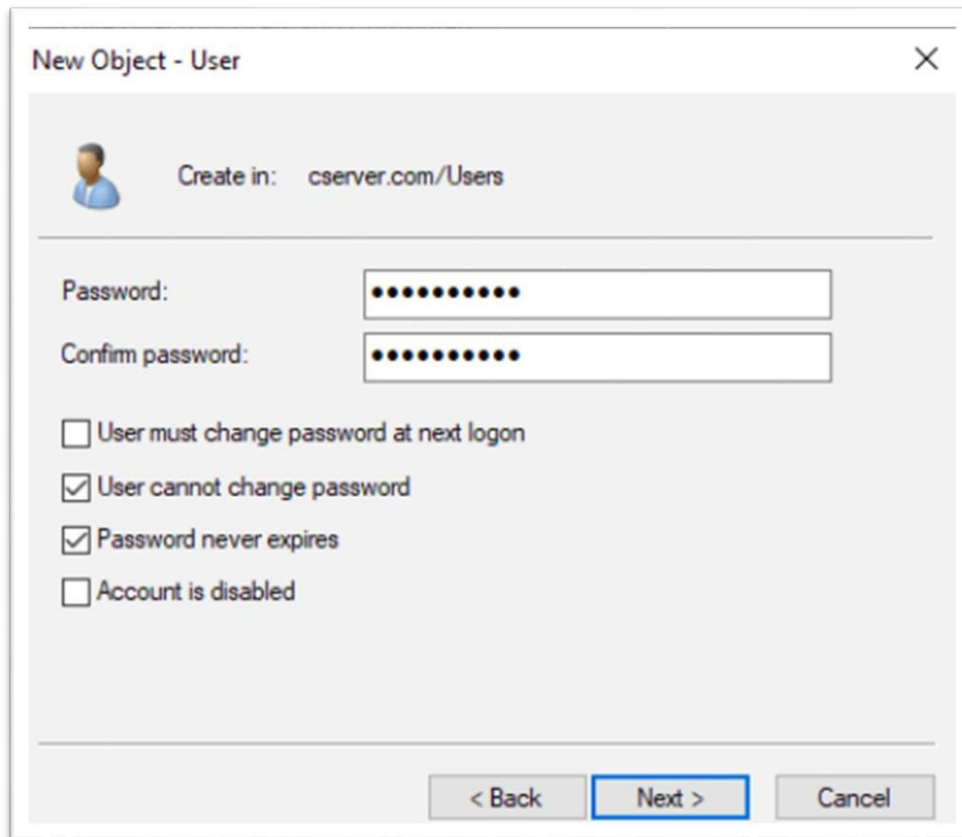
5. Notifications > Promote this server to a domain server > Add a new forest > set password > and Install
6. After Install Reboot Once

Create A Domain User

7. Server Manager > Tools > Active Directory Users and Computer > Expand Domain > Right Click on user > new > User



Set Password and select User cannot change password and Password never expire and next and finish



New Object - User

Create in: cserver.com/Users

Password: [masked]

Confirm password: [masked]

