

Configure an existing Explore cluster with master nodes

Published: 2020-02-23

If your Explore cluster was deployed without master-only nodes, and includes six or more data-only nodes, complete the procedures in this guide.

Before you begin

- Review the specifications and guidelines in [Deploying master nodes](#).
- Deploy the new master nodes according to the [guide for your implementation](#), but do not join the nodes to the cluster or connect the nodes to Discover or Command appliances. Depending on your implementation, reduce the data disk size to meet the [master node specifications](#).
- [Register each master node](#) with the correct product license. Master-only nodes have dedicated SKUs; be sure to verify these licenses with your account team.

Disable record ingest

1. Log into the Admin UI on any data-only node.
2. In the Explore Cluster Settings section, click **Cluster Data Management**.
3. Click **Disable Record Ingest**.

Next steps

[Join each master-only node](#) to the existing Explore cluster and then continue to configure the new master-only nodes.

Configure three master-only nodes

1. Log into the Admin UI on a node intended for cluster task management.
2. In the Appliance Settings section, click **Running Config**.
3. Click **Edit config**.
4. Add an entry to the Running Config file by completing the following steps:
 - a) Add a comma after the second to last curly brace (}).
 - b) Press ENTER to create a new line.
 - c) Paste the following code on the new line before the final curly brace:

```
"cluster": {  
    "data": false,  
    "min_master_nodes": 2  
}
```

5. Click **Update**.
6. Click **Done**.
7. Click **Save config** and then click **Save**.
8. In the Appliance Settings section, click **Shutdown or Restart**.
9. Next to the Search service, click **Restart**.
10. Repeat these steps on each master-only node.

Configure the data-only nodes

1. Log into the Admin UI on a node intended for data storage.
2. In the Appliance Settings section, click **Running Config**.
3. Click **Edit config**.
4. Add an entry to the Running Config file by completing the following steps:
 - a) Add a comma after the second to last curly brace (}).
 - b) Press ENTER to create a new line.
 - c) Paste the following code on the new line before the final curly brace:

```
"cluster": {  
    "master": false,  
    "min_master_nodes": 2  
}
```

5. Click **Update**.
6. Click **Done**.
7. Click **Save config** and then click **Save**.
8. In the Appliance Settings section, click **Shutdown or Restart**.
9. Next to the Search service, click **Restart**.
10. Repeat these steps on each data-only node.

Next steps

After all of the nodes are configured with their designated role, [connect each data-only node to Discover and Command appliances](#). Master nodes should not be connected to a Discover or Command appliance.



Tip: [Learn how to add or remove nodes from a cluster that has master nodes](#).

Enable record ingest

1. Log into the Admin UI on any data-only node.
2. In the Explore Cluster Settings section, click **Cluster Data Management**.
3. Click **Enable Record Ingest**.