SonarQube - Complete Guide

♦ What is SonarQube?

SonarQube is an **open-source platform** used for **continuous inspection of code quality**.

It checks your source code for **bugs, code smells, vulnerabilities, security issues, duplications**, and more.

Why is SonarQube used?

Purpose	Explanation
Code Quality	Detects issues like bad code, duplicated logic, potential bugs
Security	Identifies vulnerabilities and code injection risks
Maintainability	Ensures code is readable, modular, and future-proof
CI/CD Integration	Automatically checks code with lenkins. GitHub. etc.

CI/CD Integration Automatically checks code with Jenkins, GitHub, etc.

♦ How SonarQube Works (Behind the Scenes)

- 1. **Source Code Analyzed**: Your code is scanned using the SonarQube Scanner.
- 2. Rules Engine: SonarQube applies a set of rules (default or custom) to the code.
- 3. Metrics Generated:
 - o Bugs
 - Vulnerabilities
 - o Code Smells
 - Coverage (test cases)
 - Duplications
- 4. **Dashboard**: Displays detailed reports in the web UI.
- 5. **Quality Gate**: If the code doesn't meet a quality threshold, it can block the build in CI/CD.

In a **Java Spring Boot project**, you integrate SonarQube with **Jenkins pipeline** or use it with **GitHub Actions**.

Every time code is pushed to GitHub:

- SonarQube scans the code.
- Sends feedback to the developer.
- Build fails if critical issues are found.
- Ensures cleaner code
- ✓ Prevents code rot
- Encourages best practices

SonarQube Components

Component Description

SonarQube Server Hosts the UI and analysis engine

Sonar Scanner CLI tool that performs the analysis

Sonar Plugins Adds support for other languages or integrations

Quality Gate Set of conditions your code must meet (pass/fail)

→ How to Set Up SonarQube (Locally)

Step 1: Download SonarQube

- Go to https://www.sonarsource.com/products/sonarqube/
- Extract it, and start the server:

bash

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./bin/macosx-universal-64/sonar.sh start (Mac)

./bin/windows-x86-64/StartSonar.bat (Windows)

Step 2: Access Dashboard

• Open: http://localhost:9000

• Default login:

Username: admin

o Password: admin

SonarQube in Maven Project (Example)

Add Plugin to pom.xml

xml

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<plugin>

<groupId>org.sonarsource.scanner.maven</groupId>

<artifactId>sonar-maven-plugin</artifactId>

<version>3.11.0.3922/version>

</plugin>

Run Scan

bash

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mvn clean verify sonar:sonar \

- -Dsonar.projectKey=myapp \
- -Dsonar.host.url=http://localhost:9000 \
- -Dsonar.login=your_token

Important Metrics

Meaning Metric **Bugs** Defects that could lead to incorrect behavior **Vulnerabilities** Potential security risks Code Smells Maintainability issues

Coverage % of code tested with unit tests Metric Meaning

Duplications Copy-pasted code blocks

Cyclomatic Complexity Complexity of decision paths in code

Benefits of SonarQube

- Improves code quality and readability
- Helps enforce coding standards
- Prevents bugs early in development
- Integrates with GitHub, Jenkins, Bitbucket, GitLab
- Supports multiple languages (Java, JS, Python, etc.)

X Drawbacks

Limitation	Description
Requires setup	Needs server and scanner setup
Resource intensive	May slow down builds slightly

May need customization Rules can be noisy if not fine-tuned

Interview Questions

- 1. What is SonarQube?
- 2. How do you integrate SonarQube with a Java Maven project?
- 3. What are code smells?
- 4. What is a Quality Gate in SonarQube?
- 5. How does SonarQube help in CI/CD pipelines?
- 6. Can SonarQube block code deployment? How?
- 7. How do you generate a Sonar token?
- 8. What are the key metrics SonarQube tracks?

Prometheus and Grafana – Complete Guide

What is Prometheus?

Prometheus is an open-source **monitoring and alerting tool**. It collects and stores metrics data (like CPU usage, memory usage, HTTP requests, etc.) in **time-series format**.

Why use Prometheus?

Purpose Explanation

Monitoring Continuously tracks system/app performance

Time-Series Data Stores data over time for trend analysis

Alerting Sends alerts when something goes wrong (via AlertManager)

Scalable Handles high-volume metrics efficiently

Now Prometheus Works

- 1. Targets: Applications expose metrics at endpoints like /metrics
- 2. Scraping: Prometheus fetches metrics (pull-based) at intervals
- 3. Storage: Saves data in its own TSDB (Time Series DB)
- 4. Querying: You use PromQL to query metrics
- 5. **Alerting**: Sends alerts when rules break (e.g., CPU > 90%)

What is Grafana?

