

Course Duration: 40 hours (5 Days)

Reliable Infrastructure Monitoring with Checkmk

This intensive 5-day training is designed for IT professionals seeking to establish a robust monitoring system using Checkmk. Participants will learn to install, configure, and manage Checkmk to monitor networks, servers, operating systems, and applications. The course emphasizes practical, hands-on experience, enabling attendees to build and customize their monitoring environment effectively.

Course objectives

By the end of this course, participants will be able to:

- Understand the architecture and components of Checkmk.
- Install and configure Checkmk and its virtual appliance.
- Monitor various systems including Linux, Windows, and network devices.
- Customize agents and implement local checks.
- Create and manage views, dashboards, and metrics.
- Configure rule-based monitoring and notifications.
- Manage users, roles, and permissions.
- Implement distributed monitoring setups.
- Perform backup and update operations for Checkmk.

Prerequisites

- Basic understanding of IT infrastructure and networking concepts.
- Basics of Linux.

Target Audience

- IT Administrators
- System and Network Administrators
- DevOps Engineers
- IT Support Specialists
- Monitoring Analysts
- Anyone interested in IT infrastructure monitoring

Course outline

Day 1: Introduction & Installation

Time Slot	Topic / Activity
09:00–09:30 AM	Welcome, course overview, participant introductions
09:30–10:30 AM	What is Checkmk? Editions, architecture, use cases
10:30–10:45 AM	☕ Break
10:45–12:00 PM	Installation: Linux, Virtual Appliance, Docker (based on requirements)
12:00–01:00 PM	🍴 Lunch
01:00–02:15 PM	GUI tour, creating your first site, file system overview
02:15–03:15 PM	Hands-on: Install Checkmk, explore GUI, configure initial site
03:15–03:30 PM	☕ Break
03:30–04:30 PM	Backup, restore, and system admin basics
04:30–05:00 PM	Recap & Q&A

Day 2: Hosts, Services & Agents

Time Slot	Topic / Activity
09:00–10:15 AM	Adding & organizing hosts, folders, tags, parent-child hierarchy
10:15–10:30 AM	☕ Break
10:30–12:00 PM	Checkmk Agent (Linux/Windows), deployment, customization
12:00–01:00 PM	🍴 Lunch

Time Slot	Topic / Activity
01:00–02:00 PM	SNMP monitoring, device discovery, Active checks
02:00–03:15 PM	Hands-on: Agent & SNMP configuration, active checks
03:15–03:30 PM	 Break
03:30–04:45 PM	Agent packages, Agent Bakery & data sources: automatic deployment strategies
04:45–05:00 PM	Recap & Q&A

Day 3: Views, Dashboards & Rule-Based Monitoring

Time Slot	Topic / Activity
09:00–10:15 AM	Custom views and dashboards; metric system overview; States of hosts and services; Scheduled downtimes
10:15–10:30 AM	 Break
10:30–12:00 PM	Host tags, labels, conditions, and folders
12:00–01:00 PM	 Lunch
01:00–02:15 PM	Monitoring file systems, switch ports, logs
02:15–03:15 PM	Hands-on: Dashboard and metric customization
03:15–03:30 PM	 Break
03:30–04:30 PM	Time-specific monitoring, predictive checks; discovery checks
04:30–05:00 PM	Recap & discussion

Day 4: Users, Alerts, & Notification Rules

Time Slot	Topic / Activity
09:00–10:30 AM	User roles, permissions, and contact groups; objects visibility
10:30–10:45 AM	 Break
10:45–12:00 PM	Notification system overview & customization
12:00–01:00 PM	 Lunch
01:00–02:30 PM	Service discovery, ignoring unwanted services
02:30–03:15 PM	Hands-on: User setup & notification configuration
03:15–03:30 PM	 Break
03:30–04:30 PM	Time-based alerting, alert escalations; Backup/restore strategy & automation tools
04:30–05:00 PM	Recap & Q&A

Day 5: BI – Business Intelligence and Reporting

Time Slot	Topic / Activity
09:00–10:15 AM	Representing business processes; Turning BI aggregations into 'normal' checks
10:15–10:30 AM	 Break
10:30–12:00 PM	Difference between states and events; Structure and features of event rules; Automatic and manual triggering of actions
12:00–01:00 PM	 Lunch
01:00–02:00 PM	Using instant reports; Creating custom reports; Availability evaluation with Checkmk

Time Slot	Topic / Activity
02:00–03:00 PM	Hands-on: Business Intelligence
03:00–03:15 PM	 Break
03:15–04:15 PM	Hands-on: Reporting
04:15–05:00 PM	Final Q&A, wrap-up, and course feedback