

Lesson Description - Installing Alertmanager

Prometheus Alertmanager provides useful functionality for managing alerts triggered by Prometheus metric data. However, before you can use Alertmanager, you need to get it up and running. In this lesson, we will install Alertmanager and configure our Prometheus server to connect to it.

Relevant Documentation

- [Alertmanager](#)
- [Alertmanager GitHub](#)

Lesson Reference

Install and Configure Alertmanager and **amtool**

Log in to your Prometheus server.

Create a user and group for Alertmanager:

```
sudo useradd -M -r -s /bin/false alertmanager
```

Download and install the Alertmanager binaries, move the files into the appropriate locations, and set ownership:

```
wget https://github.com/prometheus/alertmanager/releases/download/v0.20.0/alertmanager-0.20.0.linux-amd64.tar.gz
```

```
tar xvfz alertmanager-0.20.0.linux-amd64.tar.gz
```

```
sudo cp alertmanager-0.20.0.linux-amd64/{alertmanager,amtool} /usr/local/bin/
```

```
sudo chown alertmanager:alertmanager /usr/local/bin/  
{alertmanager,amtool}
```

```
sudo mkdir -p /etc/alertmanager
```

```
sudo cp alertmanager-0.20.0.linux-amd64/alertmanager.yml /etc/  
alertmanager
```

```
sudo chown -R alertmanager:alertmanager /etc/alertmanager
```

Create a data directory for Alertmanager:

```
sudo mkdir -p /var/lib/alertmanager
```

```
sudo chown alertmanager:alertmanager /var/lib/alertmanager
```

Create a configuration file for **amtool**:

```
sudo mkdir -p /etc/amtool
```

```
sudo vi /etc/amtool/config.yml
```

Enter the following content in the **amtool** config file:

```
alertmanager.url: http://localhost:9093
```

Create a **systemd** unit file for Alertmanager:

```
sudo vi /etc/systemd/system/alertmanager.service
```

```
[Unit]  
Description=Prometheus Alertmanager
```

```
Wants=network-online.target
After=network-online.target

[Service]
User=alertmanager
Group=alertmanager
Type=simple
ExecStart=/usr/local/bin/alertmanager \
  --config.file /etc/alertmanager/alertmanager.yml \
  --storage.path /var/lib/alertmanager/

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

Start and enable the `alertmanager` service:

```
sudo systemctl enable alertmanager
```

```
sudo systemctl start alertmanager
```

Verify the service is running and you can reach it:

```
sudo systemctl status alertmanager
```

```
curl localhost:9093
```

You can also access Alertmanager in a web browser at `http://<PROMETHEUS_SERVER_PUBLIC_IP>:9093`.

Verify `amtool` is able to connect to Alertmanager and retrieve the current configuration:

```
amtool config show
```

Configure Prometheus to Connect to Alertmanager

Edit the Prometheus config:

```
sudo vi /etc/prometheus/prometheus.yml
```

Under **alerting**, add your Alertmanager as a target:

```
alerting:
  alertmanagers:
    - static_configs:
      - targets: ["localhost:9093"]
```

Restart Prometheus to reload the configuration:

```
sudo systemctl restart prometheus
```

Verify Prometheus is able to reach the Alertmanager. Access Prometheus in a web browser at http://<PROMETHEUS_SERVER_PUBLIC_IP>:9090.

Click **Status > Runtime & Build Information**.

Verify your Alertmanager instance appears under the *Alertmanagers* section.