



# Learning Elasticsearch 5.0

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Video 2.3

*What Is a Cluster?*



In this Video, we are going to take a look at...

- What is an ElasticSearch cluster?
- Nodes defined and explained
- Partitioning the index into shards
- Replicas and failover

# What Is an ElasticSearch Cluster?

- One or more instances of ElasticSearch running on a given network

# Nodes

- Instance of ElasticSearch
- Handle http and transport protocols
- Types of nodes:
  - Master-eligible node
  - Data node

# About Shards

- Partitions that make up an index
- 5 shards per index (default setting)
- Make Elasticsearch distributed
- Failover auto-balances shards

# How Shards Work

- Distributed across Elasticsearch instances
- Single Node cluster
  - Development / testing
- Multi-Node cluster
  - Production

## Shards, a Closer Look (5 Primary Shards)

Single Node cluster

Node1

[ P0 P1 P2 P3 P4 ]

Multi-Node cluster

Node1

[ P0 P1 P3 ]

Node2

[ P2 P4 ]

\* P = Primary shard



# Replicas and Failover

- Duplication of primary shard
- Takes over if primary fails
- Node rejoins cluster after failure
- New node synchronizes with others



# Replicas, a Closer Look (2 Nodes, 5 Shards and 1 Replica)

Node1

[ P0 P1 P2 R3 R4 ]

Node2

[ R0 R1 R2 P3 P4 ]

\* cluster status: GREEN (good)

Node1

[ P0 P1 P2 R3 R4 ]

Node2 [Started & Synced]

[ R0 R1 R2 P3 P4 ]

\* cluster status: GREEN (good)

\* P = Primary shard  
R = Replica shard

Node2 [FAILED]

~~[ R0 R1 R2 P3 P4 ]~~

\* cluster status: YELLOW (warning)

Next Video

Setting Shards and Replicas