

# opnSense Cron Jobs

## Overview

Basically, it uses `configd`, so you have to create a service definition for your new script.

```
ls /usr/local/opnsense/service/conf/actions.d
```

Create a file with the name `actions_NAME.conf`, where `NAME` is something meaningful to you. The file should have a basic win ini format, with the action needed, then a bunch of lines describing what to do.

After creating the file, you will need to restart configd, then test your configuration

```
service configd restart  
configctl COMMANDNAME start # or reload, or whatever
```

**COMMANDNAME** is the command you created. The filename, without the preceeding `actions_` or the extension

Once this is done, the string after message (or description, I don't know which) will show up as a possible cron job in the opnSense GUI for cron.

You can create multiple actions (stop,start) in the same file with different scripts and/or parameters.

The log files are stored in `/var/log/configd.log`

## Examples

### updatedns

This will execute the script `/root/updateDNS`. The file `/usr/local/opnsense/service/conf/actions.d/actions_updatedns.conf` is created with the following contents

```
[reload]  
command:/root/updateDNS  
parameter:  
type:script  
message:update Daily Data DNS  
description:Update Daily Data DNS
```

Note that this uses the **reload** parameter.

Now that you have added a new config, you need to reload configd so it will read it, then test it (we

are passing **reload** to it since that is the action we are using)

```
service configd restart
configctl updatedns reload
```

## Starting suricata if it dies

I ran into a problem where suricata would randomly die on rule rule reload, so I set up a cron job to see if it was running and, if not, start it up

First, I created the file `/usr/local/opnsense/service/conf/actions.d/actions_suricata_watchdog.conf`

```
[start]
command:/usr/sbin/service suricata status >/dev/null 2>&1 ||
/usr/sbin/service suricata start
type:script
message:Suricata watchdog: start Suricata if not running
description:Suricata watchdog: start Suricata if not running
```

Reloaded configd and tested my config file

```
service configd restart
configctl suricata_watchdog start
```

Then, I went to the opnSense GUI and made a new entry in System | Settings | Cron to run at 14 minutes after the hour, every hour (I can lose a little bit of monitoring, and did not want it running every minute).

Note that I built this totally inside of the config file; no external files to access and run. I just told it to use the command:

```
/usr/sbin/service suricata status >/dev/null 2>&1 || /usr/sbin/service
suricata start
```

This is basic shell magic. By calling `service suricata status`, I'll check the status of suricata. I don't care about the output, so I send STDOUT and STDERR to `/dev/null`. What I want is the return status, which is false if the service is not running. In that case, the `||` (OR) will execute the other command, which will start suricata back up.

## Bibliography

- <https://docs.opnsense.org/development/backend/configd.html>
- <https://docs.opnsense.org/development/backend.html>
- <https://forum.opnsense.org/index.php?topic=2263.0>
- <http://www.manpagez.com/man/8/configd/>

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