

EXTENDED OUT OF THE BOX MONITORING WITH

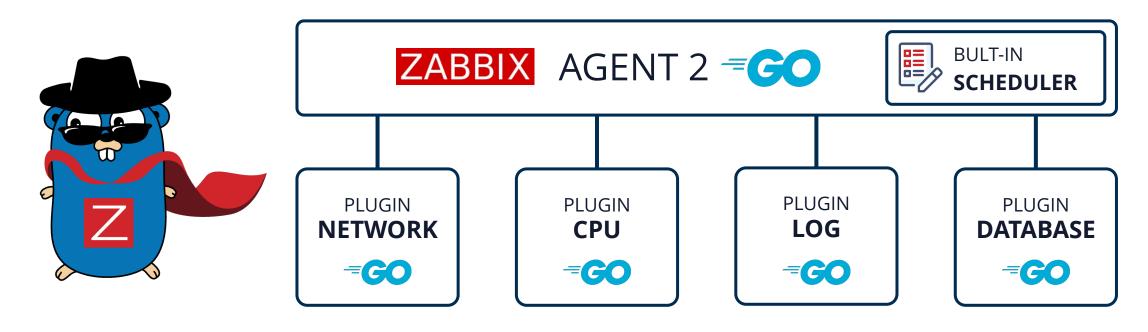
AGENT 2

all our microphones are muted ask your questions in Q&A, not in the Chat use Chat for discussion, networking or applause





AGENT 2 OVERVIEW





scheduled/flexible intervals



written in Go



less TCP connections



older configuration file support



easily extendable



out-of-the-box systemd monitoring



1

New Functionality



initMAX

NEW FUNCTIONALITY

Zabbix Agent 2 is written in Go (Golang) Drop-in replacement for Zabbix agent

- Supports all previous functionality (same item keys)
- Supports old configuration file format

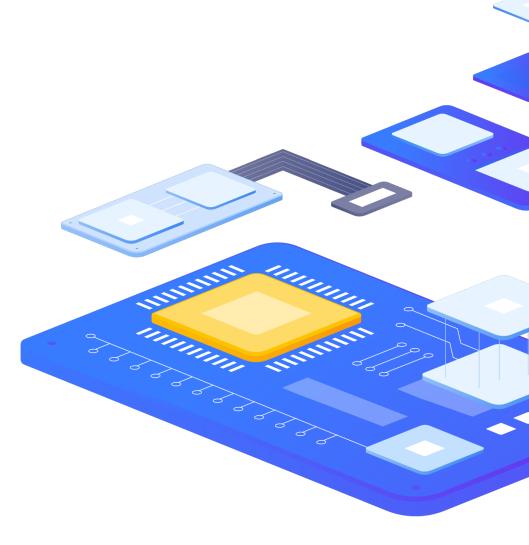
Standard items

Key	Name			
agent.hostname	Agent host name. Returns string			
agent.ping	Agent availability check. Returns nothing - unavailable; 1 - available			
agent.version	Version of Zabbix agent. Returns string			
eventlog[name, <regexp>,<severity>,<source/>,<eventid>,<maxlines>,<mode>]</mode></maxlines></eventid></severity></regexp>	Event log monitoring. Returns log			
kernel.maxfiles	Maximum number of opened files supported by OS. Returns integer			
kernel.maxproc	Maximum number of processes supported by OS. Returns integer			
log[file, <regexp>,<encoding>,<maxlines>,<mode>,<output>,<maxdelay>,<options>]</options></maxdelay></output></mode></maxlines></encoding></regexp>	Log file monitoring. Returns log			

