

Lesson Description - Alerting Rules

Before we can manage alerts with Prometheus Alertmanager, we must first issue the alerts from Prometheus itself. This can be done using alerting rules. In this lesson, we will explore alerting rules and demonstrate the process of creating a new alert in Prometheus.

Relevant Documentation

- [Alerting Rules](#)

Lesson Reference

Create an Alert

Log in to the Prometheus server.

Edit the Prometheus config file:

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

Add a path for rules files to the Prometheus config:

```
rule_files:  
- "/etc/prometheus/rules/*.yaml"
```

Create the rules directory:

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

Create a new rules file for your alerting rule:

```
sudo vi /etc/prometheus/rules/my-alerts.yml
```

Implement an alerting rule to issue an alert when the Linux server goes down:

```
groups:
- name: linux-server
  rules:
  - alert: LinuxServerDown
    expr: up{job="Linux Server"} == 0
    labels:
      severity: critical
    annotations:
      summary: Linux Server Down
```

Restart Prometheus to reload the configuration:

```
sudo systemctl restart prometheus
```

Access Prometheus in a browser at http://<PROMETHEUS_SERVER_PUBLIC_IP>:9090.

Click **Alerts**. You should see your **LinuxServerDown** alert listed.

Test the Alert

Log in to your Linux server that is being monitored by Prometheus and stop the **node_exporter** service to simulate the server going down (alternatively, you can just stop the server itself in Cloud Playground, but it may take longer):

```
sudo systemctl stop node_exporter
```

After a few moments, check the Alertmanager page in your browser (http://<PROMETHEUS_SERVER_PUBLIC_IP>:9093). If the alert is firing, you should see the **LinuxServerDown** alert appear.

Start **node_exporter** again and watch the alert disappear in Alertmanager:

```
sudo systemctl start node_exporter
```