☐ User must change password at next logon

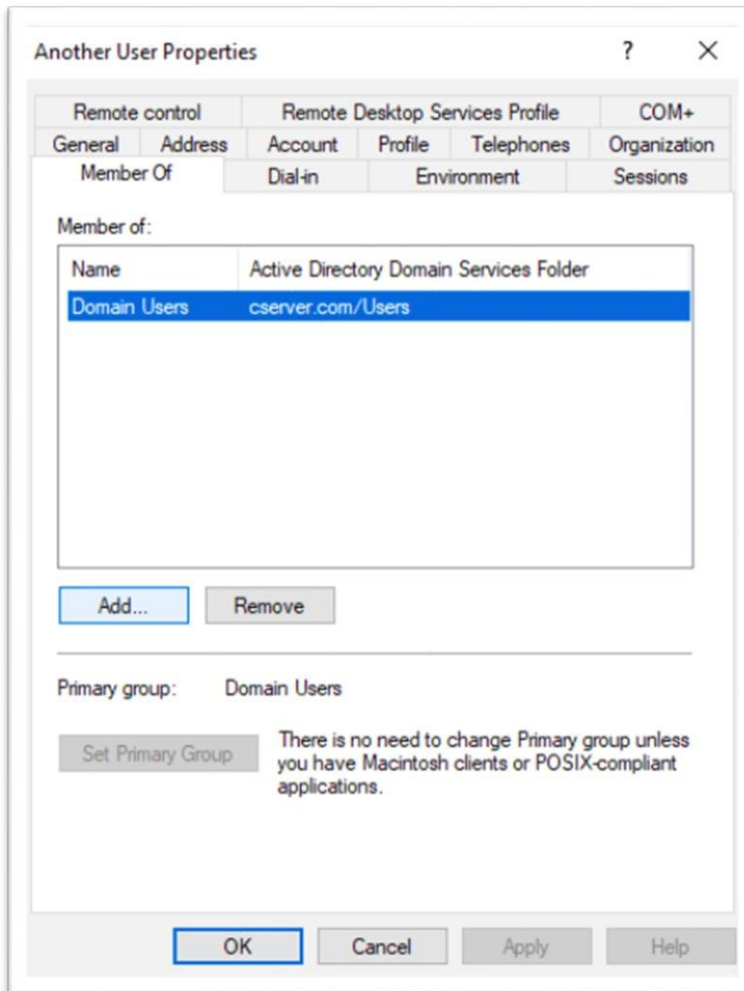
☒ User cannot change password

☒ Password never expires

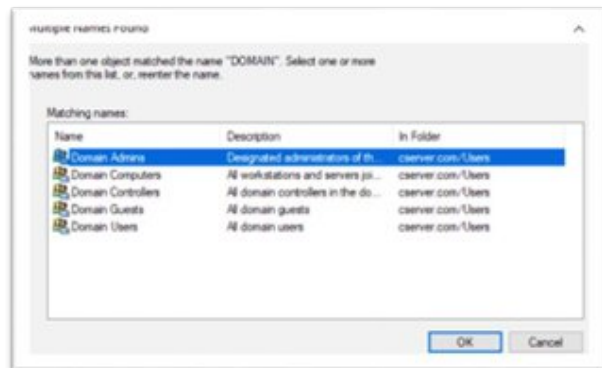
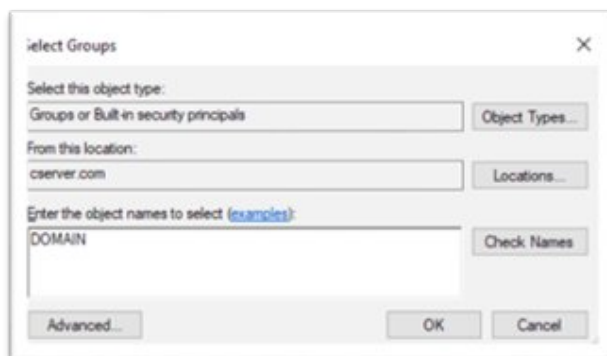
☐ Account is disabled

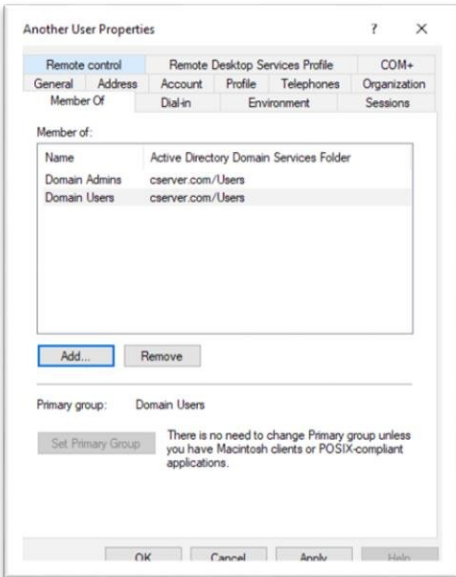
< Back Next > Cancel

Go to Properties of newly created user > Member of and click on add



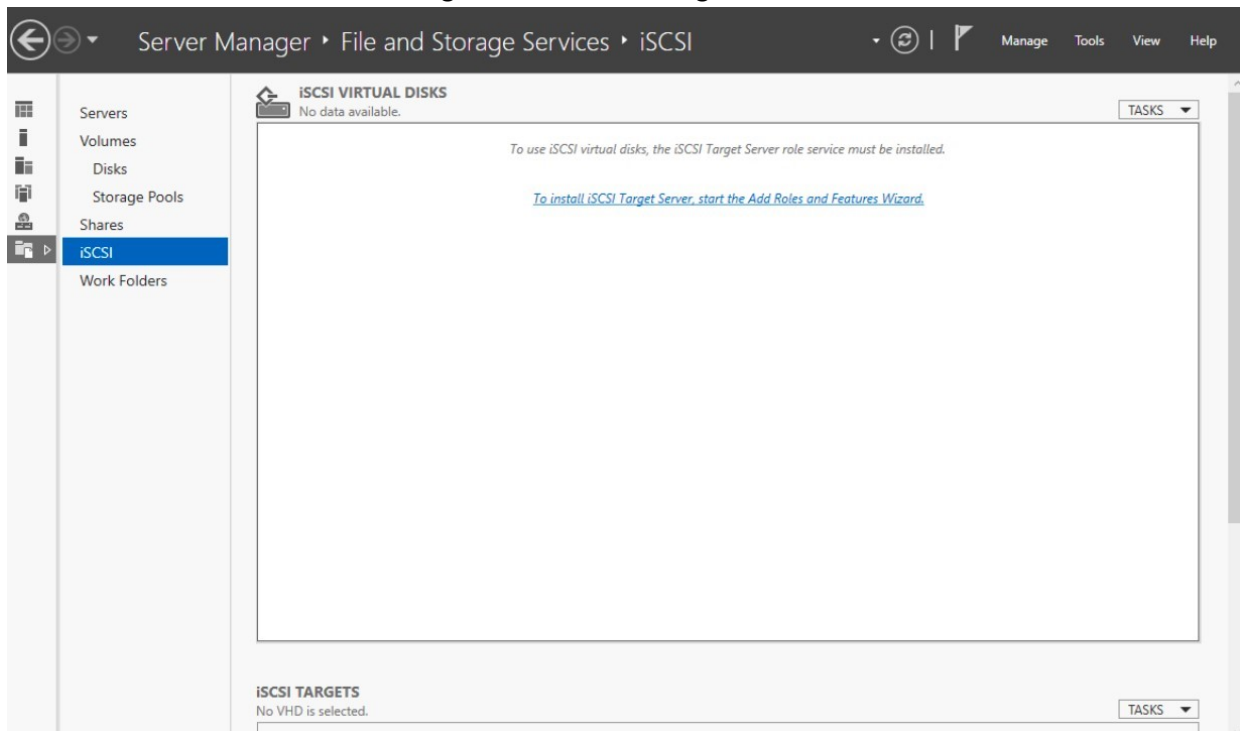
Enter Object name to Domain > Check Name > Select Domain Admin > OK



