

# Create an Explore cluster

Published: 2018-01-11

If you are deploying more than one Explore appliance, you can join the appliances together to create a cluster. For optimal performance, we recommend that you set up three or more Explore appliances in a cluster to take advantage of data redundancy.


## Before you begin

You must have already installed the Explore appliances in your environment before proceeding.

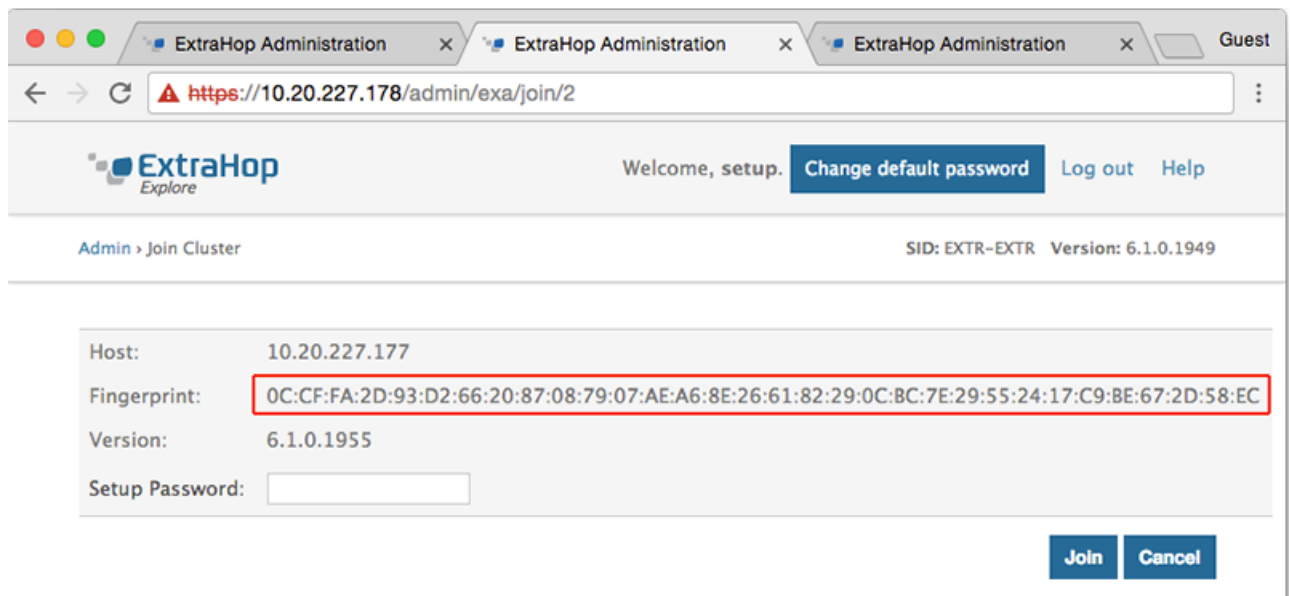
In the following example, the Explore appliances have the following IP addresses:

- Node 1: 10.20.227.177
- Node 2: 10.20.227.178
- Node 3: 10.20.227.179

You will join nodes 2 and 3 to node 1 to create the Explore cluster.

 **Important:** Each node that you join must have the same configuration (physical or virtual) and the same ExtraHop firmware version.

1. Log into the Admin UI of all three Explore appliances with the setup user account in three separate browser windows or tabs.
2. Select the browser window of node 1.
3. In the Status and Diagnostics section, click **Fingerprint** and note the fingerprint value. You will later confirm that the fingerprint for node 1 matches when you join the remaining two nodes.
4. Select the browser window of node 2.
5. In the Explore Cluster Settings section, click **Join Cluster**.
6. In the Host field, type the hostname or IP address of node 1 and then click **Continue**.
7. Confirm that the fingerprint on this page matches the fingerprint you noted in step 3.



