

Tanium™ Interact User Guide

Autonomous IT. Unstoppable Business.

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Interact overview

Tanium Interact is a module that you use to issue questions to managed endpoints and analyze their results (answers). You can then select results to deploy actions to the endpoints.

For example, if you issue the question `Get Computer Name and Uptime from all entities with Uptime > 60 days`, the Interact **Question Results** page lists all the endpoints that have been running for more than 60 days after they last rebooted. You can then select specific endpoints and deploy an action with the **Reboot Windows Machine** package to those endpoints.

You can also use question results to start a playbook in Tanium™ Automate or access comprehensive information about a single endpoint in Tanium™ Reporting.

For more information, see:

- Tanium Automate User Guide
- Tanium Reporting User Guide: Working with a single endpoint

What is a question?

A Tanium *question* is a query that you issue through Tanium solutions to managed endpoints. Tanium Clients running on the endpoints process the question and return answers that you can view on the **Question Results** page. Questions enable you to explore endpoints in the course of various Tanium operations for managing, monitoring, and protecting your environment.

For example, you can issue the question `Get Computer Name and Last Logged In User from all machines with Last Logged In User contains <user name>` to determine which endpoints a particular user is accessing.

A *dynamic question* is one that you create from scratch and issue through the Interact features **Ask a Question** and **Question Builder**. For more information, see Issue a free-form question on page 48 and Issue a question through the Question Builder on page 51.

A *saved question* is a configuration object that enables you to reissue a question without recreating it. For more information, see Saved questions on page 23.

All questions include the following elements:

- `get` clause
  In the `get` clause, one or more sensors (such as `Last Logged In User`) specify the information to retrieve from endpoints. You can add filters to the sensor results by using an operator, such as **matches** or **is greater than**. Use the `and` operator to separate multiple sensors. For more information, see What is a sensor? on page 13, Filters in get clause on page 127, and Questions with multiple sensors on page 19.
- `from` clause
  The `from` clause specifies the target endpoints that must answer the question. For example, the default value `from all machines` specifies all endpoints that host the Tanium Client. To target fewer endpoints, add filters to the `from` clause. For more information, see Filters in from clause on page 127.

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> NOTE
>
> To return results, endpoints must be members of computer groups assigned to the user account or persona that you use to issue the question, regardless of the `from` clause targeting. For more information, see Tanium Console User Guide: Computer groups in questions.

Advanced questions include reserved words or characters (such as `match` or `$`), regular expressions, filters, or advanced options. For more information, see Reference: Advanced question syntax in Interact on page 127.

> NOTE
>
> For examples of questions, see Reference: Example questions in Interact on page 121.

What is a sensor?

A *sensor* is a script that the Tanium Client runs on an endpoint to compute an answer to a Tanium question. The Tanium Server distributes sensors to endpoints managed using Tanium Client during Client registration. Sensors enable you to ask questions that collect information such as:

- Hardware and software inventory and configuration
- Running applications and processes
- Files and directories

After all the sensors in a question compute answers, Tanium Clients return the answers to the Tanium Server. Interact then shows the answers, called results, in grid format on the **Question Results** page. Each sensor result provides one or more rows and columns of information that the grid aggregates according to whether you issued a counting or non-counting question. For examples, see:

- Example: Single row of results on page 14
- Example: Multiple rows of results on page 14
- Example: Multiple rows and columns of results on page 15

The **Question Results** page also shows a **Count** column that indicates how many endpoints returned each result. For more information, see Counting and non-counting questions on page 16.

> NOTE
>
> The **Count** column is hidden by default if its value is `1` for every result.

The Tanium Server automatically imports content-only solutions that include sensors for a wide range of common questions. Other Tanium solutions that you import might provide more sensors. If you cannot find a sensor that you need within Tanium-provided content, you can create custom sensors.

For more information, see:

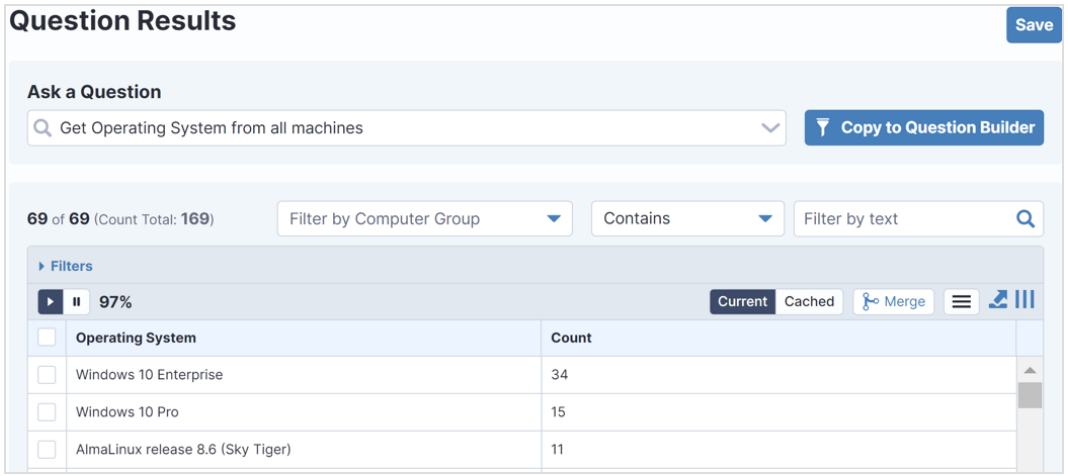
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- Tanium Console User Guide: Content-only solutions for information about the initial content that the Tanium Server provides automatically.
- Tanium Console User Guide: Managing sensors for the steps to view, create, or edit sensor configurations.
- Managing question results in Interact on page 58 for the steps to perform operations on sensor results, such as filtering and analyzing.
- Tanium Console User Guide: Virtual sensors for information about sensors for which Tanium solutions generate data instead of collecting it from endpoints.
- Tanium Console User Guide: Solution-generated sensor attributes for details about sensor attributes (columns) for which Tanium solutions generate data instead of collecting it from endpoints.

Example: Single row of results

Operating System is an example of a sensor that returns a single row for each unique result from endpoints.

Single row for each unique question result

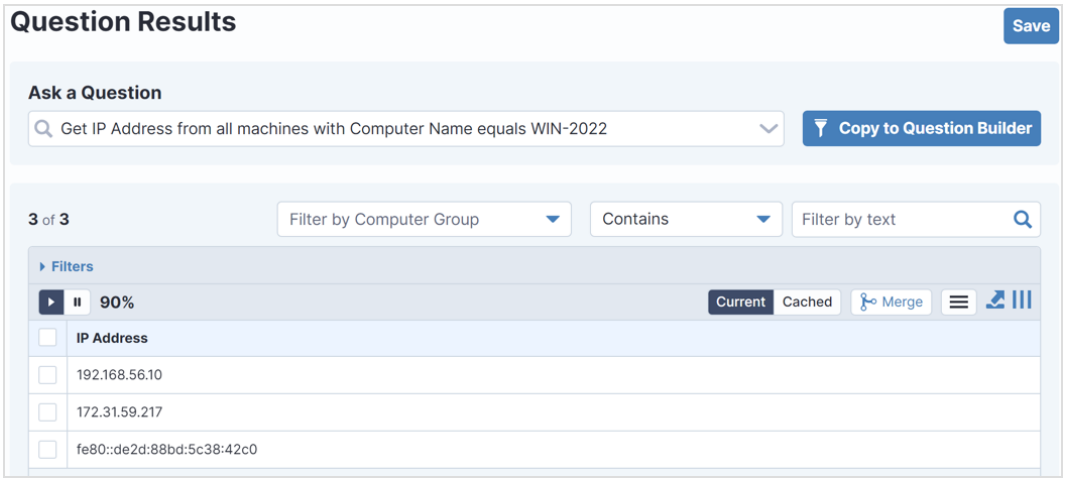


Example: Multiple rows of results

IP Address is an example of a sensor that can return multiple rows for one endpoint if the endpoint has multiple interfaces and a mix of IPv4 and IPv6 addresses.

Question results with multiple rows per endpoint

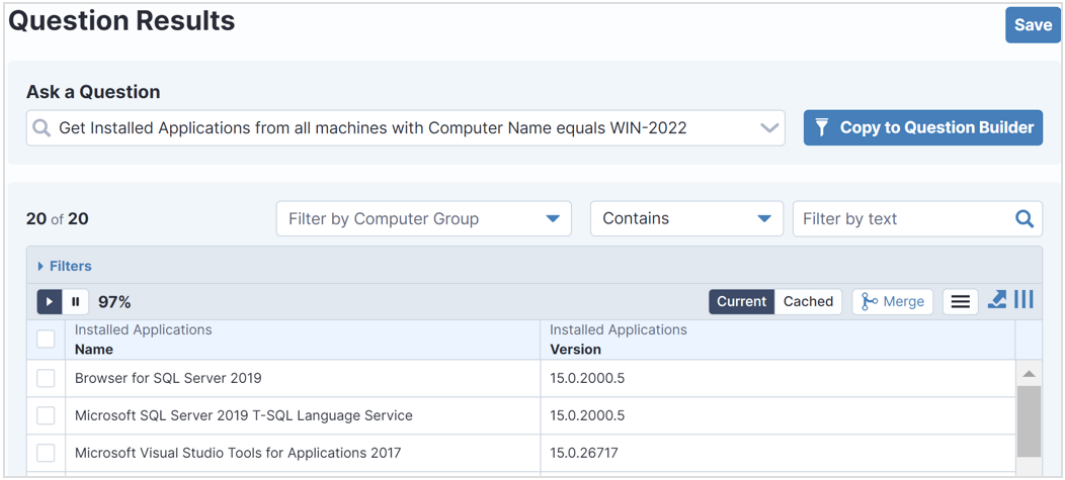
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Example: Multiple rows and columns of results

Installed Applications is an example of a sensor that returns multiple rows and columns for each endpoint: one row for each application on the endpoint and two columns to indicate the application name and version. For more information, see Tanium Console User Guide: Example: Multi-column sensors.