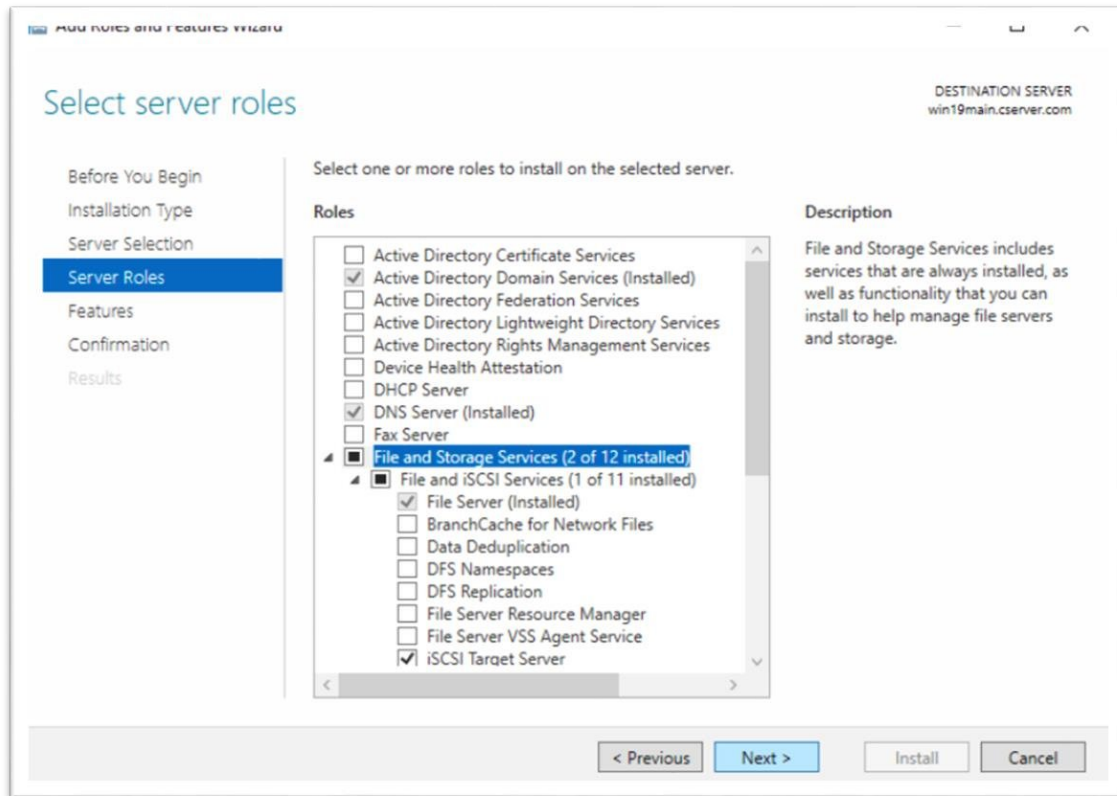


Setup iSCSI Target on Main Server

After that Go to Server Manager > File and Storage Services > iSCSI



Install the required features for iscsi and reboot once



After Reboot Set Virtual disk name > Set virtual disk size and set dynamic spending > new iscsi > name target name

Specify iSCSI virtual disk name

Specify iSCSI virtual disk size

Free space: 87.5 GB

GB

☐ Fixed size
 This type of disk provides better performance and is recommended for servers running applications with a high level of disk activity. The virtual hard disk is created using the size of the fixed virtual hard disk. It does not change when data is added or deleted.
☒ Clone the virtual disk on allocation
 Note: Unselecting is NOT RECOMMENDED: Cloning a disk to zero will remove any fragments of data that remained on underlying storage, thus protecting from information leaks.

☒ Dynamically expanding
 This type of disk provides better use of physical storage space and is recommended for servers running applications that are not disk intensive. The whole file is small when the disk is created and grows as data is written to it.