Grafana is a data visualization tool that works perfectly with Prometheus and others (InfluxDB, Elasticsearch, etc.).

Why use Grafana?

Purpose Explanation

Visual Dashboards Beautiful charts, graphs, and alerts

Multi-source support Works with Prometheus, MySQL, etc.

Alerting UI Visually manage alert rules

Templating Reusable and dynamic dashboards

★ Real Use Case

In a Spring Boot microservices project deployed on Docker/Kubernetes:

- Prometheus scrapes metrics like:
 - o Request count
 - Latency
 - o JVM memory
- Grafana visualizes these metrics
- · Alerts are sent when thresholds cross
- Helps DevOps + Developers catch problems early.

Set Up Prometheus + Grafana (Locally with Docker)

yaml

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docker-compose.yml

version: '3'

services:

prometheus:

image: prom/prometheus

volumes:

- ./prometheus.yml:/etc/prometheus/prometheus.yml

ports:

- "9090:9090"

grafana:

image: grafana/grafana

ports:

- "3000:3000"

Create prometheus.yml:

yaml

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global:

scrape_interval: 15s

scrape_configs:

- job_name: 'spring-app'

static_configs:

- targets: ['localhost:8080']

Grafana Basics

- Access via http://localhost:3000
- Login: admin / admin
- Add Prometheus as a data source
- Import pre-built dashboards or create your own
- Set alerts for CPU, Memory, HTTP latency, etc.

Prometheus vs Grafana

FeaturePrometheusGrafanaPurposeMetric collection & storage Visualization

Feature	Prometheus	Grafana	
Data source	Pulls from /metrics	Reads from Prometheus & others	
Query Language PromQL		Uses data source's language	
Alerting	Yes (via AlertManager)	Yes (basic UI level)	

Drawbacks

Tool Drawback

Prometheus No long-term storage by default

Grafana Visualization only – no data collection

Interview Questions

- 1. What is Prometheus and how does it work?
- 2. How does Grafana integrate with Prometheus?
- 3. What is a time-series database?
- 4. What is PromQL?
- 5. What are exporters in Prometheus?
- 6. How do you configure alerting rules?
- 7. What port does Prometheus/Grafana run on?
- 8. Difference between push vs pull in monitoring?

ELK Stack – Complete Guide

What is ELK?

ELK Stack stands for:

- **E**lasticsearch (search engine)
- Logstash (log collector/transformer)
- Kibana (dashboard/visualization)

Why Use ELK?

Purpose Explanation

Centralized Logging Collect logs from multiple services in one place

Searchable Logs Fast full-text search using Elasticsearch

Visual Dashboards Kibana for viewing, filtering logs

Alerting & Monitoring Detect issues using log patterns

How ELK Stack Works

- 1. Logstash reads logs from files, Kafka, etc.
- 2. Filters/Parses logs (e.g., JSON, regex)
- 3. Elasticsearch indexes and stores logs
- 4. Kibana visualizes them

Example Setup (Docker Compose)

yaml

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version: '3'

services:

elasticsearch:

image: elasticsearch:7.17.10

environment:

- discovery.type=single-node

ports:

- "9200:9200"

logstash:

```
image: logstash:7.17.10
  volumes:
  - ./logstash.conf:/usr/share/logstash/pipeline/logstash.conf
  ports:
  - "5000:5000"
kibana:
  image: kibana:7.17.10
  ports:
  - "5601:5601"
Sample logstash.conf:
conf
CopyEdit
input {
tcp {
  port => 5000
 codec => json
}
}
output {
elasticsearch {
 hosts => ["http://elasticsearch:9200"]
 index => "spring-logs"
}
}
```

✓ Real-Time Use Case

In microservices:

- Logs are pushed from each service
- Logstash collects and processes them
- · Elasticsearch indexes for fast search
- Kibana shows:
 - o HTTP errors
 - o DB exceptions
 - o Audit logs

ELK vs Prometheus

Feature	ELK	Prometheus

Data Type Logs Metrics

Storage Elasticsearch Time-Series DB

Visualization Kibana Grafana

Use Case Debugging, Trace Logs Monitoring, Alerts

■ Drawbacks of ELK

- High memory usage
- Complex setup
- Learning curve (especially Logstash)

Interview Questions

- 1. What is ELK stack?
- 2. What's the difference between Logstash and Beats?
- 3. How do you visualize logs in Kibana?
- 4. How does Elasticsearch store data?
- 5. ELK vs Prometheus?
- 6. How to configure log pipelines in Logstash?