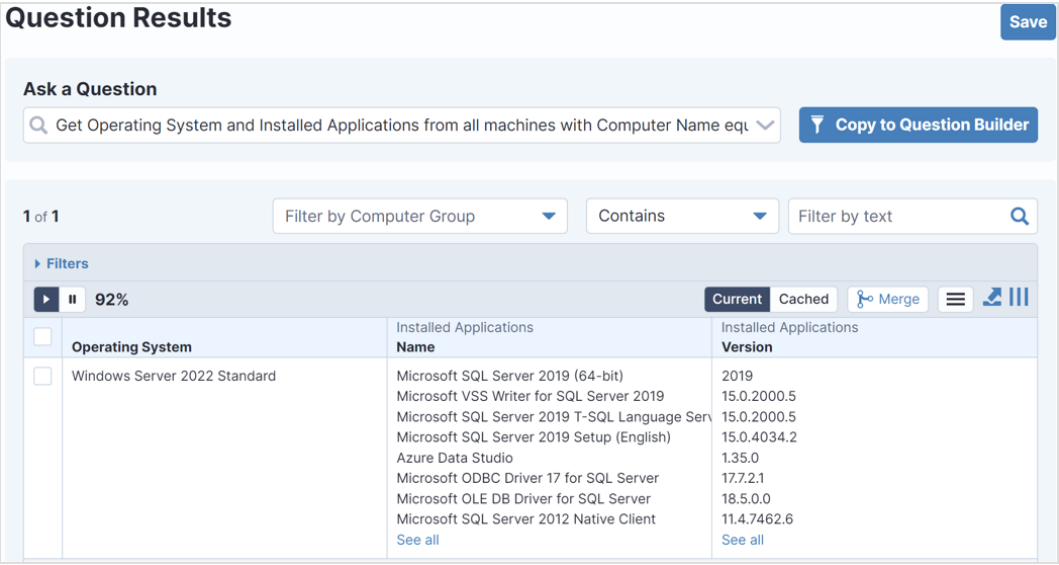
Question results with multiple rows and columns per endpoint



If the question has multiple sensors, the **Question Results** grid shows their results in separate columns. If one of the sensors provides multiple columns, the column headings show the sensor name above the column names. In the following example, the **Installed Applications** sensor provides the application **Name** and **Version** columns. For more information about multi-sensor questions, see Questions with multiple sensors on page 19.

Results for a question with multiple sensors

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NOTE

To filter multi-column sensors by the values in a particular column, see Use sensor column filters on page 138.

Counting and non-counting questions

The Interact **Question Results** grid aggregates results differently based on whether you issued a counting or non-counting question. For a counting question, the **Count** column shows how many endpoints returned the same unique value in a result that has one or more values for a single sensor. For a non-counting question, the **Count** shows how many endpoints returned all the same values in all the results of one or more sensors. Results aggregation on page 16 describes this **Count** distinction in detail.

NOTE

The **Question Results** page automatically shows a **Count** column if its value exceeds `1` for any row and hides the column otherwise. To manually show or hide the column, click Customize Columns in the **Question Results** toolbar and select (show) or clear (hide) the **Count** checkbox.

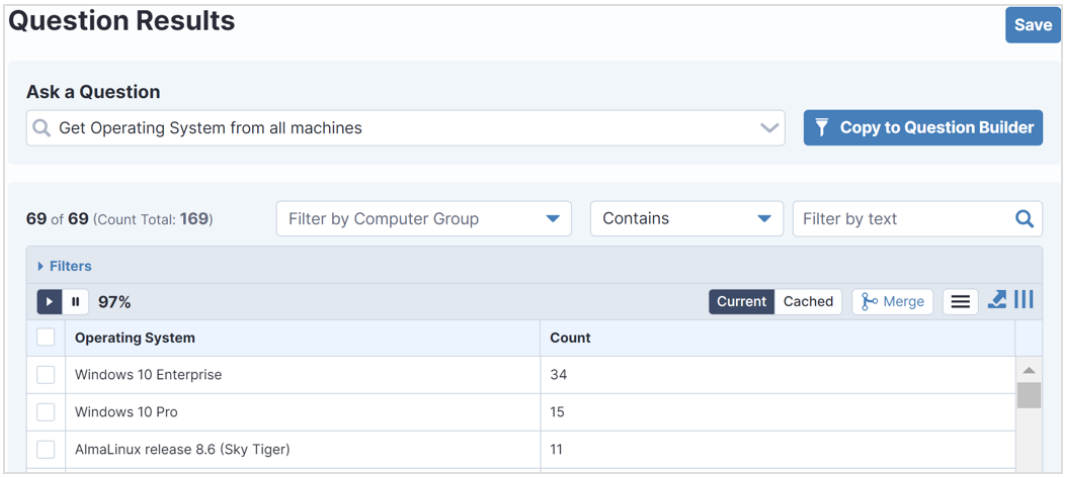
A question with multiple sensors in its `get` clause is always a non-counting question. A question with one sensor in its `get` clause is a counting question by default but you can convert it to a non-counting question. For more information, see Convert counting questions to non-counting questions on page 18. Before you issue a single-sensor question, consider the following ramifications of counting and non-counting questions.

Results aggregation

The **Question Results** grid presents results the same way for a counting or non-counting question if each endpoint provides only one value for the result of a single sensor. Each grid row shows one unique value and the **Count** of endpoints that returned the value. **Operating System** is an example of a single-value sensor.

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Count for a sensor with one value per endpoint

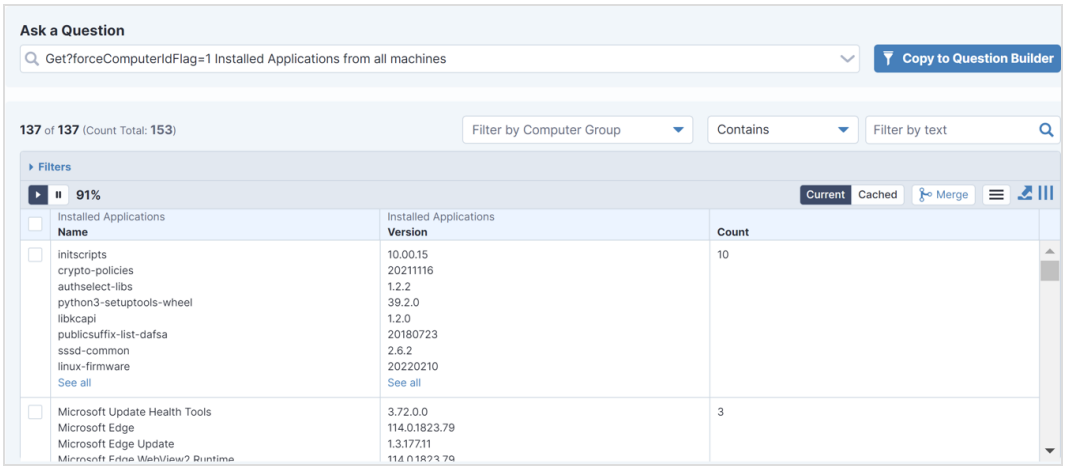


The **Installed Applications** sensor is an example of a sensor that includes multiple sets of values from each endpoint. Each set is the name and version of an application and the result includes as many sets as the endpoint has applications. The **Question Results** grid presents the results of a multi-value sensor differently for non-counting and counting questions:

- **Non-counting question**

  Each grid row shows the **Count** of endpoints that return all the same value sets in a result. In the following example, a non-counting question is useful if you want to know how many endpoints have all the same application versions.

  Non-counting question

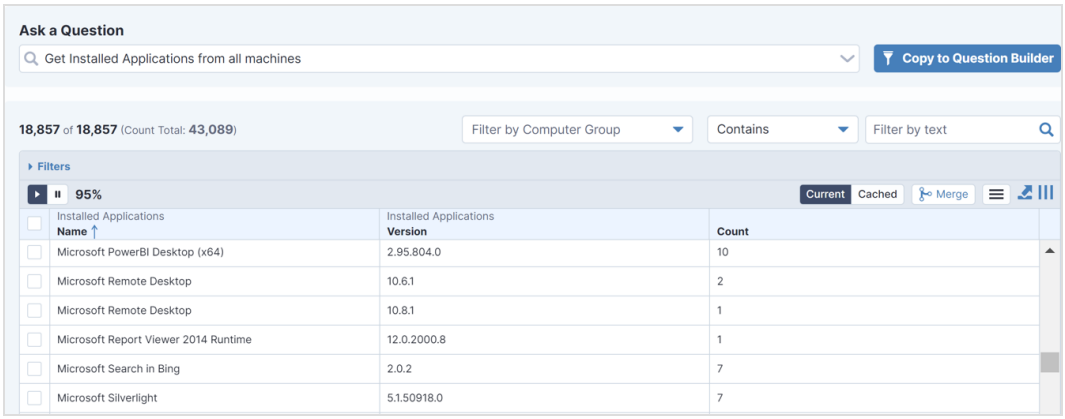


- **Counting question**

  Each grid row shows the **Count** of endpoints that return the same unique value set. In the following example, a counting question is useful if you want to know how many endpoints have a particular application version, regardless of whether any endpoints share all the same application versions. The grid shows how many endpoints have Microsoft Remote Desktop version 10.6.1 and how many have Microsoft Silverlight 5.1.5.0918.0, but the grid does not show how many endpoints have both.

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Counting question



Results readability and network traffic

The **Question Results** grid might show more rows than you can effectively review for a non-counting question. For example, if your network has five operating systems (OSs) across 10,000 endpoints, the grid would show 10,000 rows for the non-counting question `Get?forceComputerIdFlag=1 Operating System from all machines` because each result includes the **Computer ID** along with the **Operating System** of each endpoint. In this case, if the only important information is the count of endpoints that run each OS, you could issue the counting question `Get Operating System from all machines` and the grid would be more readable with only five rows to review. In this example, the counting question would also generate much less network traffic for the Tanium Server to process because the endpoints return only five result strings.

Merge questions

You can select only a non-counting question for a merge operation on question results. For more information, see Merge questions on page 68.

Recent results

The Tanium Server stores question results as *recent results* only for non-counting saved questions. The **Question Results** page shows recent results when live results are unavailable, such as when the answering endpoints are offline. For more information, see Display results for online and offline endpoints on page 61.

[too many results] message

The **Question Results** page shows `[too many results]` to indicate that more results are available but Tanium Clients will not return the additional results. If a counting question returns this message, converting it to a non-counting question might resolve the issue. For more information, see Too many results on page 116.