☐ Differencing
 This type of disk is associated in a parent-child relationship with another disk that you want to leave intact. You can make changes to this virtual hard disk without affecting the parent disk and easily revert the changes later.
 Parent virtual disk path:

Assign iSCSI target

Assign this iSCSI virtual disk to an existing iSCSI target or create a new target for it.

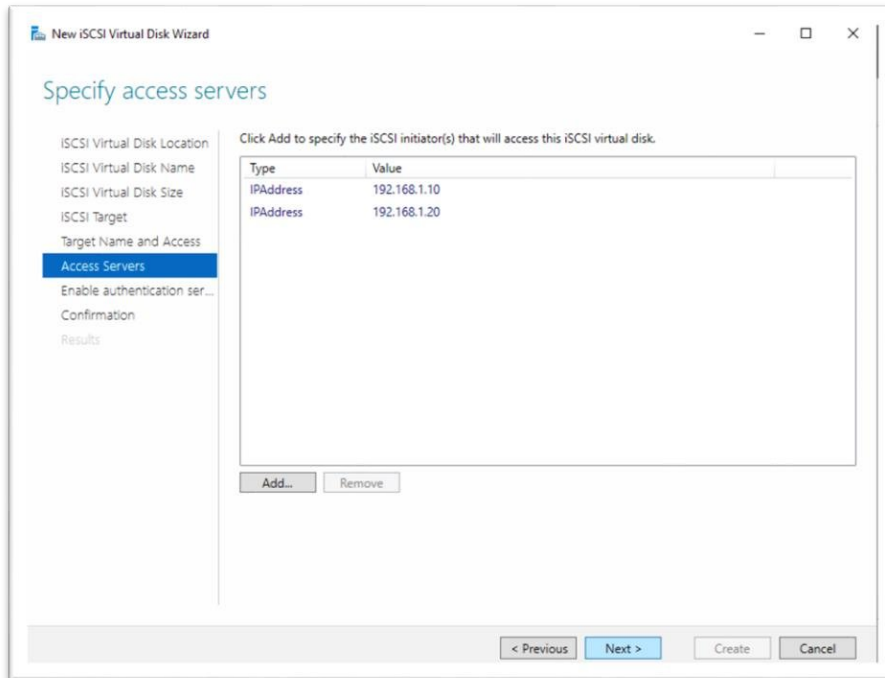
☐ Existing iSCSI target

Target Name	Initiator IDs	Description

☒ New iSCSI target

Specify target name

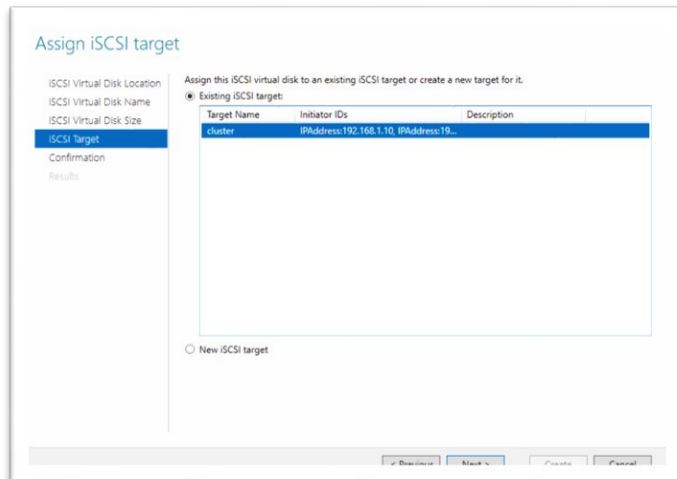
Click on add



Set type IP Address and set the value 192.168.1.10



After that create another iscsi and set the storage and select existing iscsi target and create with ip - 192.168.1.20



Step 4 – Setup Node 1 and node 2 servers

1. Run Sysprep:

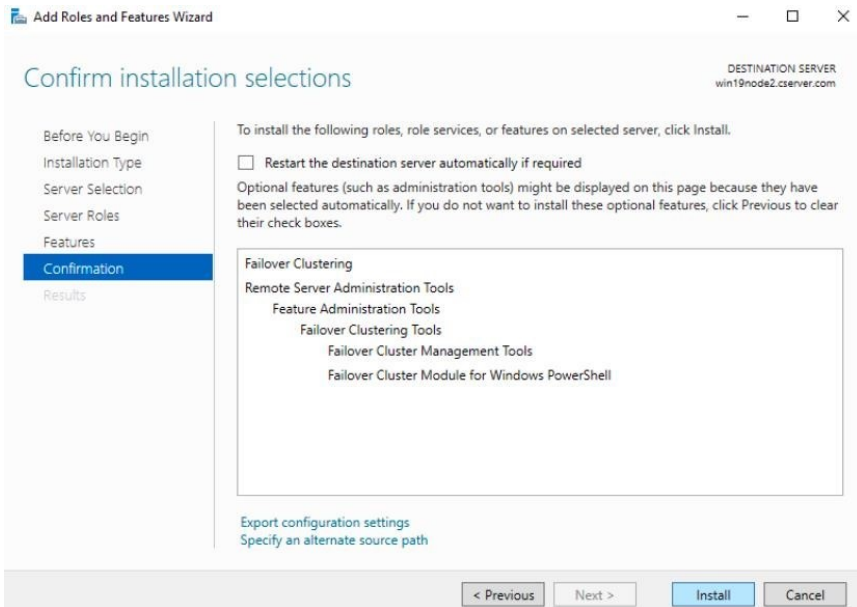
- a. **C:\Windows\System32\Sysprep\sysprep.exe**
- b. Select **Enter System Out-of-Box Experience (OOBE)** and Generalize c.
Reboot

