


Deploy an ExtraHop sensor on Google Cloud Platform


Published: 2025-03-29

The following procedures explain how to deploy a virtual ExtraHop packet sensor in a Google Cloud environment. You must have experience deploying virtual machines in Google Cloud within your virtual network infrastructure.

An ExtraHop virtual sensor can help you to monitor the performance of your applications across internal networks, the public internet, or a virtual desktop interface (VDI), including database and storage tiers. The ExtraHop system can monitor application performance across geographically distributed environments, such as branch offices or virtualized environments through inter-VM traffic.

This installation enables you to run network performance monitoring, network detection and response, and intrusion detection on a single sensor.

 **Important:** The IDS module requires the NDR module. Before you can enable the IDS module on this sensor, you must upgrade the sensor firmware to version 9.9 or later. When the upgrade completes, you can apply the new license to the sensor.


 **Note:** If you have enabled the IDS module on this sensor, and your ExtraHop system does not have direct access to the Internet and access to ExtraHop Cloud Services, you must to upload IDS rules manually. For more information, see [Upload IDS rules to the ExtraHop system through the REST API](#).

To ensure that the deployment is successful, make sure you have the ability to create the required resources. You might need to work with other experts in your organization to ensure that the necessary resources are available.

System requirements

Your environment must meet the following requirements to deploy a virtual ExtraHop sensor in GCP:

- You must have a Google Cloud Platform (GCP) account.
- You must have the ExtraHop deployment file, which is available on the [ExtraHop Customer Portal](#).
- You must have an ExtraHop sensor product key.
- You must have packet mirroring enabled in GCP to forward network traffic to the ExtraHop system. Packet mirroring must be configured to send traffic to nic1 (not nic0) of the ExtraHop instance. For more information, see <https://cloud.google.com/vpc/docs/using-packet-mirroring>.


 **Important:** To ensure the best performance for initial device synchronization, connect all sensors to the console and then configure network traffic forwarding to the sensors.

- You must have firewall rules configured to allow DNS, HTTP, HTTPS, and SSH traffic for ExtraHop administration. For more information, see <https://cloud.google.com/vpc/docs/using-firewalls>.

Virtual machine requirements

You must provision a GCP instance type that most closely matches the virtual sensor size and meets the following module requirements.

Sensor	Modules	Machine type	Boot disk type	Boot disk size	Datastore disk type	Datastore disk size
RevealX Ultra 1 Gbps	NDR, NPM, Packet Forensics	n1-standard-8 (8 vCPUs, 30 GB memory)	NA	NA	Balanced persistent disk	150 GiB
RevealX Ultra 10 Gbps	NDR, NPM, Packet Forensics	n2-standard-32 (32 vCPUs, 128 GB memory)	NA	NA	Balanced persistent disk	1000 GiB
EDA 1100v	NDR, NPM	n1-standard-4 (4 vCPUs and 15 GB memory)	NA	NA	Standard persistent disk	61 GiB
EDA 6320v	NDR, NPM, IDS	n2-standard-32 (32 vCPUs and 128 GB memory)	NA	NA	Balanced persistent disk	1400 GiB
EDA 8370v 20 Gbps	NDR, NPM, IDS, Packet Forensics	n2-standard-80 (80 vCPUs, 320 GB memory)	Standard persistent disk	10 GiB	Balanced persistent disk	3000 GiB


 **Note:** [Throughput](#) might be affected when more than one module is enabled on the sensor.

Packetstore disk requirements

You must configure a packetstore disk for all RevealX Ultra sensors. For EDA 8370v sensors, you must configure packetstore disks only if the Packet Forensics module is enabled.

Sensor	Disk type	Disk size (for each disk)	Number of disks	Provisioned throughput
RevealX Ultra 1 Gbps	Standard persistent disk	4000 GiB	1	NA
RevealX Ultra 10 Gbps	Balanced persistent disk	32000 GiB	1	NA
EDA 8370v 20 Gbps	Hyperdisk Throughput	13000 GiB	5	600 MiB/s

Hyperdisk Throughput is not available in all GCP regions and zones. For more information, see the [GCP](#)

Sensor	Disk type	Disk size (for each disk)	Number of disks	Provisioned throughput
	documentation site 			



Note: You must distribute storage equally across all packetstore disks.

Upload the ExtraHop deployment file

1. Sign in to your Google Cloud Platform account.
2. From the navigation menu, click **Cloud Storage > Buckets**.
3. Click the name of the storage bucket where you want to upload the ExtraHop deployment file.
If you do not have a preconfigured storage bucket, create one now.
4. Click **Upload files**.
5. Browse to the `extrahop-<module>-gcp-<version>.tar.gz` file that you previously downloaded and click **Open**.