Convert counting questions to non-counting questions

Specify the **Force Computer ID** option to issue a single-sensor question as a non-counting question. This option compels endpoints to return results for the **Computer ID** sensor along with the results for the sensor that you specify in the question. The Tanium Server stores the **Computer ID** results but the **Question Results** page shows only the results for the sensor that you specify in the

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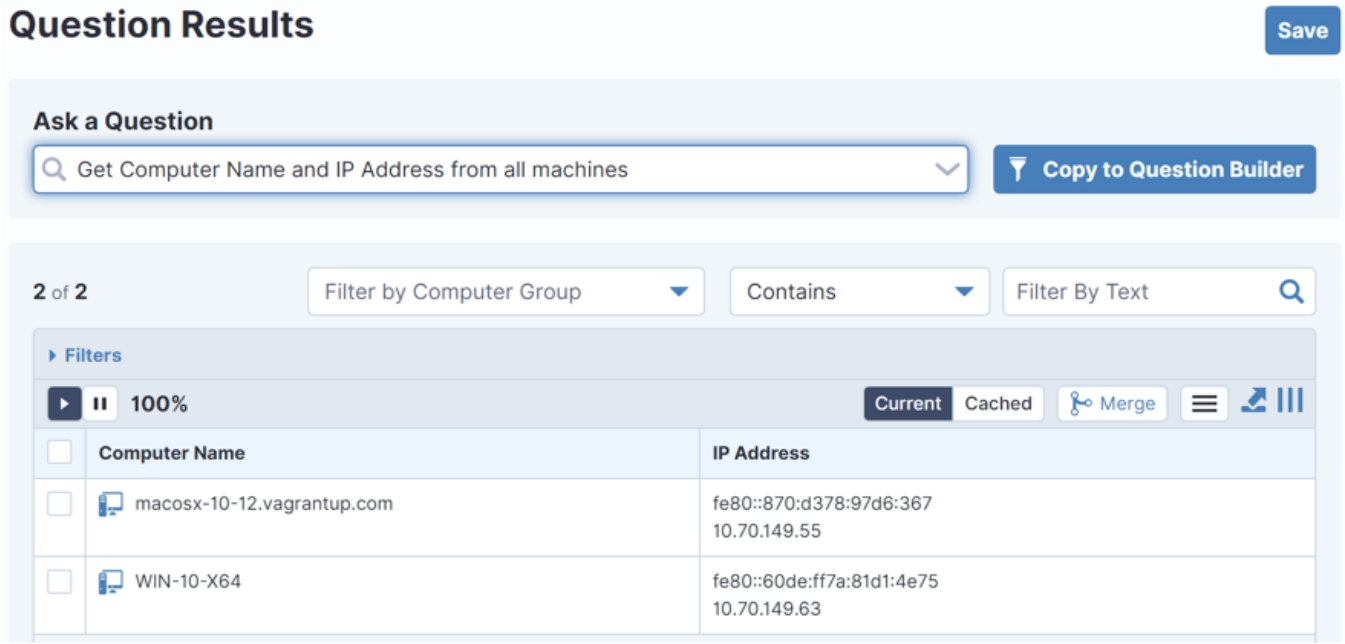
question. Specify the **Force Computer ID** option through one of the following methods:

- **Ask a Question field**: Use the `Get?forceComputerIdFlag=1` statement instead of `Get`. For more information, see Issue a free-form question on page 48.
- **Question Builder**: Specify the **Force Computer ID** option in the **Advanced Question Options**. For more information, see Issue a question through the Question Builder on page 51.
- **Saved question configuration**: Select the option **Yes, turn into non-counting question**. For more information, see Create a saved question on page 94.

Questions with multiple sensors

When you construct a question, use the `AND` operator in the `get` clause to specify multiple sensors. The **Question Results** page groups results by the first sensor, then by the next sensor, and so on, as the following example illustrates. For more information about how the **Question Results** page shows sensor results across multiple columns, see What is a sensor? on page 13.

Question with multiple sensors

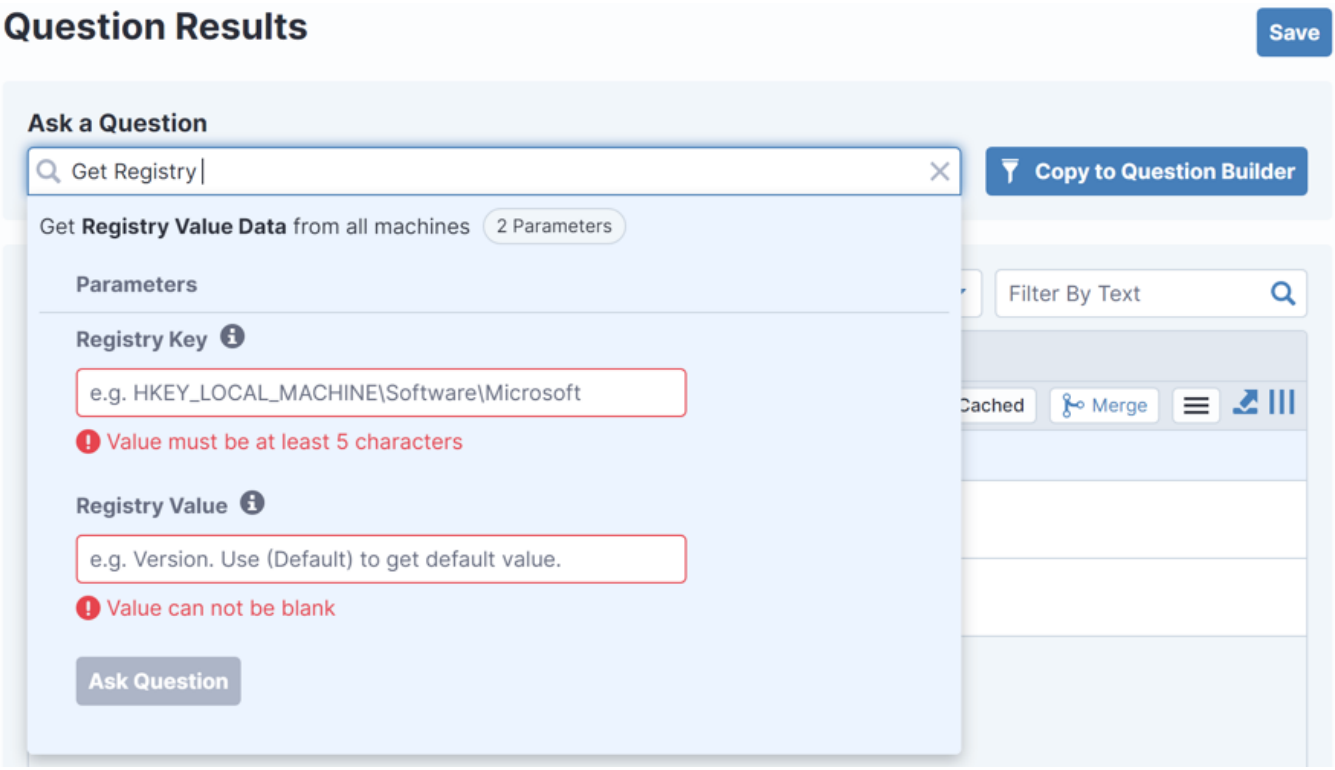


Questions with parameterized sensors

A *parameterized sensor* uses a value that you specify when entering the question in the **Ask a Question** field or **Question Builder**. The following example shows the **Registry Value Data** sensor. Interact prompts you to specify a registry path and value.

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Parameterized sensor



Another example is the **High CPU Processes** sensor. You can specify a parameter that is the number of CPU processes to return from each machine. For example, you might want to get the top 5 highest CPU utilizing processes. The question has the following syntax:

```
Get High CPU Process[5] from all machines
```

For sensors with multiple parameters, you can specify an ordered list of comma-separated parameters. For example, to see the first 10 lines from the action log for the action with ID 1, specify a parameter list as follows:

```
Get Tanium Action Log[1,10] from all machines
```

For more information, see Tanium Console User Guide: Example: Parameterized sensors.

IMPORTANT

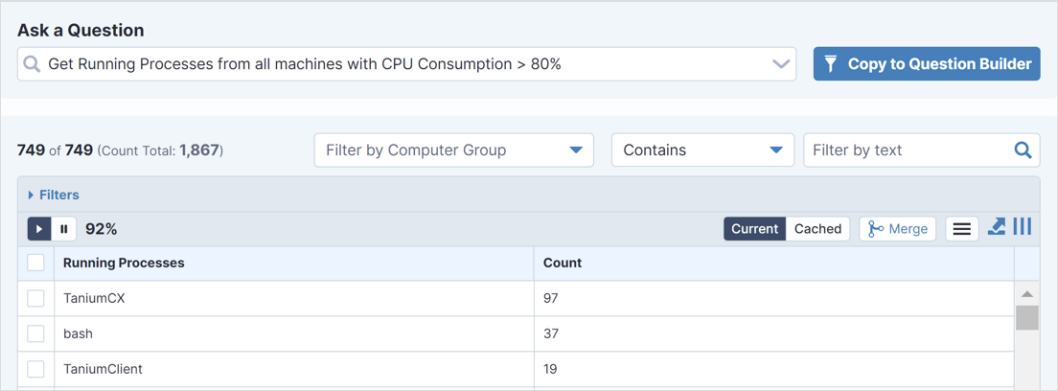
When you issue a question that has a parameterized sensor, the Tanium Server creates an object called a *temporary sensor*, which contains the substituted parameter values and a link to the actual sensor. The Tanium Client runs the temporary sensor to respond to a dynamic or saved question that uses the sensor. If the sensor definition changes on the Server, the Client receives the new definition after its next registration interval. The Client then applies the parameter values to the updated sensor definition for subsequent responses to the saved question.

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Questions with target filters

You can use a filter in the `from` clause of a question to target fewer endpoints than the default `all machines`. For example, the following question targets only endpoints managed using Tanium Client where CPU consumption exceeds 80%.