After That reboot both the os accept the license and set password

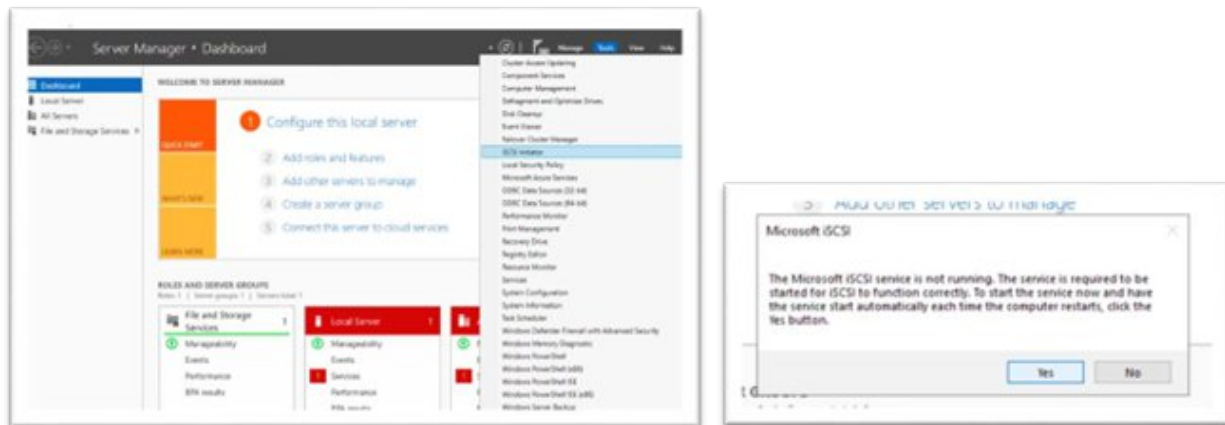
1. After reboot set Static ip for node1 192.168.1.10 and node2 192.168.1.20
2. Default gateway set to 192.168.1.1 in both the os
3. And dns to 192.168.1.50
4. Server Manager > Add roles and feature > Features > Failover Clustering > Install (Both OS)

Step 5 – Setup Failover cluster

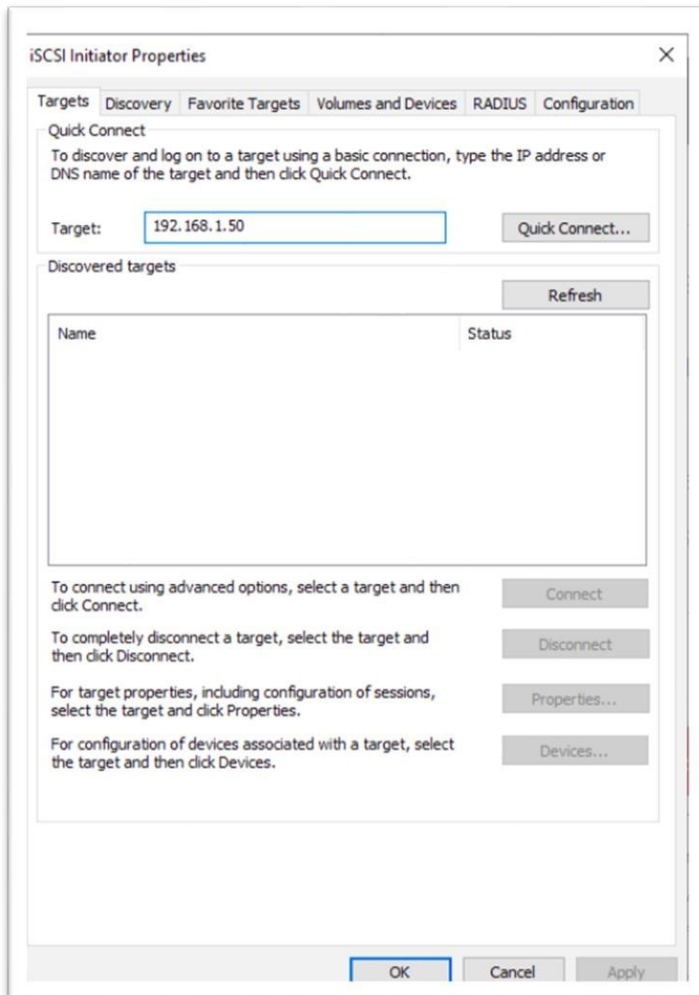
5. Open Any of node os
6. Server Manager > Failover Cluster Manager > validate Configuration



