



Add hosts and install SnapCenter Plug-in for Microsoft Windows

SnapCenter Software

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Add hosts and install SnapCenter Plug-in for Microsoft Windows

You can use the SnapCenter Add Host page to add Windows hosts. The SnapCenter Plug-in for Microsoft Windows is automatically installed on the specified host. This is the recommended method for installing plug-ins. You can add a host and install a plug-in either for an individual host or a cluster.

What you will need

- You must be a user that is assigned to a role that has the plug-in install and uninstall permissions, such as the SnapCenter Admin role.
- When installing a plug-in on a Windows host, if you specify a credential that is not built-in or if the user belongs to a local workgroup user, you must disable UAC on the host.
- The SnapCenter user should be added to the “Log on as a service” role of the Windows Server.
- You should ensure that the message queueing service is in running state.
- If you are using group Managed Service Account (gMSA), you should configure gMSA with administrative privileges.

[Configure group Managed Service Account on Windows Server 2012 or later for Windows File System](#)

About this task

- You cannot add a SnapCenter Server as a plug-in host to another SnapCenter Server.
- Windows plug-ins
 - Microsoft Windows
 - Microsoft SQL Server
 - SAP HANA
 - Custom plug-ins
- Installing plug-ins on a cluster


If you install plug-ins on a cluster (WSFC, Oracle RAC, or Exchange DAG), they are installed on all of the nodes of the cluster.

- E-series storage

You cannot install the Plug-in for Windows on a Windows host connected to E-series storage.

Steps



1. In the left navigation pane, click **Hosts**.
2. Ensure that **Managed Hosts** is selected at the top.
3. Click **Add**.
4. On the Hosts page, do the following:

For this field...	Do this...
Host Type	<p>Select the Windows type of host.</p> <p>SnapCenter Server adds the host and then installs the Plug-in for Windows if it is not already installed on the host.</p> <p>If you also select the Microsoft SQL Server option on the Plug-ins page, SnapCenter Server also installs the Plug-in for SQL Server.</p>
Host name	<p>Enter the fully qualified domain name (FQDN) or the IP address of the host.</p> <p>SnapCenter depends on the proper configuration of the DNS. Therefore, the best practice is to enter the fully qualified domain name (FQDN).</p> <p>You can enter the IP addresses or FQDN of one of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stand-alone host • Windows Server Failover Clustering (WSFC) <p>If you are adding a host using SnapCenter and it is part of a subdomain, you must provide the FQDN.</p>
Credentials	<p>Select the credential name that you created or create the new credentials.</p> <p>The credential must have administrative rights on the remote host. For details, see information about creating a credential.</p> <p>Details about credentials, including the user name, domain, and host type, are displayed by placing your cursor over the credential name you provided.</p> <div>  <p>The authentication mode is determined by the host type that you specify in the Add Host wizard.</p> </div>

5. In the Select Plug-ins to Install section, select the plug-ins to install.

For new deployments, no plug-in packages are listed.

6. (Optional) Click **More Options**.

For this field...	Do this...
Port	<p>Either retain the default port number or specify the port number.</p> <p>The default port number is 8145. If the SnapCenter Server was installed on a custom port, that port number will be displayed as the default port.</p> <div>  <p>If you manually installed the plug-ins and specified a custom port, you must specify the same port. Otherwise, the operation fails.</p> </div>
Installation Path	<p>The default path is C:\Program Files\NetApp\SnapCenter.</p> <p>You can optionally customize the path. For SnapCenter Plug-ins Package for Windows, the default path is C:\Program Files\NetApp\SnapCenter. However, if you want, you can customize the default path.</p>
Add all hosts in the cluster	Select this check box to add all of the cluster nodes in a WSFC or a SQL Availability Group.
Skip preinstall checks	Select this check box if you already installed the plug-ins manually and you do not want to validate whether the host meets the requirements for installing the plug-in.
Use group Managed Service Account (gMSA) to run the plug-in services	<p>Select this check box if you want to use group Managed Service Account (gMSA) to run the plug-in services.</p> <p>Provide the gMSA name in the following format: <i>domainName\accountName\$</i>.</p> <div>  <p>gMSA will be used as a log on service account only for SnapCenter Plug-in for Windows service.</p> </div>

7. Click **Submit**.

If you have not selected the **Skip prechecks** checkbox, the host is validated to see whether it meets the requirements to install the plug-in. The disk space, RAM, PowerShell version, .NET version, and location are validated against the minimum requirements. If the minimum requirements are not met, appropriate error or warning messages are displayed.

If the error is related to disk space or RAM, you can update the web.config file located at C:\Program

Files\NetApp\SnapCenter WebApp to modify the default values. If the error is related to other parameters, you must fix the issue.



In an HA setup, if you are updating web.config file, you must update the file on both nodes.

8. Monitor the installation progress.

Install SnapCenter Plug-in for Microsoft Windows on multiple remote hosts using PowerShell cmdlets

If you want to install SnapCenter Plug-in for Microsoft Windows on multiple hosts at one time, you can do so by using the `Install-SmHostPackage` PowerShell cmdlet.