Question with target filter



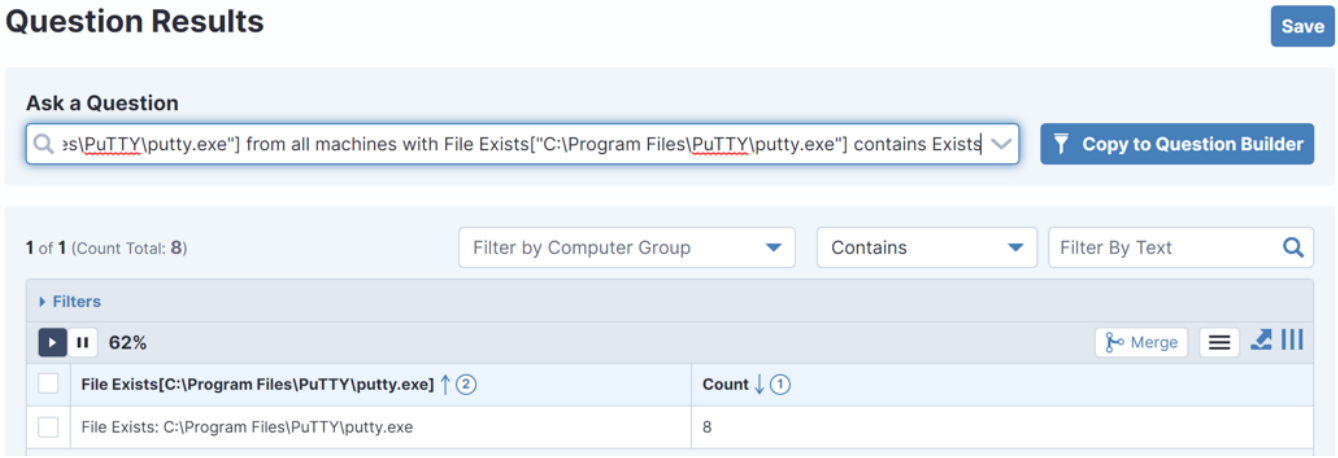
NOTE To filter the `get` clause of a question, see Use question filters on page 127.

Filters in the `from` clause are the first part of a question that an endpoint processes. If the endpoint data does not match the filter, the endpoint does not process the question any further. If the question has multiple filters, the endpoint evaluates each filter. The filter expression must evaluate to a Boolean true or false. For example, the expression `from all machines with CPU Consumption > 80%` evaluates to true if CPU consumption exceeds 80% on the endpoint and evaluates to false otherwise. If a filter evaluates to true, the endpoint runs the sensors in the `get` clause of the question and returns the results.

A parameterized sensor like **File Exists[]** returns the result `File Exists: <file name>` or `File does not exist`, so be careful how you enter the sensor in a filter expression. The filter expression `from all machines with File Exists ["C:\Program Files\PuTTY\putty.exe"] contains "Exists"` evaluates to true when the result is `File Exists: C:\Program Files\PuTTY\putty.exe` and false when the result is `File does not exist`, so you can use it to filter the set of responses.

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Question filter with parameterized sensor



Filter expressions can match strings or regular expressions. For more information, see Reference: Advanced question syntax in Interact on page 127.

Question expiration

When the Tanium Server issues a dynamic or saved question, it remains open (not expired) for 10 minutes on the targeted endpoints. Upon receiving a question, the Tanium Client on each endpoint runs the sensors in the question, stores the results in its Client cache, and returns the results to the Server. If the Client reruns a sensor from the question during the 10-minute expiration interval, the Client returns the fresh result of that sensor to the Server. The frequency at which the Client reruns any particular sensor depends on the **Max Sensor Age** setting in the sensor configuration. The setting determines the maximum time for which the Client returns a cached result when answering questions, instead of rerunning the sensor for a fresh result.

For example, if the **Max Sensor Age** is 8 minutes, the Tanium Client runs the sensor twice: first upon receiving the question and then again after 8 minutes. If the Client receives another question between those two instances, the Client returns a cached result instead of rerunning the sensor. If the **Max Sensor Age** exceeds 10 minutes, the Client runs the sensor only once before the question expires.

For more information, see Tanium Console User Guide: Max Sensor Age.

> **NOTE** The expiration interval is 2 hours instead of 10 minutes for questions that the Tanium Server issues to collect results for sensors that are registered with Tanium Data Service (TDS). For more information, see Timing for sensor results caching and updates on page 107.

For each question, the Tanium Server assigns an identifier (ID) that appears in the URL field of your browser when the **Question Results** page opens. For example, in the URL `https://10.20.30.40/#/interact/q/376`, the question ID is 376. The question and its ID expire 10 minutes after the question is issued, at which point the URL becomes invalid. This means you can refresh the page or share a link to its URL only within that 10-minute period. If you navigate to the URL after 10 minutes, Interact displays a `Question Expired` message and **Copy Question** button. Clicking the button reissues the question.

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Saved questions

Saved questions are questions that you store on the Tanium Server as configuration objects that include settings such as reissue intervals and access permissions. Saved questions expedite collecting information from endpoints because you can reissue the questions without reconstructing them in the Interact **Ask a Question** field or **Question Builder**. You can configure settings that facilitate merge and drill-down operations when you analyze question results. You can also associate each question with specific packages to facilitate action deployment.

NOTE

To control which saved questions appear as favorites on the Tanium **Home** page, see Tanium Console User Guide: Work with favorite Interact categories, dashboards, and saved questions.

For information about the user roles and permissions required to manage saved questions, see Tanium Console User Guide: Manage saved questions. For information about how RBAC assignments control who can issue saved questions and view the results, see Tanium Console User Guide: Policy action.

Scheduled saved questions

You can reissue saved questions manually or based on a schedule through Tanium solutions or custom applications that use the Tanium XML API. For example, you can use Tanium™ Connect to periodically issue a saved question and send the results to an external server. If you schedule reissue intervals, saved questions can collect results in the future from endpoints that are not yet online.

Predefined and custom saved questions

Tanium solutions that you import provide predefined saved questions. You can also create a saved question by issuing a dynamic question through the **Ask a Question** field or **Question Builder** and then saving the question. For more information, see Interact overview on page 12.

For best practices, RBAC details, and procedures related to saved questions, see Managing saved questions in Interact on page 88.

Interact dashboards and categories

Interact uses dashboards and categories to organize saved questions.

- Dashboard

  A *dashboard* is a group of saved questions that are related with respect to the information that they retrieve from endpoints. For example, the predefined **Hardware Inventory** dashboard contains questions that retrieve CPU, disk, memory, and BIOS information. You can issue all the questions in a dashboard simultaneously. For more information, see Issue a dashboard of saved questions on page 99.

  NOTE

  Interact dashboards differ from Tanium Reporting dashboards. For more information, see Tanium Reporting User Guide: Dashboards.

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- Category

  A *category* is a group of related dashboards. It serves as an umbrella term for questions that you use for a particular purpose. For example, the **Security** category includes multiple dashboards that contain security-related questions.

Interact provides predefined dashboards and categories, and you can create your own. To create, edit, reassign, export, or delete dashboards and categories, see Manage categories and dashboards on page 101.

For more information about controlling access to dashboards and categories through content set assignments, see RBAC for saved questions, dashboards, and categories on page 90.

Questions results

After you issue a question, the **Question Results** page opens and displays a grid with the answers (results) from endpoints. The page facilitates analyzing the results by providing display options such as live updates, filters, and charts. For more information, see Managing question results in Interact on page 58.

The Tanium Server issues questions automatically at intervals to collect results for sensors that are registered with Tanium Data Service (TDS). For more information, see Managing Tanium Data Service (TDS) on page 105.

Actions and playbooks

After you use Interact to issue a question, analyze the question results, and determine which endpoints require changes, you can deploy an action that runs a package on those endpoints or you can start a playbook using Automate. For more information, see:

- Deploying actions and playbooks in Interact on page 78
- Tanium Console User Guide: Managing packages
- Tanium Automate User Guide: Building playbooks

Tanium Autonomous IT Platform in Interact

Tanium Autonomous IT Platform comprises a set of interrelated features across multiple Tanium solutions. The Autonomous IT Platform proactively collects intelligence about conditions in Tanium environments, provides guidance based on those conditions, and enables automated workflows to address issues. For more information, see Tanium Console User Guide: Overview of Tanium Autonomous IT Platform. Tanium Interact provides the following Autonomous IT Platform features:

- **Adaptive actions**: An adaptive action applies changes to endpoints through a sequence of progressive phases called rings. Actions apply the changes by running content such as packages on the endpoints. Ring-based deployment enables you to safely test action impacts, mitigate disruptions to your environment, and protect sensitive resources when rolling out endpoint changes. For more information, see Deploying actions and playbooks in Interact on page 78.

Supported languages

You can select one of the languages in the following table for user interface (UI) text in the Interact workbench and Tanium documentation. The language that you select for the workbench also sets the date and time format:

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- **Dates**: In the table, the letters `dd`, `mm`, and `yyyy` represent the digits for day, month, and year respectively.
- **Times**: English (United States) times use the 12-hour clock in the format `hh:mm:ss [AM|PM] <time zone>`, where `hh`, `mm`, and `ss` represent the hour, minute, and second respectively. Other times use the 24-hour clock, where `GMT-<#>` indicates the offset from Greenwich Mean Time (GMT). For example, `GMT-7` indicates a time zone that is 7 hours ahead of GMT.

Supported languages with associated date and time formats

Language	Locale code	Date and time format
English (United States)	en-US	mm/dd/yyyy [AM|PM] *<time zone>*
French (France)	fr-FR	dd/mm/yyyy GMT-<#>
German (Germany)	de-DE	dd/mm/yyyy GMT-<#>
Japanese (Japan)	ja-JP	yyyy/mm/dd GMT-<#>
Korean (Korea, Republic of)	ko-KR	yyyy.mm.dd GMT-<#>
Spanish (Latin American)	es-LA	dd/mm/yyyy GMT-<#>

For information about language support, which types of text are translated, and the steps to select a language, see Tanium Console User Guide: Reference: Language support.

Interoperability with other Tanium products

Tanium Data Service

Tanium Data Service (TDS) is a Tanium shared service that enables you to view stored sensor results for endpoints that are offline at the moment you issue a question. For more information about TDS, see Managing Tanium Data Service (TDS) on page 105.

Tanium Gateway

You can use Tanium™ Gateway to access data from the TDS API. For information about which features are available through Gateway, see Tanium Gateway User Guide: Schema reference.

