



# Work with netgroups

ONTAP 9

NetApp  
December 04, 2021

# Table of Contents

- Work with netgroups . . . . . 1
  - Working with netgroups overview . . . . . 1
  - Load netgroups into SVMs . . . . . 1
  - Verify the status of netgroup definitions . . . . . 2

# Work with netgroups

## Working with netgroups overview

You can use netgroups for user authentication and to match clients in export policy rules. You can provide access to netgroups from external name servers (LDAP or NIS), or you can load netgroups from a uniform resource identifier (URI) into SVMs using the `vserver services name-service netgroup load` command.

### What you'll need

Before working with netgroups, you must ensure the following conditions are met:

- All hosts in netgroups, regardless of source (NIS, LDAP, or local files), must have both forward (A) and reverse (PTR) DNS records to provide consistent forward and reverse DNS lookups.

In addition, if an IP address of a client has multiple PTR records, all of those host names must be members of the netgroup and have corresponding A records.

- The names of all hosts in netgroups, regardless of their source (NIS, LDAP, or local files), must be correctly spelled and use the correct case. Case inconsistencies in host names used in netgroups can lead to unexpected behavior, such as failed export checks.
- All IPv6 addresses specified in netgroups must be shortened and compressed as specified in RFC 5952.

For example, `2011:hu9:0:0:0:0:3:1` must be shortened to `2011:hu9::3:1`.

### About this task

When you work with netgroups, you can perform the following operations:

- You can use the `vserver export-policy netgroup check-membership` command to help determine whether a client IP is a member of a certain netgroup.
- You can use the `vserver services name-service getxxbyyy netgrp` command to check whether a client is part of a netgroup.

The underlying service for doing the lookup is selected based on the configured name service switch order.

## Load netgroups into SVMs

One of the methods you can use to match clients in export policy rules is by using hosts listed in netgroups. You can load netgroups from a uniform resource identifier (URI) into SVMs as an alternative to using netgroups stored in external name servers (`vserver services name-service netgroup load`).

### What you'll need

Netgroup files must meet the following requirements before being loaded into an SVM:

- The file must use the same proper netgroup text file format that is used to populate NIS.

ONTAP checks the netgroup text file format before loading it. If the file contains errors, it will not be loaded

and a message is displayed indicating the corrections you have to perform in the file. After correcting the errors, you can reload the netgroup file into the specified SVM.

- Any alphabetic characters in host names in the netgroup file should be lowercase.
- The maximum supported file size is 5 MB.
- The maximum supported level for nesting netgroups is 1000.
- Only primary DNS host names can be used when defining host names in the netgroup file.

To avoid export access issues, host names should not be defined using DNS CNAME or round robin records.

- The user and domain portions of triples in the netgroup file should be kept empty because ONTAP does not support them.

Only the host/IP part is supported.

### About this task

ONTAP supports netgroup-by-host searches for the local netgroup file. After you load the netgroup file, ONTAP automatically creates a netgroup.byhost map to enable netgroup-by-host searches. This can significantly speed up local netgroup searches when processing export policy rules to evaluate client access.

### Step

1. Load netgroups into SVMs from a URI:

```
vserver services name-service netgroup load -vserver vserver_name -source {ftp|http|ftp|https}://uri
```

Loading the netgroup file and building the netgroup.byhost map can take several minutes.

If you want to update the netgroups, you can edit the file and load the updated netgroup file into the SVM.

### Example

The following command loads netgroup definitions into the SVM named vs1 from the HTTP URL `http://intranet/downloads/corp-netgroup`:

```
vs1::> vserver services name-service netgroup load -vserver vs1 -source http://intranet/downloads/corp-netgroup
```

## Verify the status of netgroup definitions

After loading netgroups into the SVM, you can use the `vserver services name-service netgroup status` command to verify the status of netgroup definitions. This enables you to determine whether netgroup definitions are consistent on all of the nodes that back the SVM.

### Steps

1. Set the privilege level to advanced:

```
set -privilege advanced
```

2. Verify the status of netgroup definitions:

```
vserver services name-service netgroup status
```

You can display additional information in a more detailed view.

3. Return to the admin privilege level:

```
set -privilege admin
```

**Example**

After the privilege level is set, the following command displays netgroup status for all SVMs:

```
vs1::> set -privilege advanced
```

```
Warning: These advanced commands are potentially dangerous; use them only  
when
```

```
    directed to do so by technical support.
```

```
Do you wish to continue? (y or n): y
```

```
vs1::*> vserver services name-service netgroup status
```

```
Virtual
```

```
Server      Node                Load Time          Hash Value
```

```
-----  
-----
```

```
vs1
```

```
    node1          9/20/2006 16:04:53
```

```
e6cb38ec1396a280c0d2b77e3a84eda2
```

```
    node2          9/20/2006 16:06:26
```

```
e6cb38ec1396a280c0d2b77e3a84eda2
```

```
    node3          9/20/2006 16:08:08
```

```
e6cb38ec1396a280c0d2b77e3a84eda2
```

```
    node4          9/20/2006 16:11:33
```

```
e6cb38ec1396a280c0d2b77e3a84eda2
```

## Copyright Information

Copyright © 2021 NetApp, Inc. All rights reserved. Printed in the U.S. No part of this document covered by copyright may be reproduced in any form or by any means-graphic, electronic, or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, taping, or storage in an electronic retrieval system- without prior written permission of the copyright owner.

Software derived from copyrighted NetApp material is subject to the following license and disclaimer:

THIS SOFTWARE IS PROVIDED BY NETAPP "AS IS" AND WITHOUT ANY EXPRESS OR IMPLIED WARRANTIES, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE, WHICH ARE HEREBY DISCLAIMED. IN NO EVENT SHALL NETAPP BE LIABLE FOR ANY DIRECT, INDIRECT, INCIDENTAL, SPECIAL, EXEMPLARY, OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES (INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, PROCUREMENT OF SUBSTITUTE GOODS OR SERVICES; LOSS OF USE, DATA, OR PROFITS; OR BUSINESS INTERRUPTION) HOWEVER CAUSED AND ON ANY THEORY OF LIABILITY, WHETHER IN CONTRACT, STRICT LIABILITY, OR TORT (INCLUDING NEGLIGENCE OR OTHERWISE) ARISING IN ANY WAY OUT OF THE USE OF THIS SOFTWARE, EVEN IF ADVISED OF THE POSSIBILITY OF SUCH DAMAGE.

NetApp reserves the right to change any products described herein at any time, and without notice. NetApp assumes no responsibility or liability arising from the use of products described herein, except as expressly agreed to in writing by NetApp. The use or purchase of this product does not convey a license under any patent rights, trademark rights, or any other intellectual property rights of NetApp.

The product described in this manual may be protected by one or more U.S. patents, foreign patents, or pending applications.

RESTRICTED RIGHTS LEGEND: Use, duplication, or disclosure by the government is subject to restrictions as set forth in subparagraph (c)(1)(ii) of the Rights in Technical Data and Computer Software clause at DFARS 252.277-7103 (October 1988) and FAR 52-227-19 (June 1987).

## Trademark Information

NETAPP, the NETAPP logo, and the marks listed at <http://www.netapp.com/TM> are trademarks of NetApp, Inc. Other company and product names may be trademarks of their respective owners.