Type Zabbix agent (active) >

Has been developed to

- > Reduce the number of TCP connections
- Be easily extendable with plugins



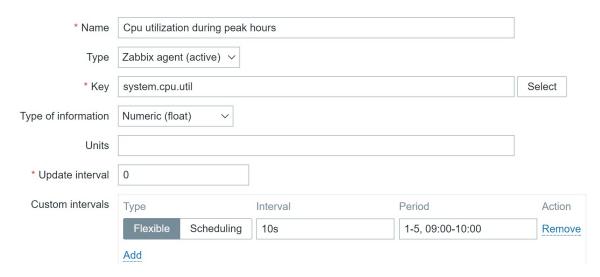


initMAX

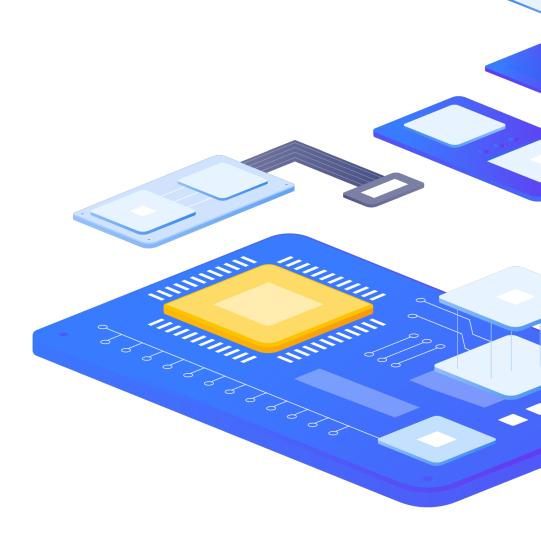
NEW FUNCTIONALITY

Improved active checks

- Active checks support scheduled/flexible intervals
- Parallel execution of multiple active checks for each ServerActive



Limited system support





AGENT 2 BUFFER

Two types of buffer are supported by Agent2 in active mode

- Memory buffer
- Buffer using SQLite engine

Persistent buffer is supported both on Unix-like systems and Windows hosts Configurable via Agent 2 configuration file

> Enable persistent buffer:

EnablePersistentBuffer=1

> Specify the location of the buffer file:

PersistentBufferFile=C:\temp\buffer



AGENT 2 BUFFER

The buffer file is created on agent startup in your specified location

Name	Date modified	Туре	Size
buffer	30/09/2020 10:18	File	28 KB

Additionally, persistent buffer period can be configured

Default is 1 hour

PersistentBufferPeriod=1h

Remember that persistent buffer is used only for active checks If persistent buffer is disabled, then in memory buffer is used



AGENT 2 BUFFER

We can always take a look at what data is stored in the persistent buffer

```
sqlite> select * from data_1;
9|1601470098|31578|-1|-1|-1|491974656||-1|-1|-1|1601470098|461886
10|1601470099|31579|-1|-1|-1|47.336478||-1|-1|-1|1601470099|683697
11|1601470100|31580|-1|-1|-1|1039331328||-1|-1|-1|1601470100|605187
12|1601470155|31575|-1|-1|-1|859828224||-1|-1|-1|1601470155|973576
13|1601470156|31576|-1|-1|-1|100.000000||-1|-1|-1|1601470156|1253467
```

- Using persistent buffer adds a layer of redundancy
- > If server for some reason is unreachable, the data is still stored in the persistent buffer
- > The data is still preserved after the agent restart, as opposed to in memory buffer





ZABBIX 6.0 NEWS - agent/agent 2

agent.variant

New Item for instaled variant since agent version 5.0.18

6.0 - HA settings

Count matching TCP/UDP sockets

net.tcp.socket.count[<laddr>,<lport>,<raddr>,<rport>,<state>]

Additional file information such as file owner and file permissions

- vfs.dir.get[dir,<regex_incl>,<regex_excl>,<types_incl>,......]
- Parameter changes:
 - vfs.file.cksum[file,<mode>], vfs.file.get[file], vfs.file.owner[file,<ownertype>,<resulttype>]

Collect agent host metadata as a metric

agent.hostmetadata

Supports loading stand-alone plugins without having to recompile the Zabbix Agent2.

2

Installation





AGENT 2 INSTALLATION

Install Zabbix Agent2

```
# dnf install https://repo.zabbix.com/zabbix/5.2/rhel/8/x86_64/zabbix-release-5.2-
1.el8.noarch.rpm
# dnf install zabbix-agent2
```

Start Zabbix Agent2

```
# systemctl start zabbix-agent2
```

Enable auto start

systemctl enable zabbix-agent2



AGENT 2 INSTALLATION

Konfigurace

Server=<IP/DNS> for passive agent checks

ServerActive=<IP/DNS> for active agent checks Hostname=Name of host for active checks

systemctl restart zabbix-agent2



AGENT 2 INSTALLATION on windows - command line

- Available for download as archive or MSI install
- > To install a single instance of Zabbix agent with the default configuration file c:\zabbix_agentd.conf:

```
zabbix_agent2.exe --install
```