Tanium Reporting

Interact provides access to the Endpoint Details page in Tanium Reporting, where you can view comprehensive information about a single endpoint and manage the endpoint. To access the page, see Search endpoints on page 55. For more information about endpoint details, see Tanium Reporting User Guide: Viewing and managing a single endpoint.

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Getting started with Interact

Step 1: Review the requirements

Review the system, network, security, and user role requirements. For more information, see Interact and TDS requirements on page 32.

Step 2: Sign in to Tanium Console

See Tanium Console User Guide: Sign in to Console.

Step 3: Install and configure Interact

See Installing Interact on page 44 and Configuring Interact and TDS on page 46.

Step 4: (Optional) Customize Interact

Customize the Interact **Overview** page. For more information, see Tanium Console User Guide: Customize Tanium module overview pages.

Step 5: (Optional) Register sensors and customize TDS

Register the sensors for which you want Tanium Data Service (TDS) to collect results, and customize the settings that control results collection and storage. For more information, see Managing Tanium Data Service (TDS) on page 105.

Step 6: Ask questions and search endpoints

Issue dynamic questions to retrieve information about multiple endpoints in your network or display comprehensive information about a particular endpoint. For more information, see Asking questions and searching endpoints in Interact on page 48.

Step 7: Analyze and manage question results

For example, you can drill down into the question results with additional questions, filter the **Question Results** grid, and export its content. For more information, see Managing question results in Interact on page 58.

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Step 8: Deploy ad-hoc actions or schedule recurring actions

Deploy ad-hoc actions or schedule recurring actions based on question results. For more information, see Deploying actions and playbooks in Interact on page 78.

Step 9: Manage saved questions

For example, you can create saved questions, assign them to dashboards, assign the dashboards to categories, and assign saved questions to content sets based on RBAC requirements. For more information, see Managing saved questions in Interact on page 88.

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Gaining organizational effectiveness with Interact

The three key organizational governance steps to maximizing the value that is delivered by Interact are as follows:

- Develop a dedicated change management process. For more information, see Change management on page 28.
- Validate cross-functional alignment. For more information, see Organizational alignment on page 28.
- Track operational maturity. For more information, see Operational metrics on page 28.

Change management

Develop a tailored, dedicated change management process for data consumption, taking into account the new capabilities provided by Tanium.

- Update SLAs with elevated expectations, including data consumption configuration and maintenance.
- Identify key resources in the organization to review and approve changes to data consumption to ensure minimal unexpected or unapproved changes.
- Identify maintenance windows for various data consumption scenarios to maximize uptime.
- Create a Tanium steering group (TSG) for data consumption activities, to expedite reviews and approvals of processes that align with SLAs.

Organizational alignment

Successful organizations use Tanium across functional silos as a common platform for high-fidelity endpoint data and unified endpoint management. Tanium provides a common data schema that enables security, operations, and risk/compliance teams to assure that they are acting on a common set of facts that are delivered by a unified platform.

In the absence of cross-functional alignment, functional silos often spend time and effort in litigating data quality instead of making decisions to increase awareness of data consumption at all levels of the organization.

Operational metrics

Interact maturity

Managing data consumption successfully includes operationalization of the technology and measuring success through key benchmarking metrics. The four key processes to measure and guide operational maturity of your Tanium Interact program are as follows:

Processes to measure Interact maturity

Process	Description
Usage	How and when Tanium Interact is used in your organization

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Processes to measure Interact maturity (continued)

Process	Description
Automation	How automated Tanium Interact is
Functional Integration	How integrated Tanium Interact is, across IT security, IT operations, and IT risk/compliance teams
Reporting	How automated Tanium Interact is and who the audience of data consumption is

Use the following table to determine the maturity level for Tanium Interact in your organization.

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Interact maturity levels

		Level 1 (Initializing)	Level 2 (Progressing)	Level 3 (Intermediate)	Level 4 (Mature)	Level 5 (Optimized)
Process	Usage	Interact is installed and one or more users have access and can ask basic questions	Saved questions created and in use / custom dashboards created that use saved questions / **Question Builder** in use for advanced questions Parameterized sensors understood and in use Visibility into real-time hardware and software inventory Leverage cache data through Tanium Data Service (TDS)	Basic role-based access control (RBAC) configured Ad-hoc / scheduled actions in use / deploying actions Importing custom content for specific scenarios Managing and registering sensors in TDS	Optional: Action approval implemented (control before deploying an action) Advanced question syntax in use (such as the sensor column filter, 'in' operator, and regular expressions) Export RBAC details to audit user management	Custom RBAC implemented, as desired Authoring custom sensors and custom packages

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Interact maturity levels (continued)

		Level 1 (Initializing)	Level 2 (Progressing)	Level 3 (Intermediate)	Level 4 (Mature)	Level 5 (Optimized)
	Automation	Manual	Automated; TDS data collection and purging	Automated; saved questions and scheduled actions	Automated; tuning TDS purging of transient computers by computer group	Automated; tuning TDS purging of transient computers by computer group
	Functional integration	Tanium Core with Tanium Interact is integrated across Security / Compliance / Operations				
	Reporting	Unused	Ad hoc; reporting tailored to stakeholders at request	Automated through Tanium Connect; reporting tailored to stakeholders on cadence	Automated through Tanium Connect; reporting tailored to stakeholders ranging from Operator to Executive	Automated through Tanium Connect; reporting tailored to stakeholders ranging from Operator to Executive

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Interact and TDS requirements

Review the requirements before you install and use Interact and Tanium Data Service (TDS).

Core platform dependencies

- Tanium license that includes Interact and TDS. For more information about how to get Interact, see Tanium Solutions & Bundles.
- Tanium™ Client: Any supported version of Tanium Client. For more information, see Tanium Client Management User Guide: Client version and host system requirements.

  If you use a Client version that is not listed, certain product features might not be available, or stability issues can occur that can only be resolved by upgrading to one of the listed Client versions.
- Tanium™ Core Platform servers

Solution dependencies

Other Tanium solutions are required for Interact and TDS to function (required dependencies) or for specific Interact and TDS features to work (feature-specific dependencies). The installation method that you select determines if the Tanium™ Server automatically imports dependencies or if you must manually import them.

NOTE

Some Interact and TDS dependencies have their own dependencies, which you can see by clicking the links in the lists of Required dependencies on page 33 and Feature-specific dependencies on page 33. Note that the links open the user guides for the latest version of each solution.

For the Tanium Core Platform and license requirements of Interact and TDS, see Core platform dependencies on page 32.

Tanium recommended installation

If you select **Tanium Recommended Installation** when you import Interact and TDS, the Tanium Server automatically imports all your licensed solutions at the same time. For more information, see Tanium Console User Guide: Import all modules and services.

Import specific solutions

If you select only Interact or TDS to import, the Tanium Server automatically imports the latest available versions of any required dependencies that are missing. If some required dependencies are already imported but their versions are earlier than the minimum required for Interact or TDS, the Server automatically updates those dependencies to the latest available versions.

NOTE

You can import TDS without Interact, but you cannot import Interact without TDS.

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Required dependencies

Interact and TDS both have the following required solution dependencies:

- Tanium™ Core Content
- Tanium™ Default Computer Groups
- Tanium™ Default Content

> NOTE For more information about the preceding solutions, see Tanium Console User Guide: Content-only solutions.

Interact also requires TDS and TDS has the following additional required solution dependencies:

- Tanium™ RDB Service
- Tanium™ System User Service

Feature-specific dependencies

If you select only Interact or TDS to import, you must manually import Tanium Reporting to perform the following tasks:

- Show Reporting dashboards on the Tanium **Home** page. For more information, see Tanium Console User Guide: Work with Reporting dashboards.
- Access the Endpoint Details page from the Interact workbench. For more information, see Search endpoints on page 55.

Tanium Server computer resource and network requirements

The Interact workbench provides access to TDS settings in addition to Interact functionality. The Interact workbench installs and runs on the Tanium Server, while TDS installs and runs on the Tanium Module Server. The general resource specifications for the Tanium Server include the host computer resource and network requirements for Interact and TDS. The impact of TDS on the Module Server depends on usage. For more information, see the guide for your Tanium deployment:

- For general Module Server sizing guidelines in a Windows deployment, see Tanium Core Platform User Guide for Windows Deployments: Host system resource guidelines.
- For Tanium Appliance specifications, see Tanium Appliance User Guide: Tanium Appliance specifications.

Endpoints

Supported operating systems

Interact and TDS support the same operating systems (OSs) for endpoints that the Tanium Client supports:

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- Windows
- MacOS
- Linux
- AIX
- Solaris

For more information, see Tanium Client Management User Guide: Client version and host system requirements.

Disk space requirements

On endpoints managed using Tanium Client, Interact and TDS require at least 100 MB of disk space and another 100 MB of cache space for data files. The cache space includes the Tanium Client chunk cache and objects such as sensors and logs. For the disk space that endpoints require to run packages during action deployment, see Tanium Console User Guide: Packages overview.

Processor requirements

On endpoints managed using Tanium Client, Interact and TDS require at least 10 MB of RAM and account for less than 0.5% of idle CPU usage.

Host and network security requirements

Specific ports and processes are needed to run Interact and TDS.

Ports

The following ports are required for TDS communication.

TDS ports

Source	Destination	Port	Protocol	Purpose
Module Server	Module Server (loopback)	17495	TCP	Internal purposes, not externally accessible



Configure firewall policies to open ports for Tanium traffic with TCP-based rules instead of application identity-based rules. For example, on a Palo Alto Networks firewall, configure the rules with service objects or service groups instead of application objects or application groups.

Security exclusions

Host and network security requirements for the Tanium Core Platform apply to Interact and TDS. For more information, see: Tanium Client Management Guide: Reference: Endpoint security exclusions and for Windows-based Tanium Core Platform deployments, see Tanium Core Platform User Guide for Windows Deployments: Tanium Core Platform Server security exclusions.

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User role requirements

Interact users require both Interact and TDS permissions to perform Interact activities. The following sections list the permissions and the predefined roles that provide those permissions.

- Interact permissions on page 35
- Tanium Data Service (TDS) permissions on page 39



Interact users who deploy adaptive actions require additional permissions to assign deployment plans. For more information, see Tanium Console User Guide: Manage deployment plans.

