

# 16. Distributed monitoring

## Overview

Zabbix provides an effective and reliable way of monitoring a distributed IT infrastructure using Zabbix [proxies](#).

Proxies can be used to collect data locally on behalf of a centralized Zabbix server and then report the data to the server.

## Proxy features

When making a choice of using/not using a proxy, several considerations must be taken into account.

	<b>Proxy</b>
<i>Lightweight</i>	<b>Yes</b>
<i>GUI</i>	No
<i>Works independently</i>	<b>Yes</b>
<i>Easy maintenance</i>	<b>Yes</b>
<i>Automatic DB creation<sup>1</sup></i>	<b>Yes</b>
<i>Local administration</i>	No
<i>Ready for embedded hardware</i>	<b>Yes</b>
<i>One way TCP connections</i>	<b>Yes</b>
<i>Centralised configuration</i>	<b>Yes</b>
<i>Generates notifications</i>	No

[1] Automatic DB creation feature only works with SQLite. Other databases require a [manual setup](#).

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