If you wish to use a configuration file other than c:\zabbix_agentd.conf, you should use the following command for service installation:

```
zabbix_agentd.exe --config <your_configuration_file> --install
```

```
"C:\Agent 2 6.0.4\bin\zabbix_agent2.exe" --install --config "C:\Agent 2
6.0.4\conf\zabbix_agent2.conf"
```

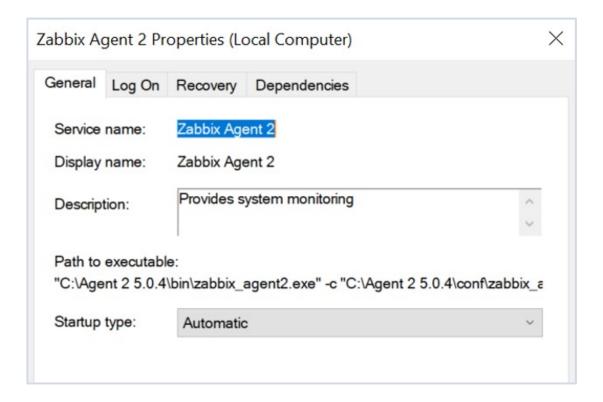




AGENT 2 INSTALLATION on windows - command line

Once installed, runs as a service under Local System account

zabbix_agent2 [20268]: 'Zabbix Agent 2' installed successfully







AGENT 2 INSTALLATION on windows - MSI

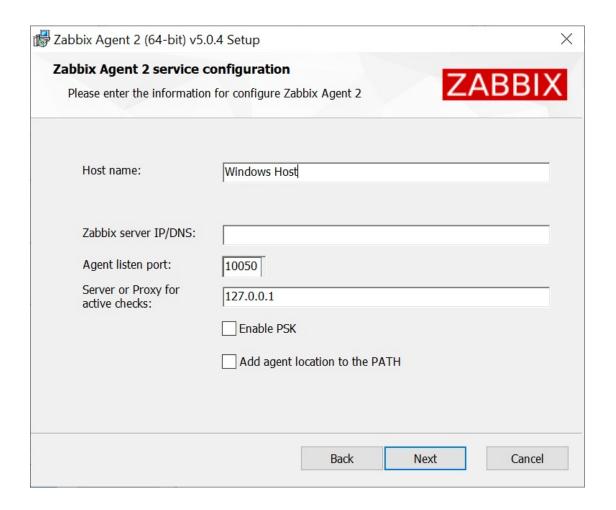
MSI Installer can be downloaded from Zabbix website





AGENT 2 INSTALLATION on windows - MSI

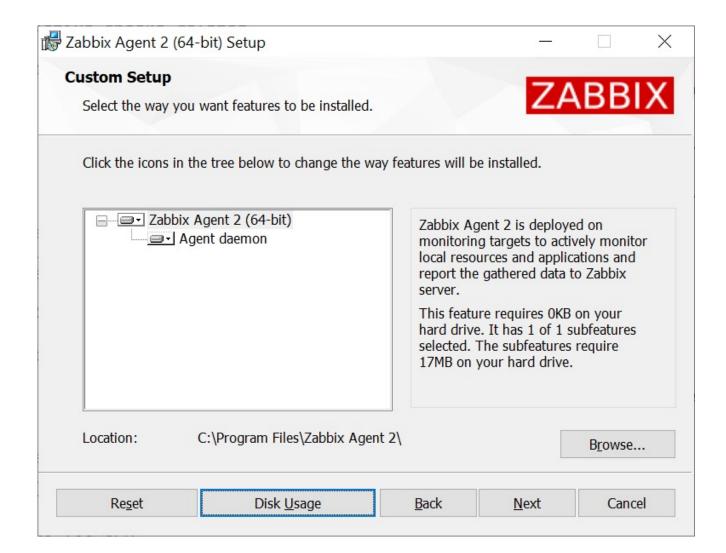
- Host name Hostname parameter for active agent checks
- Zabbix server IP/DNS Server parameter for passive checks
- Agent listen port port on which the agent will listen for passive check requests
- Server or Proxy for active checks ServerActive parameter for sending active agent datax





AGENT 2 INSTALLATION on windows - MSI

- Location Agent 2 install location
- Disk Usage disk space usage statistics
- > Agent 2 takes up ~17MB of disk space











AGENT 2 COMMAND LINE OPTIONS

```
# zabbix_agent2 -R help
Remote control interface, available commands:
    loglevel increase - Increase log level
    loglevel decrease - Decrease log level
    metrics - List available metrics
    version - Display Agent version
    help - Display this help message
```