Some Interact and TDS solution permissions provide permissions that are associated with other solutions. Furthermore, all platform content permissions and some of the solution permissions apply to content sets that might contain content for other solutions in addition to Interact and TDS. If you create custom roles for Interact users, be sure to assign all the solution permissions and content set permissions that are required for Interact functionality. If you are not sure which permissions are required for a custom role, view the permissions of the predefined Interact and TDS roles. For more information, see the following sections of the Tanium Console User Guide:

- RBAC overview (provides an overview of roles, permissions, and content sets)
- Provided role permissions
- View effective role permissions
- Configure a custom role

Interact permissions

Predefined roles grant the following permissions, which are required to use Interact functionality:

- Interact solution permissions on page 35
- Interact administration and platform content permissions on page 36: The solution permissions automatically provide some of these permissions.

To review a summary of the predefined roles, see Set up Interact users on page 46.

The table Required permissions to perform Interact tasks on page 37 summarizes the permissions required to perform specific tasks in Interact.

Interact solution permissions

Permission	Interact Power User	Interact Basic User	Interact Read-Only User	Interact Show
Ask Dynamic Questions Issue questions through the Interact **Ask a Question** field and **Question Builder**.	✓ SPECIAL	✓ SPECIAL	✗	✗

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Interact solution permissions (continued)

Permission	Interact Power User	Interact Basic User	Interact Read-Only User	Interact Show
Interact View the Interact workbench.	✓ SHOW	✓ SHOW	✓ SHOW	✓ SHOW
Interact Execute Deploy actions in Interact.	✓ ACTION	✗	✗	✗
Interact Module View and manage Interact content.	✓ READ WRITE	✓ READ WRITE	✓ READ	✗

The permissions for the preceding roles provide solution permissions for other solutions. To view the provided permissions, see Tanium Console User Guide: View effective role permissions.

Interact administration and platform content permissions

Permission	Permission Type	Interact Power User	Interact Basic User	Interact Read-Only User	Interact Show
Action Group	Administration	✓ READ	✓ READ	✗	✗
Action	Platform Content	✓ READ WRITE	✗	✗	✗
Dashboard[1]	Platform Content	✓ READ WRITE	✓ READ WRITE	✓ READ	✗
Dashboard Group[2]	Platform Content	✓ READ WRITE	✓ READ WRITE	✓ READ	✗
Filter Group	Platform Content	✓ READ	✓ READ	✓ READ	✗
Own Action	Platform Content	✓ READ	✗	✗	✗

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Interact administration and platform content permissions (continued)

Permission	Permission Type	Interact Power User	Interact Basic User	Interact Read-Only User	Interact Show
Package	Platform Content	✓ READ	✗	✗	✗
Plugin	Platform Content	✓ READ EXECUTE	✓ READ EXECUTE	✓ READ EXECUTE	✓ READ EXECUTE
Saved Question	Platform Content	✓ READ WRITE	✓ READ WRITE	✓ READ	✗
Sensor	Platform Content	✓ READ	✓ READ	✓ READ	✗

To view the content sets to which the platform content permissions apply, see Tanium Console User Guide: View effective role permissions.

[1] The **Dashboard read** and **write** permissions apply to Interact dashboards, not Reporting dashboards.

[2] The **Dashboard Group read** and **write** permissions apply to Interact categories, not Reporting dashboards.

The following table summarizes the permissions required to perform specific tasks in Interact. Interact includes the Interact **Overview** page and **Question Builder** page. The **Administrator** reserved role has all the listed permissions. The table also indicates whether other reserved roles have permissions for the features.

Required permissions to perform Interact tasks

Tasks	Roles and permissions
Install or uninstall Interact	**Administrator** reserved role only
All tasks in Interact	**Interact show** (module) permission is required for all Interact features, so be sure to assign a role with that permission to all Interact users.
View Interact content	**Interact Module read** (module) permission is required to view content in the Interact content set.
Manage Interact content	**Interact Module write** (module) permission is required to add, edit, or delete content in the Interact content set.

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Required permissions to perform Interact tasks (continued)

Tasks	Roles and permissions
Issue questions through the **Ask a Question** field and **Question Builder**	**Ask Dynamic Questions** (module) permission is required to issue questions through the **Ask a Question** field and **Question Builder**. You can assign the permission to any custom role. **Sensor read** content set permissions determine which sensors are available for you to select for questions. **Filter Group read** content set permissions determine which computer filter groups are available for you to view and select for questions and question results. Depending on whether Tanium™ Reporting, Tanium™ Asset, or both are installed, you require additional permissions to see endpoint details through the **Search Endpoints** field or the **Question Results** page. For more information, see View details for a single endpoint on page 74. The **Administrator** and **Content Administrator** reserved roles have all these permissions.
Save a question	**Saved Question write** permission is required to assign a saved question to content sets for which you have permission. **Saved Question write** is also required to create, edit, or delete saved questions. The **Sensor read** content set permissions determine the available sensors. **Filter Group read** content set permissions determine the available filter groups. In addition to **Saved Question write** permission, users require **Package write** and **Action write** permissions (on the content sets of the associated packages) to add associated packages to a new saved question configuration. In addition to these three permissions, users require owner permissions for the question if they want to modify or delete the associated packages. The **Administrator** and **Content Administrator** reserved roles have all these permissions.
Use Interact Saved Questions	**Saved Question read** content set permissions determine the saved questions that you can see in Tanium Interact, such as on the Interact **Overview** page, **Question Builder** page, and **Question Results** grid drill-down. **Sensor read** permission is required for the sensors specified in a saved question that you want to issue. **Filter Group read** content set permission is required for the filter groups specified in the saved question. **Ask Dynamic Questions** permission is required to use the drill down feature in the saved question results grid.
Use Interact Categories	**Dashboard Group read** content set permissions determine the categories that you can see in Interact, such as on the Interact **Overview** page. **Dashboard Group write** permission is required to create, modify, or delete category configurations. **Dashboard read** content set permissions determine which Interact dashboards are available in categories. The **Administrator** and **Content Administrator** reserved roles can export and import categories.

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Required permissions to perform Interact tasks (continued)

Tasks	Roles and permissions
Use Interact Dashboards	**Dashboard read** content set permissions determine the Interact dashboards that you can see in Interact, such as on the Interact **Overview** page. **Dashboard write** permission is required to create, modify, or delete Interact dashboard configurations. **Saved Question read** content set permissions determine which saved questions are available in dashboards. These **Dashboard read** and **write** permissions apply to Interact dashboards, not Reporting dashboards. The **Administrator** or **Content Administrator** reserved role can export and import Interact dashboards.
Deploy an action	**Action write** permission on any content set is required to see the **Deploy Action** button on the **Question Results** page. To deploy an action, and subsequently perform management tasks for it (such as editing), the permission must be assigned to the content set of the package that you select for the action. **Package read** content set permissions determine which packages are available for you to select for actions. **Sensor read** and **Saved Question read** permissions on the **Reserved** content set are required to complete the deploy action workflow. During the workflow, these permissions allow special saved questions that the Tanium Server uses to track and report action status. **Interact Execute action** (module) permission implies all the permissions that enable users to deploy actions in Interact. The **Administrator** reserved role and **Interact Power User** role have all these permissions. NOTE Users who deploy adaptive actions require additional permissions to assign deployment plans, as described in Tanium Console User Guide: Manage deployment plans. Users who perform management tasks (such as pausing or stopping) for adaptive action deployments require the permissions described in Tanium Console User Guide: Manage ring deployments.
Use the Interact **Overview** page	To see the following sections of the Interact **Overview** page, users require the specified permissions: • **Overview**: **Dashboard Group read**, **Dashboard read**, and **Saved Question read** permissions control the summary counts. • **Favorite Categories**: **Dashboard Group read** permission • **Favorite Dashboards**: **Dashboard read** permission • **Favorite Saved Questions**: **Saved Question read** permission The **Dashboard** permissions apply to Interact dashboards, not Reporting dashboards. The **Administrator** reserved role has all these permissions.

Tanium Data Service (TDS) permissions

Predefined roles grant the following permissions, which are required to use TDS functionality:

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- TDS solution permissions on page 40
- TDS administration and platform content permissions on page 43: The solution permissions automatically provide some of these permissions.

To review a summary of the predefined roles, see Set up TDS users on page 46.



Do not assign the **Tanium Data Service Account**, **Tanium Data Service Account - All Content Sets**, or **Data Collection Service Account** roles to users. These roles are for internal purposes only.

TDS solution permissions

Permission	Data Collection Administrator	Data Collection Operator
Data Collection Administrator Unrestricted access to configure data collection	✓ ADMINISTER	✗
Data Collection OPERATOR: Access to configure data collection settings	✗	✓ OPERATOR
Data Collection API Identify Endpoint The following permissions are for internal purposes only and apply to the TDS content set: READ: Read the results of the internal Endpoint ID sensor WRITE: Allocate Endpoint ID values to endpoints DELETE: Purge the sensor results of specific endpoints from TDS based on Endpoint ID values	✓ READ WRITE DELETE	✓ READ DELETE
Data Collection Bundle Config View and edit configuration data for the next support bundle (internal purposes only)	✓ READ WRITE	✗
Data Collection EID Namespace Read and write endpoint ID namespaces (internal purposes only)	✗	✗

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TDS solution permissions (continued)

Permission	Data Collection Administrator	Data Collection Operator
Data Collection Group EIDs READ: View the list of EIDs that are members of a computer group (internal purposes only)	✗	✗
Data Collection Identify Endpoint The following permissions are for internal purposes only: READ: View which sensors TDS uses for determinining the endpoint ID (EID) WRITE: Allocate the sensors that TDS uses to determinine the EID	✓ READ WRITE	✗
Data Collection Job Read and cancel pipeline jobs (internal purposes only)	✗	✗
Data Collection Metrics View the **Data Service Sensor Metrics** and **Data Service Database Metrics** charts in the Interact **Info** page	✓ READ	✓ READ
Data Collection Operator Settings View and edit TDS settings (internal purposes only)	✓ READ WRITE	✓ READ WRITE
Data Collection Pipeline Read pipeline data (internal purposes only)	✗	✗
Data Collection Pipeline Write Write pipeline data (internal purposes only)	✗	✗
Data Collection Purge Purge data for specific sensors (internal purposes only)	✓ SENSOR	✓ SENSOR
Data Collection RDB Connect to the Tanium™ RDB service (internal purposes only)	✗	✗

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TDS solution permissions (continued)

Permission	Data Collection Administrator	Data Collection Operator
Data Collection Registration READ: View the Interact **Settings > Registration and Collection** page to see which sensors are registered for results collection WRITE: Register or unregister sensors for results collection, pause (disable) or resume (enable) collection, and purge results	✓ READ WRITE	✓ READ WRITE
Data Collection Sensor Write virtual sensor data (internal purposes only)	✗	✗
Data Collection Service Account View and update the current service account (internal purposes only)	✓ READ WRITE	✗
Data Collection Settings View and edit TDS settings (internal purposes only)	✓ READ WRITE	✗
Data Collection Status View the **Data Service Status** chart in the Interact **Info** page	✓ READ	✓ READ
Data Collection Virtual Sensor Definition View and edit virtual sensors (internal purposes only)	✗	✗
Data Service Access the TDS workbench	✓ SHOW	✓ SHOW
Result Exclusion Read and write exclusions (internal purposes only)	✓ READ WRITE	✓ READ
Result Expansion Read and write expansions (internal purposes only)	✓ READ WRITE	✓ READ

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TDS solution permissions (continued)

Permission	Data Collection Administrator	Data Collection Operator
Result Views Allows Tanium solution services to access sensor results beyond those granted through content set assignments (internal purposes only)	✗	✗

The permissions for the preceding roles provide solution permissions for other solutions. To view the provided permissions, see Tanium Console User Guide: View effective role permissions.