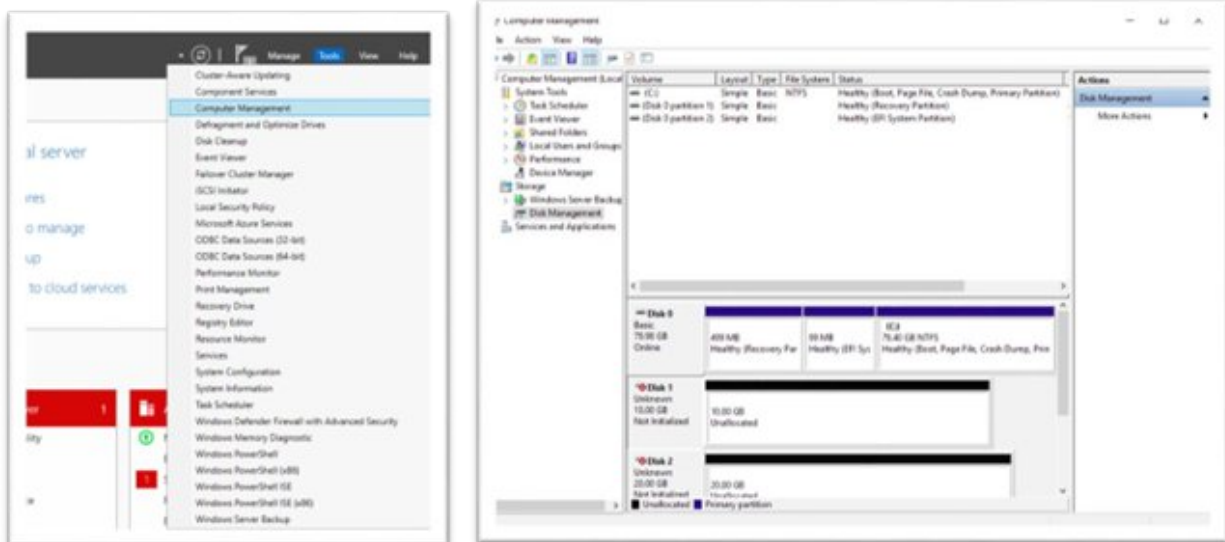
1. **Change the names for node1 to win19node1 and node2 to win19node2 and reboot**
After rebooting server manager > iscsi Initiator > Click on Yes



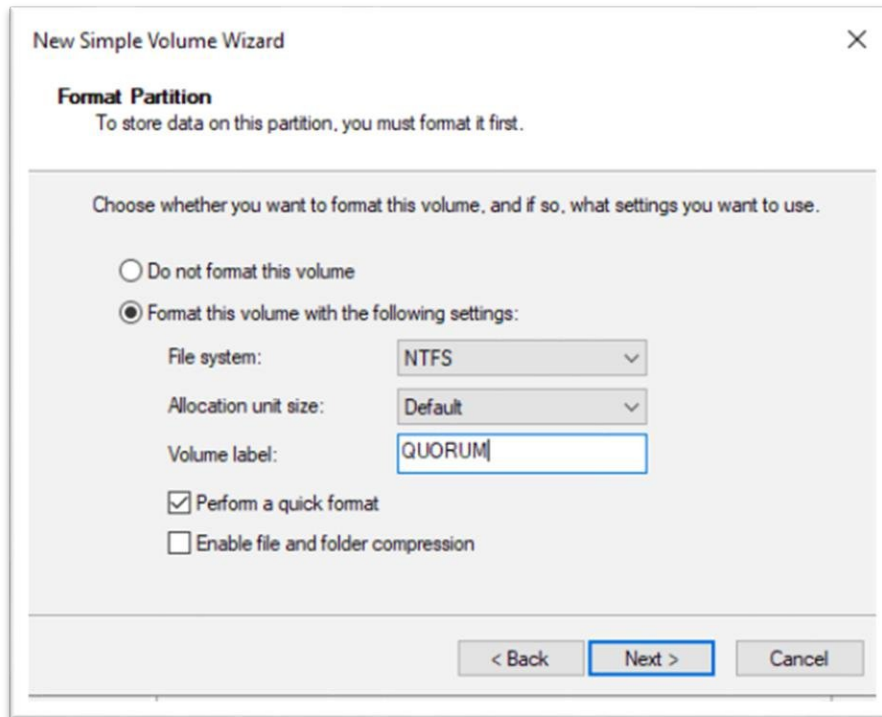
In the target set the ip to 192.168.1.50 and Quick Connect click ok