> Other C agent parameters such as - p (print), - t (test) etc. are also fully supported by Agent 2

```
#zabbix_agent2 -t agent.hostname
agent.hostname
```

[s|LinuxHost]



AGENT 2 PLUGIN STATUS

Available metric list is divided into plugin sections

Displays per plugin statistics

```
# zabbix_agent2 -R metrics
[NetIf]
active: true
capacity: 0/100
tasks: 2
net.if.in: Returns incoming traffic statistics on network interface.
net.if.out: Returns outgoing traffic statistics on network interface.
net.if.total: Returns sum of incoming and outgoing traffic statistics on network
interface.
```





AGENT 2 PLUGIN STATUS

Status of running agent can be viewed via web browser

- Status page will be accessible from anywhere
- Can be set to any unused port
- No default port setting
- Agent restart is still required after making configuration changes

```
### Option: StatusPort
# Agent will listen on this port for HTTP status requests.
StatusPort=10080
```



AGENT 2 PLUGIN STATUS

In browser navigate to:

http://<IP/DNS>:10080/status

Same as from the command line

```
← → C ▲ Not secure | 192.168.3.183:10080/status
Zabbix Agent 2 [LinuxHost]. (5.0.3)
using configuration file: /etc/zabbix/zabbix_agent2.conf
ServerActive: 127.0.0.1
ListenPort: 10050
[Agent]
active: false
capacity: 0/100
tasks: 0
agent.hostname: Returns Hostname from agent configuration.
agent.ping: Returns agent availability check result.
agent.version: Version of Zabbix agent.
[Cpu]
active: false
capacity: 0/100
tasks: 0
system.cpu.discovery: List of detected CPUs/CPU cores, used for low-level discovery.
system.cpu.num: Number of CPUs.
system.cpu.util: CPU utilisation percentage.
[Docker]
active: false
capacity: 0/100
tasks: 0
docker.container info: Return low-level information about a container.
docker.container stats: Returns near realtime stats for a given container.
docker.containers: Returns a list of containers.
docker.containers.discovery: Returns a list of containers, used for low-level discovery.
docker.data usage: Returns information about current data usage.
docker.images: Returns a list of images.
docker.images.discovery: Returns a list of images, used for low-level discovery.
docker.info: Returns information about the docker server.
docker.ping: Pings the server and returns 0 or 1.
```



AGENT 2 PLUGIN CONFIGURATION

- Each Agent 2 item belongs to a specific plugin
- > Plugins can be individually configured by changing plugin parameters
- All plugins are configured using "Plugins.*" parameter in "zabbix_agent2.conf"

C Agent MaxLines configuration (plugin-less):

MaxLinesPerSecond=20

«Go Agent MaxLines configuration - Via Log Plugin:

Plugins.Log.MaxLinesPerSecond=20



AGENT 2 PLUGINS

All of Zabbix agent 2 items utilize some sort of a plugin written by Zabbix developers Plugins provide an option to extend the monitoring capabilities of Zabbix

- Written in Go programming language and supported for Zabbix agent 2 only
- Alternative to "loadable modules" (written in C)

Each plugin can be configured by editing the plugin specific parameters in Zabbix agent 2 configuration file

Syntax: Plugins.<PluginName>.<Parameter>=<Value>



NAMED SESSIONS





AGENT 2 NAMED SESSIONS

Named sessions

- Represent an additional level of plugin parameters
- Can be applied only to specific plugins
 - Mysql
 - Postgres
 - Redis
 - Memcached
 - More as they are released in the future
- Mostly related to Agent 2 DB monitoring plugins
- Used to define separate sets of authentication parameters
 - > URI Uniform Resource Identifier
 - User Username which is used for obtaining the metrics from the resource
 - Password Password for the specified user



AGENT 2 NAMED SESSIONS

Example:

Monitoring of two sessions "MySQL1" and "MySQL2"

```
Plugins.Mysql.Sessions.MySQL1.Uri=tcp://127.0.0.1:3306
Plugins.Mysql.Sessions.MySQL1.User=<UsernameForMySQL1>
Plugins.Mysql.Sessions.MySQL1.Password=<PasswordForMySQL1>
Plugins.Mysql.Sessions.MySQL2.Uri=tcp://127.0.0.1:3307
Plugins.Mysql.Sessions.MySQL2.User=<UsernameForMySQL2>
Plugins.Mysql.Sessions.MySQL2.Password=<PasswordForMySQL2>
```