The predefined TDS roles provide the following administration and platform content permissions:

TDS administration and platform content permissions

Permission	Permission Type	Data Collection Administrator	Data Collection Operator
User	Administration	✓ READ	✗
Plugin	Platform Content	✓ READ EXECUTE	✓ READ EXECUTE
Sensor	Platform Content	✓ READ	✓ READ

To view the content sets to which the platform content permissions apply, see Tanium Console User Guide: View effective role permissions.

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Installing Interact

Use the Tanium Console **Solutions** page to install Tanium Interact and Tanium Data Service (TDS) and choose automatic or manual configuration:

- **Automatic configuration with dependencies**: Interact and TDS are installed with any required dependencies and other selected solutions. This option is the best practice for most deployments. For more information, see Import Interact and TDS with dependencies on page 44.
- **Manual configuration without dependencies**: Interact and TDS are installed without any required dependencies or other solutions. For more information, see Import Interact or TDS without dependencies on page 44.

Before you begin

- Read the release notes.
- Review the Interact and TDS requirements on page 32.
- Assign the correct roles to Interact users and TDS users. Review the User role requirements on page 35. To import the Interact and TDS solutions, you must be assigned the **Administrator** reserved role.

Import Interact and TDS with dependencies

No default settings are configured for Interact or TDS.

To import Interact and TDS with required dependencies, be sure to select the **Apply Tanium recommended configurations** checkbox while performing the steps in Tanium Console User Guide: Import all modules and services. After the import, verify that the correct versions are installed:

- Verify the Interact version on page 45
- Verify the TDS version on page 45

Import Interact or TDS without dependencies

To import Interact or TDS without any required dependencies, clear the **Apply All Tanium recommended configurations** checkbox while performing the steps in Tanium Console User Guide: Import or update specific solutions. You perform imports through the Tanium Console **Solutions** page, which lists Interact in the **Modules** section and lists TDS in the **Content** section.



You can import TDS without Interact, but you cannot import Interact without TDS.

After the import, verify that the correct Interact and TDS versions are installed:

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- Verify the Interact version on page 45
- Verify the TDS version on page 45

Upgrade Interact

For the steps to upgrade Interact, see Tanium Console User Guide: Install a Tanium release update. After the upgrade, verify that the correct Interact and TDS versions are installed:

- Verify the Interact version on page 45
- Verify the TDS version on page 45

Verify the Interact version

After you import or upgrade Interact, verify that the correct version is installed:

1. Refresh your browser.
2. From the Main menu, go to **Modules > Interact** to open the Interact **Overview** page.
3. To show version information, click Info and select the **About** tab.

Verify the TDS version

After you import or upgrade TDS, verify that the correct version is installed:

1. Refresh your browser.
2. From the Main menu, go to **Administration > Configuration > Solutions** .
3. Go to the **Content** section and check the **Imported Version** column for TDS.

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Configuring Interact and TDS

The following sections describe the predefined user roles that you can use to set up Interact and Tanium Data Service (TDS) users. To review specific permissions for each role, see User role requirements on page 35.

For more information about assigning user roles, see Tanium Console User Guide: Manage role assignments for a user.

IMPORTANT

On installation, Interact creates a **Tanium Data** user to automatically manage the service account for TDS. Do not edit or delete the **Tanium Data** user.

Set up Interact users

Interact Power User

Assign the **Interact Power User** role to users who ask questions, manage content in the Interact content sets, and deploy actions through Interact.

Interact Basic User

Assign the **Interact Basic User** role to users who ask questions and manage content in the Interact content sets.

Interact Read-Only User

Assign the **Interact Read-Only User** role to users who ask questions and view content in the Interact content sets.

Interact Show

Assign the **Interact Show** role to users who view content in the Interact workbench. This includes users who need to view question results and saved question results in Interact.

Set up TDS users

Data Collection Administrator

Assign the **Data Collection Administrator** role to users who manage the sensors from which to collect data for TDS.
This role can perform the following tasks:

- Purge data for specific sensors
- Register, unregister, enable, and disable sensors for collection
- Configure data collection settings (unrestricted access)

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Data Collection Operator

Assign the **Data Collection Operator** role to users who manage the sensors from which to collect data for TDS. This role can perform the following tasks:

- Purge data for specific sensors
- Register, unregister, enable, and disable sensors for collection
- Configure data collection settings



Do not assign the **Tanium Data Service Account**, **Tanium Data Service Account - All Content Sets**, or **Data Collection Service Account** roles to users. These roles are for internal purposes only.

Select a language

Select one of the supported languages for the Interact workbench and Interact user guide, as described in Tanium Console User Guide: Reference: Language support.

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Asking questions and searching endpoints in Interact

Use Tanium Interact to ask questions that retrieve information from endpoints. For example, you can ask a question that determines if any endpoints are missing critical security patches. Based on the question results that the endpoints return, you can then deploy actions or playbooks to the endpoints. You can also use the Interact **Search Endpoints** feature to quickly retrieve a lot of information about a single endpoint instead of constructing a long question with many sensors.

For an overview of questions and related concepts, see Interact overview on page 12. For the user roles and permissions required to ask questions, see User role requirements on page 35.



To ask a saved question, see Issue a saved question on page 98. To issue a dashboard of related saved questions, see Issue a dashboard of saved questions on page 99.

Issue a free-form question

Overview of free-form questions

Interact provides text-entry fields where you can quickly construct dynamic questions, such as `Get Last Logged In User from all machines`. These fields are particularly useful when you want to issue simple questions, or when you understand Tanium question syntax sufficiently to manually enter advanced questions. For example, an advanced question might contain filters in the `get` clause (such as `Get Last Logged In User matches "(root|reboot)"`) or `from` clause (such as `from all machines with CPU Consumption > 80%`). For more information about `get` and `from` clause usage in basic question syntax, see What is a question? on page 12. For more information about filters and other advanced syntax, see Reference: Advanced question syntax in Interact on page 127.

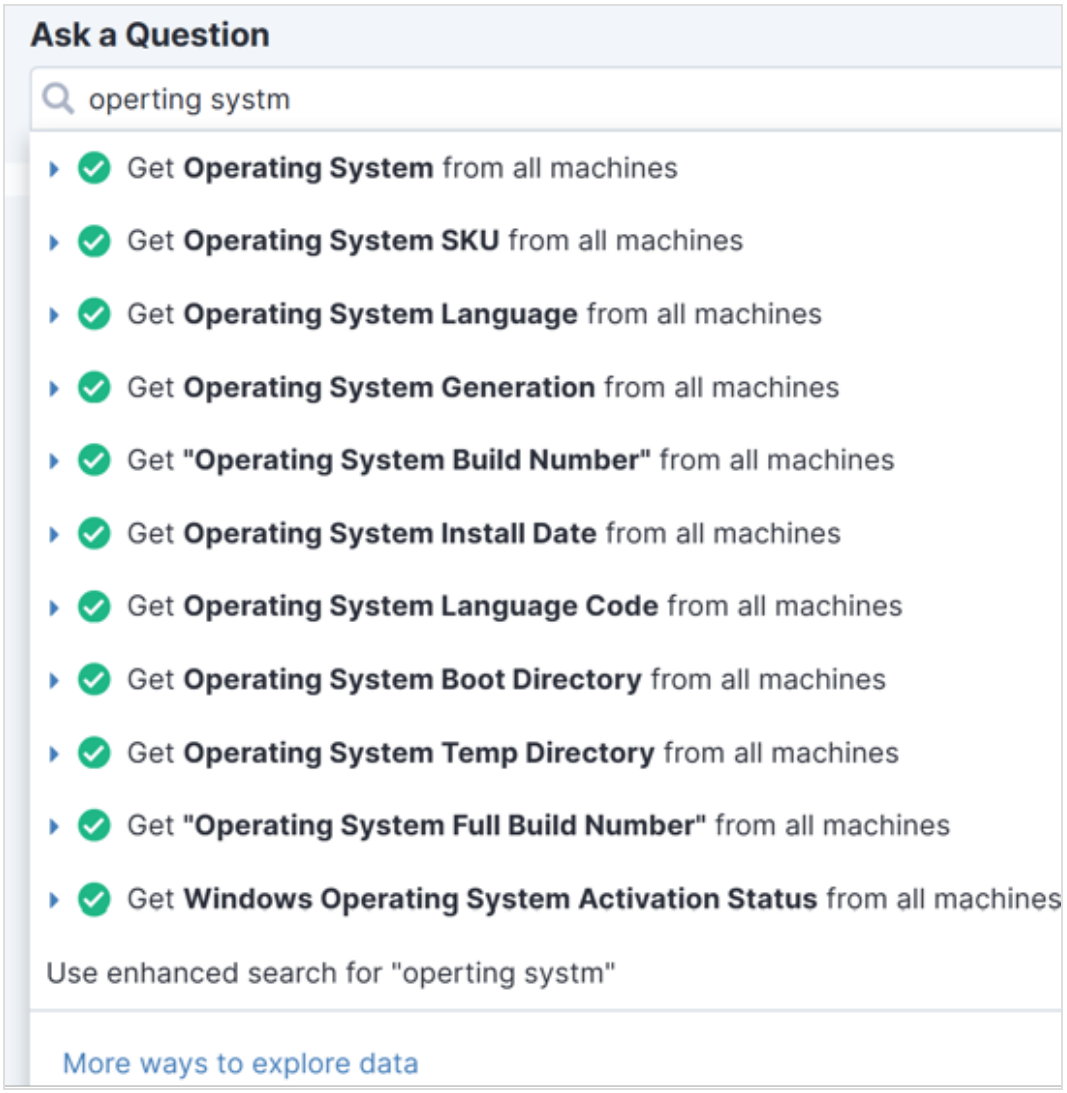
When you start typing a free-form question in one of the question fields, Interact evaluates your entry through a natural language parser instead of a specialized query language. The parser enables you to enter text in natural English that does not require complete sentences, case sensitivity, or strictly correct spelling. Based on the evaluation of your entry, Interact opens a dropdown list with proposed questions in valid syntax. If the list shows multiple proposed questions, they appear in top-to-bottom order based on how closely they approximate the text that you entered. The parser uses the following logic to generate proposed questions:

