

End-to-End Monitoring Setup – Prometheus, Node Exporter, and Grafana (Ubuntu)

Architecture Overview

Ubuntu Server

- Node Exporter (9100) – exposes OS metrics
- Prometheus (9090) – scrapes metrics & stores time-series
- Grafana (3000) – visualizes metrics using dashboards

Flow

Node Exporter → Prometheus → Grafana Dashboard

PART 1: PROMETHEUS INSTALLATION

Step 1: Create Prometheus user

```
sudo useradd --no-create-home --shell /bin/false prometheus
```

Step 2: Create directories

```
sudo mkdir -p /etc/prometheus  
sudo mkdir -p /etc/prometheus/rules  
sudo mkdir -p /opt/prometheus/data
```

```
sudo chown -R prometheus:prometheus /etc/prometheus  
sudo chown -R prometheus:prometheus /opt/prometheus
```

Step 3: Download Prometheus

```
cd /tmp  
wget https://github.com/prometheus/prometheus/releases/download/v2.48.0/prometheus-2.48.0.linux-amd64.tar.gz  
  
tar -xvf prometheus-2.48.0.linux-amd64.tar.gz  
cd prometheus-2.48.0.linux-amd64
```

Step 4: Install binaries

```
sudo cp prometheus /usr/local/bin/  
sudo cp promtool /usr/local/bin/  
  
sudo chown prometheus:prometheus /usr/local/bin/prometheus  
sudo chown prometheus:prometheus /usr/local/bin/promtool
```

Step 5: Copy console files

```
sudo cp -r consoles /etc/prometheus/  
sudo cp -r console_libraries /etc/prometheus/  
sudo chown -R prometheus:prometheus /etc/prometheus
```

Step 6: Create Prometheus config

/etc/prometheus/prometheus.yml

```
global:  
  scrape_interval: 15s  
  evaluation_interval: 15s  
  
scrape_configs:  
  - job_name: "prometheus"  
    static_configs:  
      - targets: ["localhost:9090"]
```

```
- job_name: "node_exporter"
  static_configs:
    - targets: ["localhost:9100"]
```

Step 7: Create systemd service

/etc/systemd/system/prometheus.service

Step 8: Start Prometheus

```
sudo systemctl daemon-reload
sudo systemctl enable prometheus
sudo systemctl start prometheus
```

Access UI: http://server-ip:9090

PART 2: NODE EXPORTER INSTALLATION

Step 1: Create node exporter user

```
sudo useradd --no-create-home --shell /bin/false node_exporter
```

Step 2: Download Node Exporter

```
wget https://github.com/prometheus/node_exporter/releases/download/v1.7.0/node_exporter-1.7.0.linux-amd64.tar.gz
```

Step 3: Install and start Node Exporter

```
sudo cp node_exporter /usr/local/bin/
sudo systemctl enable node_exporter
sudo systemctl start node_exporter
```

Verify: http://localhost:9100/metrics

PART 3: GRAFANA INSTALLATION

Add Grafana repository and install Grafana

```
sudo apt update
sudo apt install -y grafana
```

```
sudo systemctl enable grafana-server
sudo systemctl start grafana-server
```

Access UI: http://server-ip:3000

Default login: admin / admin

PART 4: CONNECT PROMETHEUS TO GRAFANA

Add Prometheus Data Source

URL: http://localhost:9090

PART 5: EXAMPLE DASHBOARD

Import Dashboard ID: 1860

Displays CPU, Memory, Disk, Network metrics

PART 6: Verification

- Prometheus Targets page shows UP
- Node Exporter metrics accessible
- Grafana dashboard shows live data

Summary

Implemented a complete monitoring stack using Prometheus, Node Exporter, and Grafana with systemd services and production best practices.