We can now use the defined session names – "MySQL1" and "MySQL2" as connString parameters in our mysql agent 2 item keys



AGENT 2 NAMED SESSIONS

Example keys:

- mysql.db.size[connString,username,password,dbName]
- mysql.ping[connString,username,password]
- mysql.db.discovery[connString,username,password]

Using named session names in key parameters:

- mysql.db.size[MySQL1,,,productionDB]
- > Note that we still need to specify the DB name "productionDB" directly in the key

Parameters also can be specified directly if needed:

mysql.db.size[tcp://localhost,root,P445W0RD,productionDB]

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TEMPLATES





initMAX

AGENT 2 TEMPLATES

Integrated plugins and templates are available out of the box

- DB MySQL
- DB PostgreSQL
- DB Redis
- App Docker
- App Memcached
- More templates will be published in the future

Name ▲	Hosts	Applications	Items	Triggers	Graphs	Screens	Discovery	Web
Template App Docker	Hosts 1	Applications 2	Items 44	Triggers 3	Graphs 5	Screens 1	Discovery 2	Web
Template App Memcached	Hosts	Applications 2	Items 26	Triggers 8	Graphs 6	Screens	Discovery	Web
Template DB MySQL by Zabbix agent 2	Hosts	Applications 2	Items 41	Triggers 7	Graphs 6	Screens 1	Discovery 2	Web
Template DB PostgreSQL	Hosts	Applications 2	Items 40	Triggers 11	Graphs 8	Screens 2	Discovery 1	Web
Template DB Redis	Hosts	Applications 2	Items 64	Triggers 13	Graphs 12	Screens 2	Discovery 7	Web

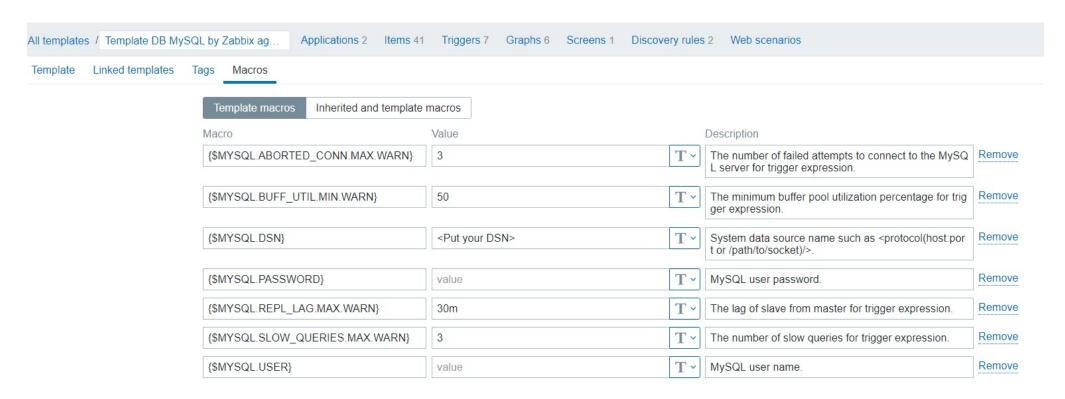






AGENT 2 TEMPLATES

- > Zabbix agent 2 out of box templates can be further configured by customizing User Macros or Plugin parameters
- Basic configuration can be done by simply adjusting the user macros





AGENT 2 TEMPLATES

Deeper customization can be achieved by configuring the plugin itself

```
### Option: Plugins

# A plugin can have one or more plugin specific configuration parameters in format:

# Plugins.<PluginName>.<Parameter1>=<value1>

# Plugins.<PluginName>.<Parameter2>=<value2>
```

```
### Option: Plugins.Redis.Uri
# Connection string. Can be overwritten by the first parameter of an item's key.
#
# Mandatory: no
# Range: Must matches the URI format.
# Default:
# Plugins.Redis.Uri=tcp://localhost:6379
```



AGENT 2 Exclusive keys

Zabbix agent 2 has many new built-in keys

For Docker

- docker.data_usage Information about current data usage
- docker.containers.discovery A list of containers. Used for low-level discovery

For MySQL

- mysql.get_status_variables get mysql variable data
- mysql.db.discovery Result of the "show databases" SQL query in LLD JSON format

For PostgreSQL

- pgsql.dbstat Collects statistics per database
- pgsql.db.discovery List of the PostgreSQL databases