The screenshot shows a browser window with three tabs labeled 'ExtraHop Administration'. The address bar shows 'https://10.20.227.178/admin/extra/join/2'. The page header includes the ExtraHop logo, 'Welcome, setup.', and links for 'Change default password', 'Log out', and 'Help'. Below the header, the breadcrumb 'Admin > Join Cluster' is visible, along with 'SID: EXTR-EXTR' and 'Version: 6.1.0.1949'. The main content area contains a form with the following fields:

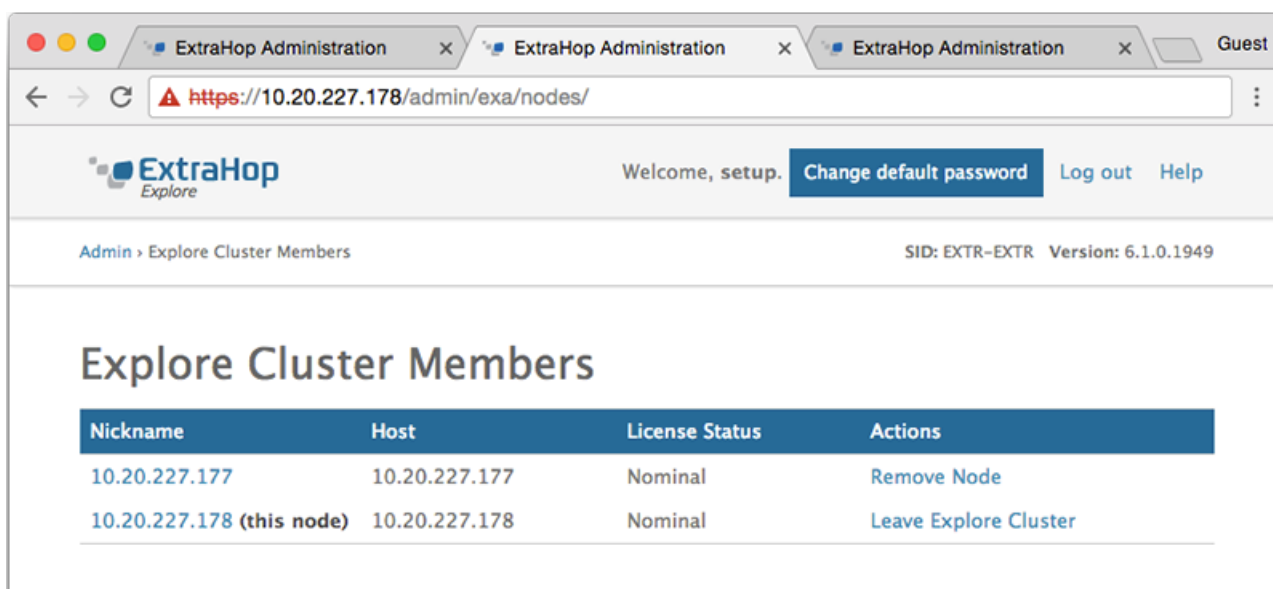
- Host: 10.20.227.177
- Fingerprint: 0C:CF:FA:2D:93:D2:66:20:87:08:79:07:AE:A6:8E:26:61:82:29:0C:BC:7E:29:55:24:17:C9:BE:67:2D:58:EC
- Version: 6.1.0.1955
- Setup Password:

At the bottom right of the form, there are two buttons: 'Join' and 'Cancel'.

8. In the Setup Password field, type the password for the node 1 setup user account and then click **Join**.

When the join is complete, the Explore Cluster Settings section has two new entries: **Explore Cluster Members** and **Data Management**.

9. Click Explore Cluster Members. You should see node 1 and node 2 in the list.



10. In the Status and Diagnostics section, click **Explore Cluster Status**. Wait for the Status field to change to *Green* before adding the next node.
11. Repeat steps 5 - 10 to join each additional node to the new cluster.



**Note:** To avoid creating multiple clusters, always join a new node to an existing cluster and not to another single appliance.

12. When you have added all of your Explore appliances to the cluster, click **Explore Cluster Members** in the Explore Cluster Settings section. You should see all of the joined nodes in the list, similar to the following figure.

Nickname	Host	License Status
10.20.227.177	10.20.227.177	Nominal
10.20.227.178	10.20.227.178	Nominal
10.20.227.179 (this node)	10.20.227.179	Nominal

13. In the Explore Cluster Settings section, click **Data Management** and make sure that **Replication Level** is set to **1** and **Shard Reallocation** is **ON**.

#### Next steps

Connect the Discover and Command appliances to Explore appliances [↗](#)