7. What is the role of Kibana?

✓ Terraform, Ansible, and Splunk – Complete Guide (for Full Stack Java Developers)

1. Terraform – Infrastructure as Code (IaC)

What is Terraform?

Terraform is an open-source tool by HashiCorp that allows you to **automate infrastructure provisioning** (e.g., AWS, Azure, GCP, Docker) using **code**.

☑ Think of it like: writing code to create servers, databases, load balancers, etc.

Why Use Terraform?

Feature Benefit

Infrastructure as Code Easily manage, version, and reuse infrastructure

Multi-cloud support Works with AWS, Azure, GCP, Docker, Kubernetes, etc.

Automation Automatically provisions and tears down infra

Idempotent Runs safely multiple times without duplication

How Terraform Works

- 1. You write .tf files (Terraform config files).
- 2. Run terraform init → initializes plugins.
- 3. Run terraform plan \rightarrow shows what will be created.
- 4. Run terraform apply → creates resources.
- 5. Run terraform destroy → deletes all resources.

Example Code (for AWS EC2)

```
hcl
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provider "aws" {
region = "us-east-1"
}
resource "aws_instance" "example" {
         = "ami-0c55b159cbfafe1f0"
ami
instance_type = "t2.micro"
}
```

Terraform Interview Questions

- 1. What is Infrastructure as Code?
- 2. What is a Terraform Provider?
- 3. Difference between terraform plan and terraform apply?
- 4. How do you manage state in Terraform?
- 5. What is a Terraform module?
- 6. Can Terraform be used with Kubernetes?

Drawbacks

- Terraform state files must be managed carefully
- Syntax and debugging errors can be tricky

🦴 Real Use Case

- Provision 10 EC2 + RDS DB + S3 bucket via one command
- Track all infra changes in GitHub (like code)

2. Ansible - Configuration Management

What is Ansible?

Ansible is an agentless open-source tool used for:

- Automating server configuration
- Application deployments
- Installing software (like Java, MySQL)

Why Use Ansible?

Feature **Benefit**

No agents Only needs SSH access

YAML-based Easy-to-read playbooks

Idempotent Safe to run multiple times

Fast deployment Great for configuring 10s/100s of servers

⅍ How It Works

- 1. Create a hosts file to define servers
- 2. Write a playbook (YAML file)
- 3. Run ansible-playbook playbook.yml



Sample Playbook

yaml

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- name: Install NGINX on Ubuntu

hosts: webservers

become: yes

tasks:

- name: Install NGINX

apt:

name: nginx

state: present

Ansible Interview Questions

- 1. What is Ansible and how does it work?
- 2. What is a Playbook vs Role?
- 3. What is the inventory file?
- 4. How do you ensure idempotency in Ansible?
- 5. Difference between Ansible and Terraform?

Drawbacks

- Not suitable for complex infrastructure creation (Terraform is better for that)
- Slower on large scale compared to compiled tools

Real Use Case

- Deploy a Spring Boot JAR to 5 Linux servers
- Configure NGINX, MySQL, Java on all in one go

📊 3. Splunk – Log Management and Monitoring

What is Splunk?

Splunk is a powerful tool for **log aggregation, monitoring, and real-time analysis**. It can collect logs from all apps and infra, store, analyze, and alert.

Why Use Splunk?

Feature Benefit

Centralized Logging Collect logs from microservices, databases, etc.

Search & Analyze Easily search huge volumes of logs

Visual Dashboards Charts, alerts, and reports

Security Alerts Real-time anomaly detection

% How Splunk Works

- 1. Logs are sent from apps (via Splunk agent or HTTP)
- 2. Stored in indexes
- 3. Queried using SPL (Search Processing Language)
- 4. Dashboards and alerts are created

Sample SPL Query

sql

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index=app_logs "Exception" | stats count by source

Splunk Interview Questions

- 1. What is Splunk and its components?
- 2. What is SPL in Splunk?
- 3. How does Splunk differ from ELK?
- 4. How do you create alerts in Splunk?
- 5. Real-life use case of Splunk in production?

