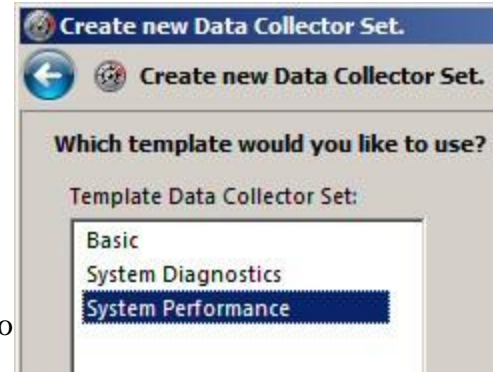


Windows Server 2008 Data Collector Sets (Alerts)

Windows Server 2008 introduces 'Data Collector Sets', which you can employ to create a data set containing performance counters. Historically, the problem with Performance Monitor in Windows has been its complexity. To help you cut through the maze of settings Microsoft has introduced Data collector sets. The idea is to supply pre-defined templates to tackle a specific area. Windows Server 2008 supplies two main types of template, diagnostics or performance.



From the custom data set you can configure alert activities for when the performance counters are exceeded. Naturally, once you have defined the Data Collector Set, you must configure the actions that Windows Server 2008 will undertake when the alert thresholds are reached.

Detailed Instructions How to Create Alerts in Server 2008.

Key question: Which template do you want, a System Diagnostics, a System Performance template, or one of your own design?

- Assuming you have launched the Windows Reliability and Performance Monitor (Perfmon):
- Expand Data Collector Sets, right-click User Defined
- Choose New, and click Data Collector Set.
- Make sure you select the 'Create manually' option and click Next.
- **Crucial step**, see screenshot: Select the Performance Counter Alert
- Now add the counters you wish to monitor.
- From the list of Performance counters, select the counter to monitor and trigger an alert.
- Check the logic if whether to alert when the performance counter value is above, or below the limit.



Trap: The Data Collector Set must run as a user who is a member of the Performance Log Users group, alternatively, they can run as a member of the Administrator's group.

Other Considerations: You could schedule the Data Collection Set to run at a certain time. It's often helpful to set a 'Stop condition'. Both strategies are to prevent you being swamped with data.