After that go to Tools > Computer management > storage > Disk Management



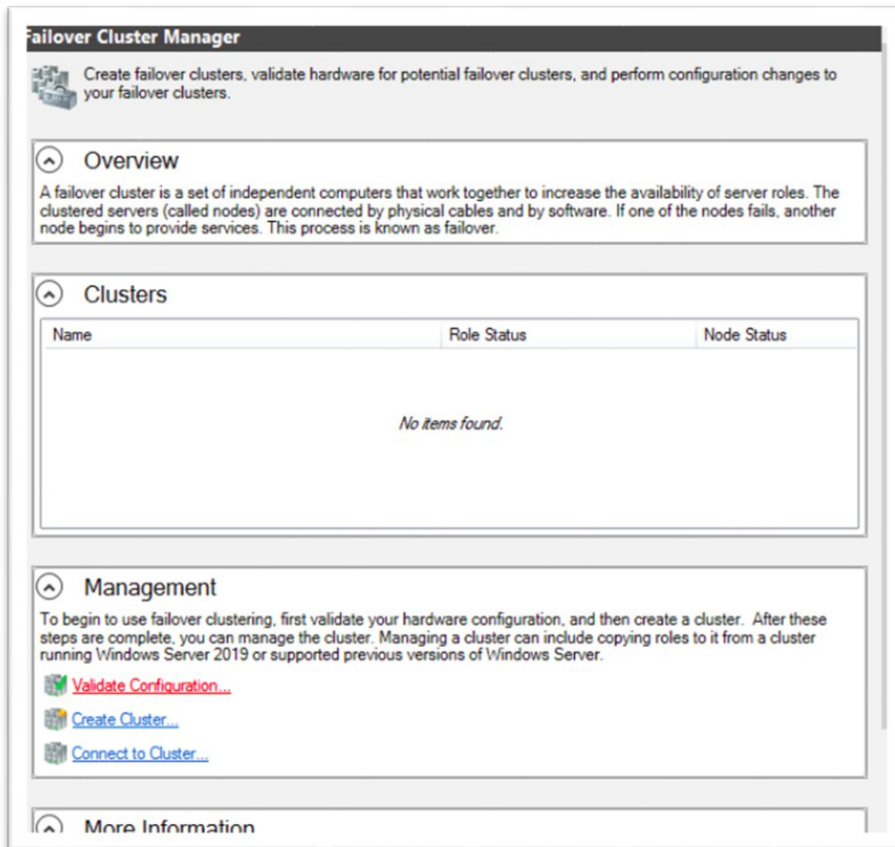
Click on online in both disks > Disk Initiate > Assign latter > set the volume name to QUORAM and DATA (Set It both the os)



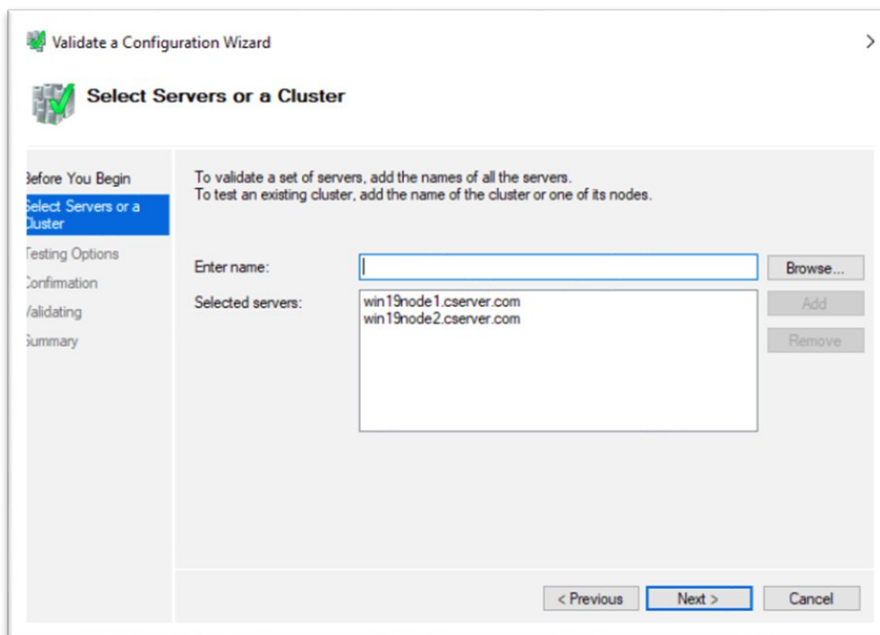
Click on online in both disks > Disk Initiate > Assign latter > set the volume name to QUORAM and DATA (Set It both the os)

Setup Failover cluster

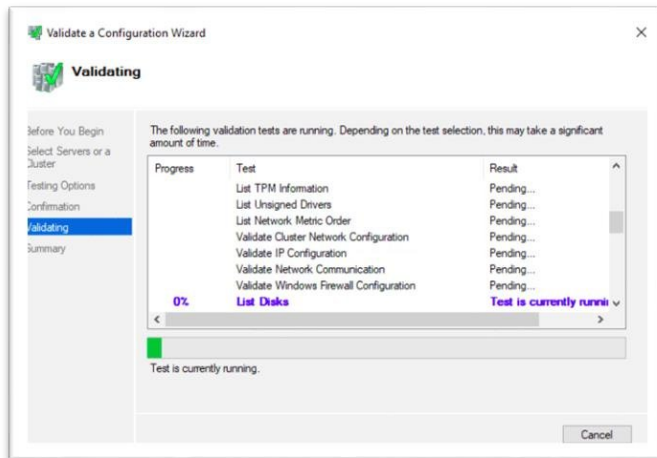
1. Open Any of node os
2. Server Manager > Failover Cluster Manager > validate Configuration



