UNIX HEALTHCHECK
The number one in UNIX Health Checks

UNIX Health Check for AIX Data Sheet

What is UNIX Health Check for AIX?

Usually, organizations monitor their computer systems automatically. So, when something goes wrong, an automated alert will be sent out. However, it is better not to wait until something goes wrong.

How about knowing up front if the AIX systems are installed, configured and maintained according to best practices? Even before monitoring alerts about it?

That's where UNIX Health Check for AIX comes in. We provide UNIX Health Check for AIX software to scan entire systems. It's software that runs on an AIX system to scan for issues. Just like going to a doctor for a full check-up.

A report of all features of the AIX system is generated, and it shows how the system is doing. If the system is properly installed, configured and maintained, an all green report with a score of 100% will be given. If for some reason, some things are off, we'll let you know in the report what is wrong, and how to fix it.

Highlights

- Based on best practices and years of experience supporting UNIX systems.
- Improves UNIX system health by automatically scanning the system for any known issues, and providing suggestions to resolve any issue found.
- Runs hundreds of checks in minutes.
- Reduces manual checking and monitoring systems.
- Avoids system outages by discovering misconfigurations pro-actively.
- Can be automated to run at set intervals.
- Verifies systems audit and federal regulations compliancy.
- Inventories the configuration of the UNIX system.
- Creates reports in CSV, text, HTML or XML format and is capable of sending email reports.
- Helps to standardize system configurations.
- Educates administrators on best practices.

When to use UNIX Health Check for AIX?

UNIX Health Check is beneficial in several stages of a UNIX system life-cycle. Most of our customers simply run the entire health check daily, to provide them with a report of their server status. But doing a health check on your UNIX systems can also be very useful at certain other important points in time:

- Before putting a new system into production - to make sure the system was installed and configured correctly.

- Before and after doing a change on a system - to make sure no issues exist before applying patches/changes, and that no adverse situations were introduced as part of a change.

- Before or during audits - to make sure a system is compliant with company and federal regulations.

- During yearly performance reviews - to determine if the system administrators have taken good care of the servers.

- Before or during any Bare Metal Restore or Disaster Recovery exercises - to validate that a server has been recovered correctly.

- When doing a security review of a system - ensuring your system's security against outside vulnerabilities, such as hackers.

- When taking over support of UNIX systems from others or other accounts to perform an initial system scan.

... and of course:

- As part of the daily routine to check and monitor UNIX systems, because not daily reviewing UNIX systems, can have costly consequences.

Included

- AIX operating system, performance, HACMP/PowerHA and security scans.
- Support for a wide variety of operating system levels and hardware.
- Years of combined experience supporting AIX systems.
- Reports generated in CSV, text, HTML or XML output. Reports can be sent out to one or more email addresses.
- Online documentation and quick start guide.
- One year support from our technical experts.
- One year software updates.
- A fixed price ($3,995), to plan IT budgets more easily.
- Absolutely no hassle: It's easy to use!

What are UNIX best practices?

We only employ the best of the best experts on AIX. All our experts are certified and have all gained the highest certification level possible. This requires significant training, reading, and passing at least 5 exams. And most of all, it requires years of on the job UNIX experience.

We have seen it all. From minor issues to large system outages; from wrong configurations to large disaster recovery efforts. We have built up an extensive experience on how to configure and maintain servers. We have gathered all this expertise in our products, UNIX Health Check for AIX.

Also, we derive our best practices from other sources:

- SAS70 audits
  Statements on Auditing Standards No. 70, or short SAS70, is developed by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA), and widely recognized as an auditing standard.
- HIPAA
  HIPAA, short for Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act, is a United States law regarding security and privacy of electronic patient information in the healthcare industry, issued in 2003.
- DISA
  The Defense Information Systems Agency (DISA) is a United States department of defense agency that provides guidelines for (amongst others) information technology.
- PCI DSS
  Payment Card Industry Data Security Standard (PCI DSS) is a security standard accepted worldwide.
- FFIEC
  Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council (FFIEC) defines a set of standards for financial service sectors such as online banking.
- IBM
  Obviously, we also follow IBM's (and other vendor) recommendations, and service and support best practices and advisories published by IBM.

What happens with the reports generated by UNIX Health Check for AIX?

We understand that AIX systems are critical to the businesses they operate in. UNIX Health Check doesn't transmit any information of AIX systems. Our software is built to run standalone on AIX servers. You decide what to do with the information produced by the health check software. All of our software is written in scripting language. It can be reviewed up front, to make absolutely sure that no system information is transmitted outside your company. We don't access client system(s), and we don't get access to system information.

How long does it take to run UNIX Health Check for AIX?

Performance is a big issue with us here at UNIX Health Check. We've taken every possible opportunity to make sure UNIX Health Check software runs smoothly and quickly, and without consuming too many system resources. But it depends on the system you're running UNIX Health Check for AIX on. Obviously, an older system takes more time to run, compared to a new powerful POWER10 system. It also depends on the number of users and the number or devices that are configured.

On average, an AIX system takes a couple of minutes to run UNIX Health Check for AIX. Some of the latest POWER10 systems can get close to running it within 90 seconds. Large enterprise systems, with thousands of users and thousands of devices, may take up to 30 minutes to run a full health check.

System requirements

Hardware supported:
- IBM POWER4 to POWER10

AIX levels supported:
- AIX 5.2
- AIX 5.3
- AIX 6.1
- AIX 7.1, 7.2 and 7.3

PowerHA/HACMP levels supported:
- HACMP 5.4.1
- PowerHA 5.5
- PowerHA 6.1
- PowerHA 7.1
- PowerHA 7.2

UNIX Health Check for AIX needs to be run as user root and cannot be used by any other user account. This is since several root-level access commands are run by UNIX Health Check for AIX. Of course, UNIX Health Check for AIX does not change anything on the AIX server; it only reports.

To view HTML reports created by UNIX Health Check for AIX, one of the following browsers is required:

- Microsoft Internet Explorer 8 or higher, or Microsoft Edge
- Mozilla Firefox
- Google Chrome
- Microsoft Outlook or Windows Live Mail (to receive HTML-style reports)

UNIX Health Check is also supported on Virtual I/O Servers (VIOS) and Workload Partitions (WPARs).

What items are checked by UNIX Health Check for AIX?

Listing all items checked by UNIX Health Check for AIX would simply be too much. The software consists of hundreds of checks. Some examples of items that are checked by UNIX Health Check for AIX are:

- Are the paging spaces set up correctly with the correct sizes?
- Are any unnecessary daemons properly disabled?
- Are the correct levels of openSSH and openSSL installed?
- Is the 64 bit kernel running on a 64-bit capable system?
- Are there valid disks in the bootlist?
- Are the firmware levels up to date?
- Are the network options set the same on cluster nodes?
- Are mksysb backups created?
- Does each drawer of your system have at least 2 power supplies for redundancy?
- Is rootvg properly mirrored?
- Are the settings correct for user accounts and passwords?
- Are the retention settings correct backups?

Sample reports and a demo version are available on our website, www.unixhealthcheck.com.

Contact and more information

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Please Recycle

Also available:

UNIX Health Check for Red Hat Enterprise Linux

Use the same functionality of UNIX Health Check for AIX on all your Red Hat Enterprise Linux, CentOS, CentOS Stream, AlmaLinux, Rocky Linux, Oracle Linux and Scientific Linux systems.

A discount of 20% applies if both UNIX Health Check for AIX and UNIX Health Check for Red Hat Enterprise are licensed together.