You must have logged in to SnapCenter as a domain user with local administrator rights on each host on which you want to install plug-ins.

Steps

1. Launch PowerShell.
2. On the SnapCenter Server host, establish a session using the `Open-SmConnection` cmdlet, and then enter your credentials.
3. Add the standalone host or the cluster to SnapCenter using the `Add-SmHost` cmdlet and the required parameters.

The information regarding the parameters that can be used with the cmdlet and their descriptions can be obtained by running `Get-Help command_name`. Alternatively, you can also refer to the [SnapCenter Software Cmdlet Reference Guide](#).

4. Install the plug-in on multiple hosts using the `Install-SmHostPackage` cmdlet and the required parameters.

You can use the `-skipprecheck` option when you have installed the plug-ins manually and do not want to validate whether the host meets the requirements to install the plug-in.

Install the SnapCenter Plug-in for Microsoft Windows silently from the command line

You can install the SnapCenter Plug-in for Microsoft Windows locally on a Windows host if you are unable to install the plug-in remotely from the SnapCenter GUI. You can run the SnapCenter Plug-in for Microsoft Windows installation program unattended, in silent mode, from the Windows command line.

What you will need

- You must have installed Microsoft .Net 4.5.2 or later.
- You must have installed PowerShell 4.0 or later.
- You must have turned on Windows message queuing.

- You must be a local administrator on the host.

Steps

1. Download the SnapCenter Plug-in for Microsoft Windows from your install location.

For example, the default installation path is C:\ProgramData\NetApp\SnapCenter\Package Repository.

This path is accessible from the host where the SnapCenter Server is installed.

2. Copy the installation file to the host on which you want to install the plug-in.
3. From the command prompt, navigate to the directory where you downloaded the installation file.
4. Enter the following command, replacing variables with your data:

```
"snapcenter_windows_host_plugin.exe"/silent / debuglog"" /log""
BI_SNAPCENTER_PORT= SUITE_INSTALLDIR="" BI_SERVICEACCOUNT= BI_SERVICEPWD=
ISFeatureInstall=SCW
```

For example:

```
`"C:\ProgramData\NetApp\SnapCenter\Package Repository
\snapcenter_windows_host_plugin.exe"/silent /debuglog"C:
\HPPW_SCW_Install.log" /log"C:\" BI_SNAPCENTER_PORT=8145
SUITE_INSTALLDIR="C: \Program Files\NetApp\SnapCenter"
BI_SERVICEACCOUNT=domain\administrator BI_SERVICEPWD=password
ISFeatureInstall=SCW`
```



All the parameters passed during the installation of Plug-in for Windows are case sensitive.

Enter the values for the following variables:

Variable	Value
/debuglog"<Debug_Log_Path>	Specify the name and location of the suite installer log file, as in the following example: Setup.exe /debuglog"C:\PathToLog\setupexe.log".
BI_SNAPCENTER_PORT	Specify the port on which SnapCenter communicates with SMCore.
SUITE_INSTALLDIR	Specify host plug-in package installation directory.
BI_SERVICEACCOUNT	Specify SnapCenter Plug-in for Microsoft Windows web service account.
BI_SERVICEPWD	Specify the password for SnapCenter Plug-in for Microsoft Windows web service account.

Variable	Value
ISFeatureInstall	Specify the solution to be deployed by SnapCenter on remote host.

The *debuglog* parameter includes the path of the log file for SnapCenter. Writing to this log file is the preferred method of obtaining troubleshooting information, because the file contains the results of checks that the installation performs for plug-in prerequisites.

If necessary, you can find additional troubleshooting information in the log file for the SnapCenter for Windows package. Log files for the package are listed (oldest first) in the *%Temp%* folder, for example, *C:\temp*.








The installation of Plug-in for Windows registers the plug-in on the host and not on the SnapCenter Server. You can register the plug-in on the SnapCenter Server by adding the host using the SnapCenter GUI or PowerShell cmdlet. After the host is added, the plug-in is automatically discovered.

Monitor SnapCenter plug-in package installation status

You can monitor the progress of SnapCenter plug-in package installation by using the Jobs page. You might want to check the progress of installation to determine when it is complete or if there is an issue.

About this task

The following icons appear on the Jobs page and indicate the state of the operation:

-  In progress
-  Completed successfully
-  Failed
-  Completed with warnings or could not start due to warnings
-  Queued

Steps

1. In the left navigation pane, click **Monitor**.
2. In the **Monitor** page, click **Jobs**.
3. On the **Jobs** page, to filter the list so that only plug-in installation operations are listed, do the following:
 - a. Click **Filter**.
 - b. Optional: Specify the start and end date.
 - c. From the Type drop-down menu, select **Plug-in installation**.
 - d. From the Status drop-down menu, select the installation status.
 - e. Click **Apply**.
4. Select the installation job and click **Details** to view the job details.

5. In the **Job Details** page, click **View logs**.

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