

Warning:

- The `rs.reconfig()` shell method can force the current primary to step down, which causes an [election](#) (page 580). When the primary steps down, the `mongod` closes all client connections. While this typically takes 10-20 seconds, try to make these changes during scheduled maintenance periods.
- To successfully reconfigure a replica set, a majority of the members must be accessible. If your replica set has an even number of members, add an [arbiter](#) (page 614) to ensure that members can quickly obtain a majority of votes in an election for primary.

Related Documents

- `slaveDelay`
- [Replica Set Reconfiguration](#)
- [Oplog Size](#) (page 593)
- [Change the Size of the Oplog](#) (page 628) tutorial
- [Replica Set Elections](#) (page 580)

Configure Non-Voting Replica Set Member

Non-voting members allow you to add additional members for read distribution beyond the maximum seven voting members. To configure a member as non-voting, set its `votes` value to 0.

Example

To disable the ability to vote in elections for the fourth, fifth, and sixth replica set members, use the following command sequence in the `mongo` shell connected to the primary. You identify each replica set member by its array index in the `members` array:

```
cfg = rs.conf()
cfg.members[3].votes = 0
cfg.members[4].votes = 0
cfg.members[5].votes = 0
rs.reconfig(cfg)
```

This sequence gives 0 votes to the fourth, fifth, and sixth members of the set according to the order of the `members` array in the output of `rs.conf()`. This setting allows the set to elect these members as *primary* but does not allow them to vote in elections. Place voting members so that your designated primary or primaries can reach a majority of votes in the event of a network partition.

When updating the replica configuration object, access the replica set members in the `members` array with the **array index**. The array index begins with 0. Do **not** confuse this index value with the value of the `_id` field in each document in the `members` array.

Warning:

- The `rs.reconfig()` shell method can force the current primary to step down, which causes an [election](#) (page 580). When the primary steps down, the `mongod` closes all client connections. While this typically takes 10-20 seconds, try to make these changes during scheduled maintenance periods.
- To successfully reconfigure a replica set, a majority of the members must be accessible. If your replica set has an even number of members, add an [arbiter](#) (page 614) to ensure that members can quickly obtain a majority of votes in an election for primary.