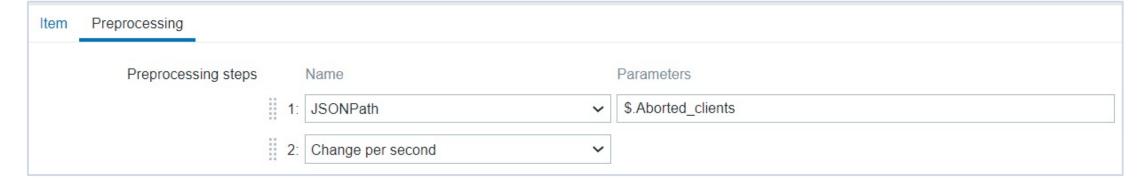




AGENT 2 Exclusive keys

- Many more Agent 2 keys are available
- Many of those keys are used as master items
- > Dependent items preprocess the obtained values and provide more granular and detailed data overview



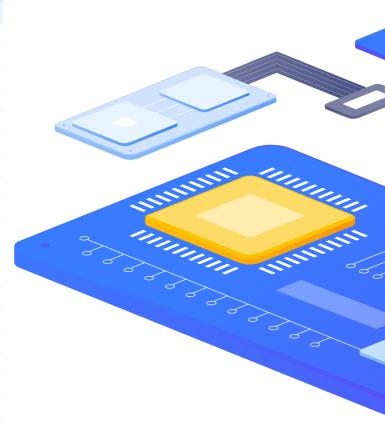




initMAX

AGENT 2 Master/dependent items - Docker

Wizard	Name ▲	Triggers	Key	Interval	History	Trends	Туре	Applications	Status II
•••	Docker: Get info: Docker: Architecture		docker.architecture		7d		Dependent item	Docker	Enabled
•••	Docker: Get info: Docker: Cgroup driver		docker.cgroup_driver		7d		Dependent item	Docker	Enabled
•••	Docker: Get info: Docker: Containers paused		docker.containers.paused		7d	365d	Dependent item	Docker	Enabled
•••	Docker: Get info: Docker: Containers running		docker.containers.running		7d	365d	Dependent item	Docker	Enabled
•••	Docker: Get data_usage: Docker: Containers size		docker.containers_size		7d	365d	Dependent item	Docker	Enabled
	Docker: Get info: Docker: Containers stopped		docker.containers.stopped		7d	365d	Dependent item	Docker	Enabled
	Docker: Get info: Docker: Containers total		docker.containers.total		7d	365d	Dependent item	Docker	Enabled
	Docker: Get info: Docker: CPU CFS Period enabled		docker.cpu_cfs_period.enabled		7d	365d	Dependent item	Docker	Enabled
	Docker: Get info: Docker: CPU CFS Quota enabled		docker.cpu_cfs_quota.enabled		7d	365d	Dependent item	Docker	Enabled
•••	Docker: Get info: Docker: CPU Set enabled		docker.cpu_set.enabled		7d	365d	Dependent item	Docker	Enabled
•••	Docker: Get info: Docker: CPU Shares enabled		docker.cpu_shares.enabled		7d	365d	Dependent item	Docker	Enabled
•••	Docker: Get info: Docker: Debug enabled		docker.debug.enabled		7d	365d	Dependent item	Docker	Enabled
•••	Docker: Get info: Docker: Default runtime		docker.default_runtime		7d		Dependent item	Docker	Enabled
•••	Docker: Get info: Docker: Docker root dir		docker.root_dir		7d		Dependent item	Docker	Enabled
•••	Docker: Get containers		docker.containers	1m	0		Zabbix agent	Zabbix raw items	Enabled
•••	Docker: Get data_usage		docker.data_usage	1m	0		Zabbix agent	Zabbix raw items	Enabled
•••	Docker: Get images		docker.images	1m	0		Zabbix agent	Zabbix raw items	Enabled
	Docker: Get info		docker.info	1m	0		Zabbix agent	Zabbix raw items	Enabled
•••	Docker: Get info: Docker: Goroutines		docker.goroutines		7d	365d	Dependent item	Docker	Enabled