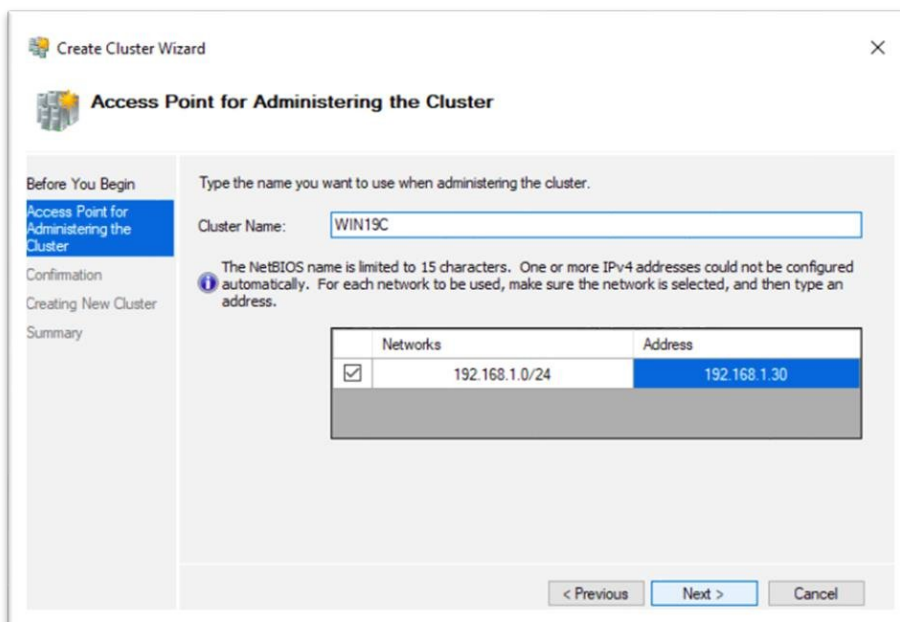
Enter node server names and add them



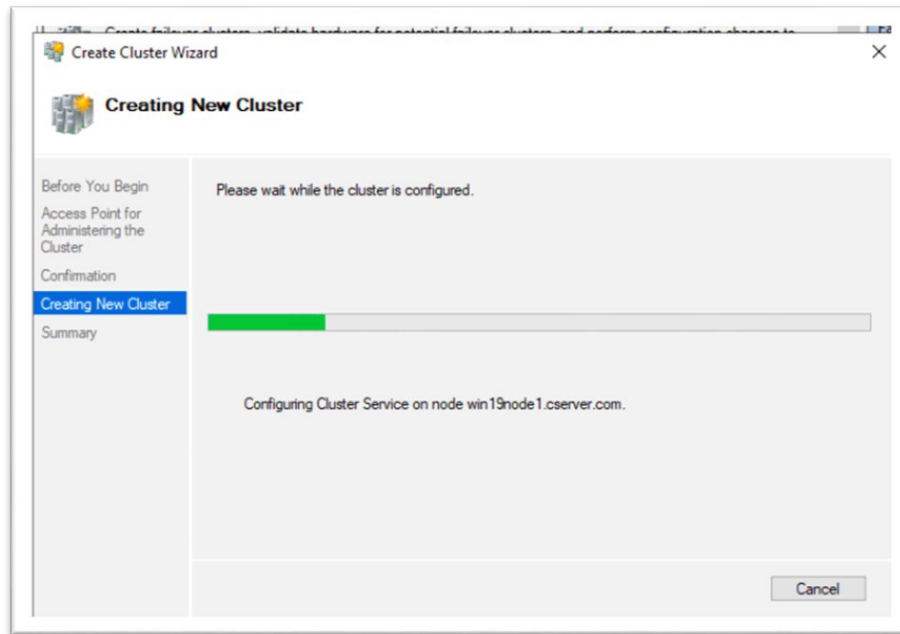
Click on run all test and next and check confirmations and start the test by click next, it takes some time to test



1. Check all the results and check on create the clusters... and click on finish. It will open another wizard
After that set the cluster name and set a cluster ip address



Click on next and after that its starts installing



Check the installations by ping to the cluster name

```
C:\Users\Administrator>ping WIN19C

Pinging WIN19C.cserver.com [192.168.1.30] with 32 bytes of data:
Reply from 192.168.1.30: bytes=32 time=6ms TTL=128
Reply from 192.168.1.30: bytes=32 time=4ms TTL=128
Reply from 192.168.1.30: bytes=32 time=28ms TTL=128
Reply from 192.168.1.30: bytes=32 time=10ms TTL=128

Ping statistics for 192.168.1.30:
    Packets: Sent = 4, Received = 4, Lost = 0 (0% loss),
    approximate round trip times in milli-seconds:
        Minimum = 4ms, Maximum = 28ms, Average = 12ms

C:\Users\Administrator>
```

---The end ----