Drawbacks

• Expensive for high data volume

• Complex licensing and configuration

★ Real Use Case in Projects

- Your Java app logs exceptions to Splunk
- You create dashboards to monitor:
 - Error rate
 - o Response time
 - o DB timeouts
- Alert triggers if errors > 100/min

★ Summary Table

Tool	Use Case	Format	Competitor
Terraform	Infra provisioning	HCL (.tf)	Pulumi
Ansible	Server config + software install	. YAML	Chef, Puppet
Splunk	Logs and monitoring	SPL (Search Query)	ELK

1. Nexus Repository Manager

What is Nexus?

Nexus is a **repository manager** used to **store and manage build artifacts** like .jar, .war, .zip, Docker images, etc.

Think of it as a **private Maven Central** for your team or company.

Why Use Nexus?

Use Explanation

Store Artifacts Stores JARs, WARs created by Maven/Gradle

Centralized Repository All teams fetch libraries from one place

Security Control access and versions

Integration Works with Maven, Jenkins, Docker, etc.

🦴 Real-Time Usage in Java Projects

- 1. Developer commits code → Jenkins builds project
- 2. Jenkins generates .jar or .war
- 3. Jenkins uploads it to Nexus
- 4. Deployment teams download the artifact from Nexus and deploy

Nexus Repositories Types

- Hosted → For internal artifacts
- **Proxy** → Caches external repositories like Maven Central
- **Group** → Combines hosted + proxy into one virtual repo

Interview Questions

1. What is Nexus and why do we use it?

- 2. How does Nexus work with Maven or Jenkins?
- 3. What are hosted and proxy repositories?
- 4. How do you upload/download artifacts manually?
- 5. Difference between Nexus, Artifactory, and Maven Central?

Nexus URL in Maven

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<repositories>

<repository>

<id>nexus</id>

<url>http://localhost:8081/repository/maven-releases/</url>

</repository>

</repositories>



♦ What is JIRA?

JIRA is a tool used for:

- Agile Project Management
- Bug tracking
- Sprint planning
- Task assignments

Used by developers, testers, project managers, and DevOps.

JIRA Boards

- Kanban Board → Continuous flow (good for support teams)
- Scrum Board → For sprint-based planning (used in Agile teams)

🦴 How JIRA Works in Projects

- 1. Product Owner creates epics, user stories, and tasks
- 2. Dev Team pulls tasks in sprint planning
- 3. Tracks task progress: TO DO → IN PROGRESS → DONE
- 4. QA adds bugs and tracks testing

Gommon JIRA Terms

Term Meaning

Epic Big feature or requirement

Story Small functionality part of an epic

Task Work assigned to dev/test

Bug Issue found in functionality

Sprint 1–2 week cycle to complete stories

Interview Questions

- 1. What is JIRA used for?
- 2. What is the difference between a story and a task?
- 3. Explain how you used JIRA in your team.
- 4. What is a sprint? How long should it be?
- 5. How do you handle bug tracking and sprint planning in JIRA?

3. Agile Methodology (Scrum Model)

What is Agile?

Agile is a software development approach focused on:

Quick delivery

- Customer feedback
- Iterative progress
- Team collaboration

Widely used in product-based and service-based companies.

Agile Ceremonies

Ceremony Purpose

Sprint Planning Choose stories for next 2-week sprint

Daily Standup Short meeting on progress, blockers

Sprint Review Demo to stakeholders

Sprint Retrospective Feedback on what went well or needs improvement

Agile Roles

Role Responsibility

Product Owner Defines requirements and priorities

Scrum Master Facilitates scrum process, removes blockers

Development Team Delivers the product increment

Sprint Example

- Sprint length: 2 weeks
- Team picks 10 stories (each with story points)
- Team works → updates JIRA → delivers working code
- Reviews with stakeholders → repeats in next sprint

Interview Questions

1. What is Agile and how is it different from Waterfall?

- 2. Explain your daily routine in an Agile team.
- 3. What is the purpose of a standup meeting?
- 4. Who assigns tasks in Agile the manager or the team?
- 5. What tools did you use for Agile (JIRA, Confluence, etc.)?

Summary Table

Tool Purpose Used For

Nexus Artifact repository Upload/download .jar, .war from builds

JIRA Task/bug tracking Managing sprints and stories

Agile Development methodology Fast delivery, continuous improvement