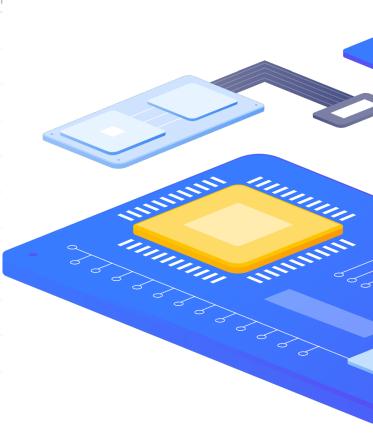






AGENT 2 Master/dependent items - PostgreSQL

Wizard	Name ▲	Triggers	Key	Interval	History	Trends	Type	Applications	Status I
•••	PostgreSQL: Bgwriter: Buffers allocated		pgsql.bgwriter.buffers_alloc		90d	365d	Dependent item	PostgreSQL	Enabled
•••	PostgreSQL: Bgwriter: Buffers written directly by a backend		pgsql.bgwriter.buffers_backend		90d	365d	Dependent item	PostgreSQL	Enabled
•••	PostgreSQL: Bgwriter: Number of bgwriter stopped		pgsql.bgwriter.maxwritten_clean		90d	365d	Dependent item	PostgreSQL	Enabled
•••	PostgreSQL: Bgwriter: Times a backend execute its own fsync		pgsql.bgwriter.buffers_backend_fsyn c		90d	365d	Dependent item	PostgreSQL	Enabled
•••	PostgreSQL: Bgwriter: Checkpoint: buffers background written		pgsql.bgwriter.buffers_clean		90d	365d	Dependent item	PostgreSQL	Enabled
•••	PostgreSQL: Bgwriter: Checkpoint: Buffers checkpoints written		pgsql.bgwriter.buffers_checkpoint		90d	365d	Dependent item	PostgreSQL	Enabled
•••	PostgreSQL: Bgwriter: Checkpoint: By timeout		pgsql.bgwriter.checkpoints_timed		90d	365d	Dependent item	PostgreSQL	Enabled
•••	PostgreSQL: Bgwriter: Checkpoint: Requested		pgsql.bgwriter.checkpoints_req		90d	365d	Dependent item	PostgreSQL	Enabled
•••	PostgreSQL: Get connections sum: Connections sum: Active		pgsql.connections.active		7d	365d	Dependent item	PostgreSQL	Enabled
•••	PostgreSQL: Get connections sum: Connections sum: fastpath function call		pgsql.connections.fastpath_function_ call		7d	365d	Dependent item	PostgreSQL	Enabled
•••	PostgreSQL: Get connections sum: Connections sum: Idle		pgsql.connections.idle		7d	365d	Dependent item	PostgreSQL	Enabled

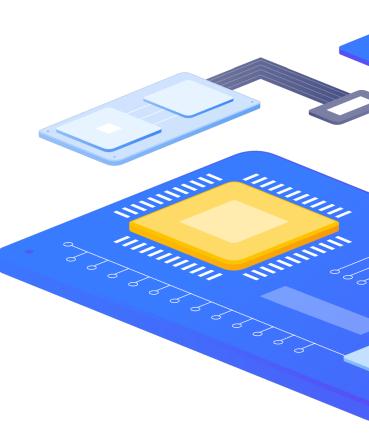






AGENT 2 Master/dependent items - MySQL

Wizard	Name ▲	Triggers	Key	Interval	History	Trends	Type	Applications	Status I
•••	MySQL: Get status variables: MySQL: Aborted clients per second		mysql.aborted_clients.rate		7d	365d	Dependent item	MySQL	Enabled
•••	MySQL: Get status variables: MySQL: Aborted connections per second	Triggers 1	mysql.aborted_connects.rate		7d	365d	Dependent item	MySQL	Enabled
•••	MySQL: Buffer pool efficiency		mysql.buffer_pool_efficiency	1m	7d	365d	Calculated	MySQL	Enabled
•••	MySQL: Buffer pool utilization	Triggers 1	mysql.buffer_pool_utilization	1m	7d	365d	Calculated	MySQL	Enabled
•••	MySQL: Get status variables: MySQL: Bytes received		mysql.bytes_received.rate		7d	365d	Dependent item	MySQL	Enabled
•••	MySQL: Get status variables: MySQL: Bytes sent		mysql.bytes_sent.rate		7d	365d	Dependent item	MySQL	Enabled
•••	MySQL: Get status variables: MySQL: Command Delete per second		mysql.com_delete.rate		7d	365d	Dependent item	MySQL	Enabled
•••	MySQL: Get status variables: MySQL: Command Insert per second		mysql.com_insert.rate		7d	365d	Dependent item	MySQL	Enabled
•••	MySQL: Get status variables: MySQL: Command Select per second		mysql.com_select.rate		7d	365d	Dependent item	MySQL	Enabled
•••	MySQL: Get status variables: MySQL: Command Update per second		mysql.com_update.rate		7d	365d	Dependent item	MySQL	Enabled
•••	MySQL: Get status variables: MySQL: Connection errors accept per second		mysql.connection_errors_accept.rate		7d	365d	Dependent item	MySQL	Enabled
•••	MySQL: Get status variables: MySQL: Connection errors internal per second		mysql.connection_errors_internal.rate		7d	365d	Dependent item	MySQL	Enabled





