

# Install Node Exporter

As your Prometheus is only capable of collecting metrics, we want to extend its capabilities by adding Node Exporter, a tool that collects information about the system including [CPU, disk, and memory usage](#) and exposes them for scraping.

Download the latest version of Node Exporter:

...

Copy `wget https://github.com/prometheus/node_exporter/releases/download/v1.2.2/node_exporter-1.2.2.linux-amd64.tar.gz`

...

Unpack the downloaded archive. This will create a directory `node_exporter-1.2.2.linux-amd64`, containing the executable, a readme and license file:

...

Copy `tar xvf node_exporter-1.2.2.linux-amd64.tar.gz`

...

Copy the binary file into the directory `/usr/local/bin` and set the ownership to the user you have created in step previously:

...

Copy `sudo cp node_exporter-1.2.2.linux-amd64/node_exporter /usr/local/bin sudo chown node_exporter:node_exporter /usr/local/bin/node_exporter`

...

Remove the leftover files of Node Exporter, as they are not needed any longer:

...

Copy `rm -rf node_exporter-0.16.0.linux-amd64.tar.gz node_exporter-0.16.0.linux-amd64`

...

To run Node Exporter automatically on each boot, a Systemd service file is required. Create the following file by opening it in Nano:

...

Copy `sudo nano /etc/systemd/system/node_exporter.service`

...

Copy the following information in the service file, save it and exit Nano:

...

Copy `[Unit] Description=Node Exporter Wants=network-online.target After=network-online.target`

`[Service] User=node_exporter Group=node_exporter Type=simple ExecStart=/usr/local/bin/node_exporter`

`[Install] WantedBy=multi-user.target`

...

Collectors are used to gather information about the system. By default a set of collectors is activated. You can see the details about the set in the [README-file](#). If you want to use a specific set of collectors, you can define them in the `ExecStart` section of the service. Collectors are enabled by providing `a--collector.` flag. Collectors that are enabled by default can be disabled by providing `a--no-collector.` flag.

Reload Systemd to use the newly defined service:

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Copy `sudo systemctl daemon-reload`

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Run Node Exporter by typing the following command:

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Copy `sudo systemctl start node_exporter`

...

Verify that the software has been started successfully:

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Copy `sudo systemctl status node_exporter`

...

You will see an output like this, showing you the status active (running) as well as the main PID of the application:

...

Copy ● node\_exporter.service - Node Exporter Loaded: loaded (/etc/systemd/system/node\_exporter.service; disabled; vendor preset: enabled) Active: active (running) since Mon 2018-06-25 11:47:06 UTC; 4s ago Main PID: 1719 (node\_exporter) CGroup: /system.slice/node\_exporter.service └─1719 /usr/local/bin/node\_exporter

...

If everything is working, enable Node Exporter to be started on each boot of the server:

...

Copy `sudo systemctl enable node_exporter`

...

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