Next steps

When the file upload completes, you can create the image.

Create the image

1. From the navigation menu, click **Compute Engine > Images**.
2. Click **Create Image**.
3. In the Name field, type a name to identify the ExtraHop sensor.
4. From the **Source** drop-down menu, select **Cloud Storage file**.
5. In the Cloud Storage file section, click **Browse**, locate the `extrahop-<module>-gcp-<version>.tar.gz` file in your storage bucket and then click **Select**.
6. Configure any additional fields that are required for your environment.
7. Optional: For 10G sensors (such as the Ultra 10G, EDA 6320v, and EDA 8370v), complete the following steps.
 - a) Click **Equivalent Code**.
A panel opens on the right.
 - b) In the Equivalent code panel, click **Copy**.
 - c) Click **Run in Cloud Shell**.
The copied text displays at the prompt.
 - d) Add the following option to the end of the command sequence:
`--guest-os-features=GVNIC`
 - e) Press ENTER.
 - f) After the command runs, close Cloud Shell, and then click **Cancel**. Clicking **Cancel** does not cancel the creation of the image through Cloud Shell.
8. Click **Create** to complete the image creation.

Create the boot disk



Important: Only create a boot disk for EDA 8370v sensors.

1. From the navigation menu, click **Compute Engine > Disks**.

2. Click **Create Disk**.
3. In the **Name** field, type a name to identify the boot disk.
4. From the **Disk source type** drop-down menu, select **Image**.
5. From the **Source image** drop-down menu, select the image that you previously created.
6. In the **Disk type** drop-down menu, select a disk type.
For more information on selecting a disk type, see [Virtual machine requirements](#).
7. In the **Size** field, type a value, in GiB, for the disk size.
For more information on selecting a disk size, see [Virtual machine requirements](#).
8. Configure any additional fields that are required for your environment.
9. Click **Create**.

Create the datastore disk

1. From the navigation menu, click **Compute Engine > Disks**.
2. Click **Create Disk**.
3. In the **Name** field, type a name to identify the ExtraHop datastore disk.
4. Select the **Disk source type** from the drop-down menu:
 - For the EDA 8370v, click the **Blank disk**.
 - For all other sensor models, click **Image**.
5. From the **Source image** drop-down menu, select the image that you previously created.
6. In the **Disk type** drop-down menu, select a disk type.
For more information on selecting a disk type, see [Virtual machine requirements](#).
7. In the **Size** field, type a value, in GiB, for the disk size.
For more information on selecting a disk size, see [Virtual machine requirements](#).
8. Configure any additional fields that are required for your environment.
9. Click **Create**.

Create the packetstore disk



Note: A packetstore disk is required only for RevealX Ultra 1 Gbps, RevealX Ultra 10 Gbps, and EDA 8370v sensors.

1. From the navigation menu, click **Compute Engine > Disks**.
2. Click **Create Disk**.
3. In the **Name** field, type a name to identify the packetstore disk.
4. From the **Disk source type** drop-down menu, select **Blank disk**.
5. In the **Disk settings** section, configure the disk type and size.
For more information on selecting a disk size, see [Packetstore disk requirements](#).
6. Configure any additional fields that are required for your environment.
7. Click **Create**.

Create the VM instance

1. From the navigation menu, click **Compute Engine > VM instances**.
2. Click **Create Instance** and complete the following steps:
 - a) In the **Name** field, type a name to identify the ExtraHop instance.

- b) From the **Region** drop-down menu, select your geographic region.
 - c) From the **Zone** drop-down menu, select a location within your geographic zone.
 - d) In the Machine configuration section, select **General Purpose** and select the machine type specified in the **Virtual machine requirements**.
 - e) In the Boot disk section, click **Change**.
 - f) Click **Existing disks**.
 - g) Select the disk from the drop-down menu.
 - For the EDA 8370v, select the boot disk, click **Attach Existing Disk**, and then select the datastore disk.
 - For all other sensor models, select the disk that you previously created.
 - h) Click **Select**.
3. Click **Networking**.
 4. In the Network tags field, type the following tag names:
 - https-server
 - http-server
 - dns
 - ssh-all



Important: Network tags are required to apply firewall rules to the ExtraHop instance. If you do not have existing firewall rules that allow this traffic, you must create the rules. For more information, see <https://cloud.google.com/vpc/docs/using-firewalls>.

5. In the Network interfaces section, click the management interface.
 - a) From the Network drop-down menu, select your management network.
 - b) From the **Subnetwork** drop-down menu, select your management network subnet.
 - c) Configure any additional fields that are required for your environment.
 - d) Click **Done**.
6. Click **Add a network interface** to configure the data capture interface.