AGENT 2 TEMPLATES

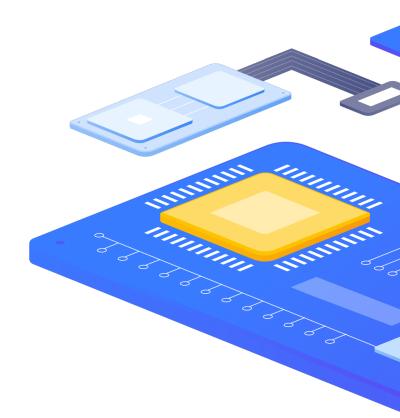
Documentation

https://www.zabbix.com/documentation/current/en/manual/config/ite ms/itemtypes/zabbix_agent/zabbix_agent2

GIT

https://git.zabbix.com/projects/ZBX/repos/zabbix/browse/templates







DEVELOPING PLUGINS



Agent 2



DEVELOPING an AGENT 2 PLUGIN

The Go agent features multiple plugin interfaces which can be used for different types of tasks

- Exporter interface
- Watcher interface
- Collector interface
- Runner interface
- Configurator interface

A Go agent plugin must implement one or several plugin interfaces.

ZABBIX BLOG

https://blog.zabbix.com/developing-plugins-for-zabbix-agent-2/9682/





Exporter is a very simple interface that polls metrics and returns a value, several values, an error, or nothing at all. It accepts a preparsed key, its parameters and context

```
type Exporter interface {
Export(key string, params []string, context ContextProvider) (result interface{}, err
error)
}
```





With **Watcher** you can implement a metric polling process without using Scheduler. This interface is mostly used to wait for data and upon receiving it send the results to the server, e.g. log file monitoring.

```
type Watcher interface {
Watch(requests []*Request, context ContextProvider)
}
```





Collector is used for plugins that need to collect data regularly. However, it can't return data, so you'll need **Exporter** for that.

```
type Collector interface {
Collect() error
Period() int
}
```

> The main use case for this interface is when we need to collect data often and store it in cache until Zabbix server requests it.





Runner provides a way to perform initialization when a plugin is activated (the Start() function) and deinitialization when it is stopped (the Stop() function).

```
type Runner interface {
   Start()
   Stop()
}
```

- > With this interface a plugin can, for example, start or stop a background thread, release unused resources, close connections, etc.
- Activates plugins when there are metrics ready to be processed for passive checks or a task is assigned to it for active checks.





Configurator serves for configuring plugins.

```
type Configurator interface {
    Configure(globalOptions *GlobalOptions, privateOptions interface{})
    Validate(privateOptions interface{}) error
}
```

- > Configure() loads configuration parameters in a structure defined by the developer.
- Validate() checks the configuration file for errors. If it finds any, the agent won't start, and we'll get an error notification.

Agent 2



DEVELOPING AN AGENT 2 plugin

Agent 2 is constantly in development. We have many new features planned for future releases:

- > Building loadable plugins as dynamic libraries
 - Removes the need to rebuild the agent to add a new plugin
- Updating agent configuration in runtime
 - No need restart the agent when changing configuration
- New out of the box plugins to use with Agent 2
 - Support for new applications and systems
- Ongoing optimizations, bug fixes and other new features

Agent 2



FAQ

Should I use the C agent or the Go agent?

- Use the Go agent if you need the extra monitoring features or want to implement your own custom plugin
- > systemctl won't report back the agent status on startup

Will you still support the C agent?

> Yes, of course! C agent will still get updates, fixes, etc. We have no plans to deprecate it.

Can I use both agents in my environment?

Yes! You can use the Go agent in environments where you need the new features and keep the C agent on all other hosts.



Demonstration





Questions?







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