Important: The management interface and data capture interface must be in different Virtual Private Cloud (VPC) networks.

 - a) If you are configuring a RevealX Ultra 10Gbps sensor or an EDA 8370v 20 Gbps sensor, select **gVNIC** from the **Network** drop-down menu. Otherwise, make no selection or choose -.
 - b) From the **Subnetwork** drop-down menu, select your network subnet.
 - c) From the **External IPv4 address** drop-down menu, select **None**.
 - d) Configure any additional fields that are required for your environment.
 - e) Click **Done**.
7. If your configuration includes a packetstore disk, attach the disk to the instance.
 - a) Click **Disks**.
 - b) Click **Attach Existing Disk**.
 - c) Add the packetstore disk that you previously created and then click **Save**.
 - d) For the EDA 8370v, repeat these steps for all 5 disks.
8. Click **Create**.

Create an instance group

1. In the left pane on the Compute Engine page, click **Instance groups**.
2. Click **Create Instance Group**.
3. Click **New unmanaged instance group**.
4. In the **Name** field, type an instance group name.
5. From the **Network** drop-down menu, select the network that the instance can access.
6. From the **Subnet** drop-down menu, select your network subnet.
7. From the **Select VM** drop-down menu, select your sensor.
8. Click **Create**.

Create a load balancer

1. From the navigation menu, in Google Cloud Platform, type `load balancer` in the search bar, and then click **Load Balancing** in within Network Services to open the window.



Note: If the Network services menu is not in your navigation menu, click **More Products**.

2. Click **Create Load Balancer**.
3. In the Network Load Balancer (UDP/Multiple protocols) section, click **Start Configuration**.
4. Under Select a Load balancer type, click **UDP load balancer**.
5. Under Internet facing or internal only, select **Only between my VMs**.
6. Under Backend type, keep the default value (**Backend Service**).
7. Click **Continue**.
8. In the **Load Balancer name** field, type a load balancer name.
9. From the **Region** drop-down menu, select your geographic region.
10. From the **Network** drop-down menu, select your network.
11. In the Backends configuration section, add an optional description.
12. In the **Instance group** drop-down menu, select your instance group.
13. Click **Health check** and then click **Create a Health Check**.
14. In the **Name** field, type a health check name.
15. From the **Protocol** drop-down menu, select **TCP**.
16. In the **Port** field, type 443.
17. Click **Save**.

Create a traffic mirroring policy

1. From the navigation menu, click **VPC Network > Packet mirroring**.
2. Click **Create Policy**.
3. In the **Policy name** field, type a new policy name.
4. From the Region drop-down menu, select your geographic region.
5. Click **Continue**.
6. Select **Mirrored source and collector destination are in the same VPC network**.
7. From the **Network** drop-down menu, select the VPC network.
8. Click **Continue**.
9. Select the **Select one or more subnetworks** checkbox.

10. From the **Select subnet** drop-down menu, select the checkbox next to your subnet.
11. Click **Continue**.
12. Select the checkbox next to the VM instance.
13. Click **Continue**.
14. From the **Collector destination** drop-down menu, select the load balancer that you previously created.
15. Click **Continue**.
16. Select **Mirror all traffic (default)**.
17. Click **Submit**.

Configure the sensor

Before you begin

Before you can configure the sensor, you must have already configured a management IP address.

1. Log in to the Administration settings on the ExtraHop system through `https://<extrahop-hostname-or-IP-address>/admin`.
The default login name is `setup` and the password is the VM instance ID.
2. Accept the license agreement and then log in.
3. Follow the prompts to enter the product key, change the default setup and shell user account passwords, connect to ExtraHop Cloud Services, and connect to an ExtraHop console.

Next steps

After the system is licensed, and you have verified that traffic is detected, complete the recommended procedures in the [post-deployment checklist](#).

Configure L3 device discovery

You must configure the ExtraHop system to discover and track local and remote devices by their IP address (L3 Discovery). To learn how device discovery works in the ExtraHop system, see [Device discovery](#).

1. Log in to the Administration settings on the ExtraHop system through `https://<extrahop-hostname-or-IP-address>/admin`.
2. In the System Configuration section, click **Capture**.
3. Click **Device Discovery**.
4. In the Local Device Discovery section, select the **Enable local device discovery** checkbox to enable L3 Discovery.
5. In the Remote Device Discovery section, type the IP address in the **IP address ranges** field.
You can specify one IP address or a CIDR notation, such as `192.168.0.0/24` for an IPv4 network or `2001:db8::/32` for an IPv6 network.
6. Click **Save**.