- **Valid syntax matching**

  If you enter only text that matches, or closely approximates, the valid syntax of a question, Interact proposes questions with corresponding syntax. For example, Interact proposes similar questions if you enter the exact sensor name `operating system` or the approximate words `operting systm`:

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Question that approximates valid syntax



- **Enhanced search**

  If some of the words that you enter are too ambiguous to match with valid question syntax, you can select the **Use enhanced search for "*<text>*"** option to make Interact re-parse your entry based on a more expansive interpretation of the text and then propose additional questions.

For the steps to issue a question or select other options in the dropdown list of proposed questions, see Issue a question on page 50.

NOTE

For more examples of questions that you can issue, see Reference: Example questions in Interact on page 121.

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TIP

If you want more structured guidance when issuing a question, the Interact **Question Builder** provides widgets that enable you to precisely select all the components of a question. For more information, see Issue a question through the Question Builder on page 51.

Issue a question

Perform the following steps to issue a free-form question. When Tanium Clients return answers, the **Question Results** page shows the answers in grid format. For more information, see Managing question results in Interact on page 58.

1. Go to the question field in one of the following locations:
   - Console header: Select the Question option to show the text field. The **Question Results** page shows the answers in a new browser tab.
   - Tanium **Home** page: Select the **Ask a Question** tab to show the text field. The **Question Results** page shows the answers in the current browser tab.
   - **Modules > Interact > Overview** page: The **Explore Data** section contains the **Ask a Question** field. The **Question Results** page shows the answers in the current browser tab.
2. Perform one of the following steps in the question field:
   - **Issue a new question**: Start typing the question text to see a list of proposed questions that best match your entry, then go to Step 3. on page 51

     NOTE

     If you enter sensor names that contain reserved words or characters, add quotation marks around the names. For more information, see Use reserved words or characters on page 131.
   - **Re-issue a recently issued question**: Click inside the question field to open a dropdown list and select the question. If the question does not have parameterized sensors, Interact issues it immediately and no further steps are necessary. If you must specify parameter values, skip to Step 4. on page 51

     NOTE

     If you are a new user who never issued questions before, the dropdown list shows common questions instead of recently issued questions.

     TIP

     When the question field lists proposed questions, icons indicate the average runtime of each question. You can Expand any question to show details about the sensors that the question uses and the sensor runtimes. For more information, see Tanium Console User Guide: Managing sensor runtime thresholds.

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3. Select one of the following options in the list of proposed questions:

   - Select a question to issue it. If the question does not have parameterized sensors, no further steps are necessary. If you must specify parameter values, go to Step 4. on page 51

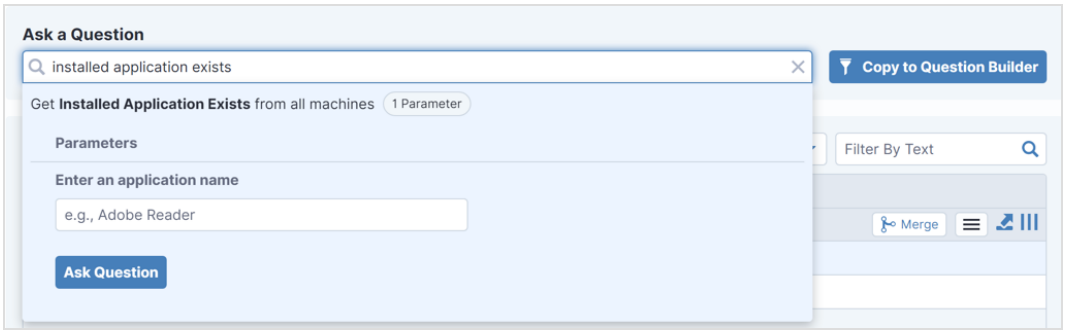
     The remaining options are useful if the proposed questions do not match your expectations.

   - Select **Use enhanced search for "*<text>*"** to make Interact re-parse your entry based on a more expansive interpretation of the text. Interact then proposes additional questions.

   - Select **More ways to explore data** to open the **Question Builder**. You can then construct the question exactly as you want it.

   For more information about using the **Question Builder**, see Issue a question through the Question Builder on page 51.

4. Enter the parameter values for parameterized sensors and click **Ask Question** to issue the question. For more information, see Questions with parameterized sensors on page 19.

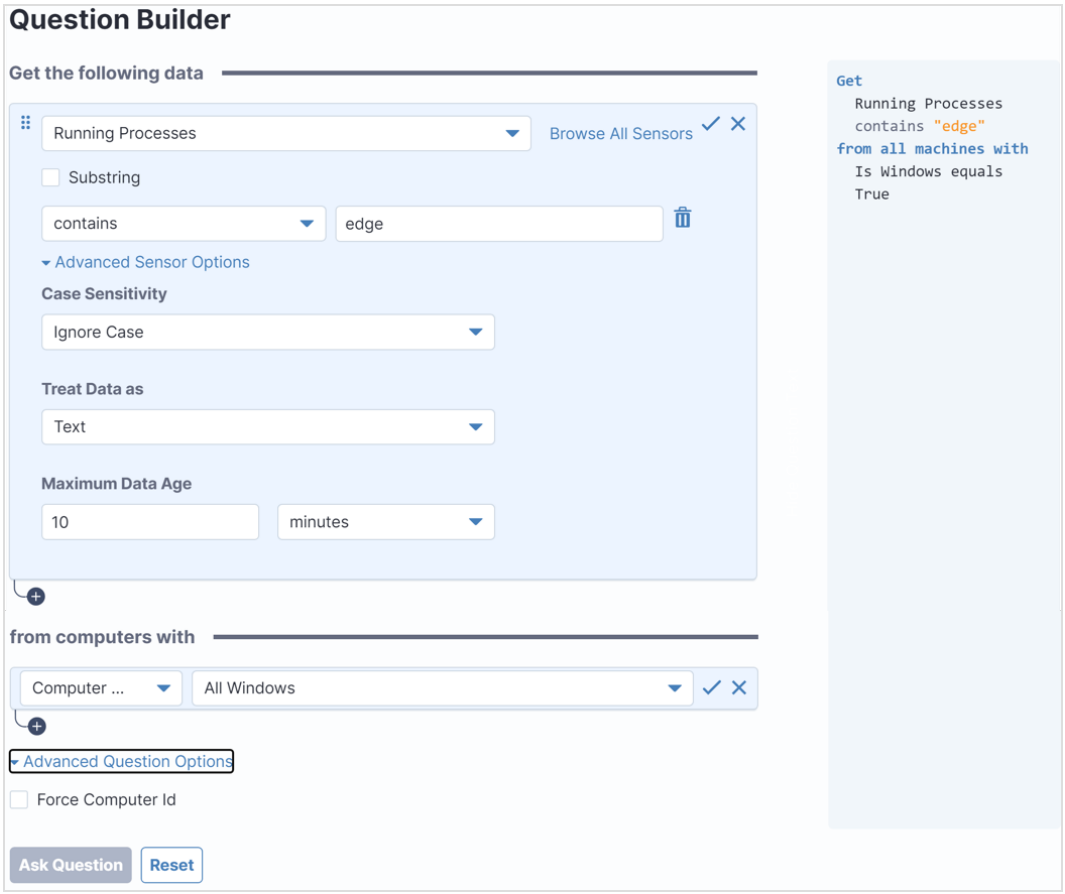


Issue a question through the Question Builder

The **Question Builder** provides a guided method for creating a dynamic question. It has form fields to help you complete the `get` statement and the `from` clause, including any filters.

Question Builder

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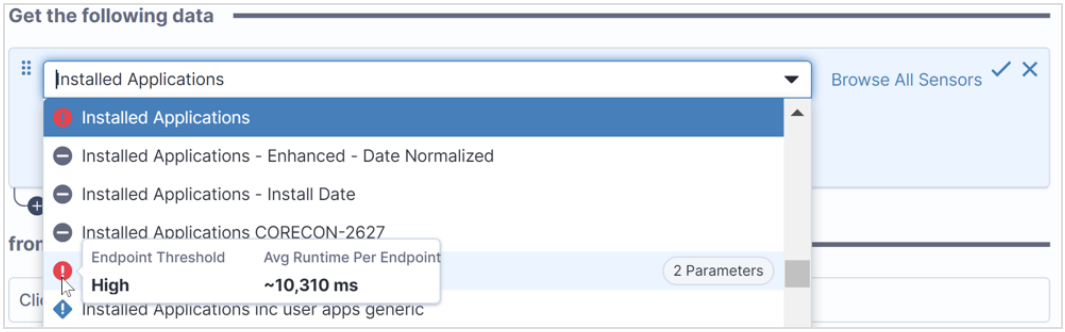
1. Open the **Question Builder** page from any of the following locations:
    - **Tanium Home page**: Click **Build Question** beside the **Ask a Question** field. If you start typing a question in that field, the **More ways to explore data** option also opens the **Question Builder**.
    - **Interact Overview page**: Select **Modules > Interact > Overview** and click **Build Question** beside the **Ask a Question** field.
    - **Interact menu**: Select **Modules > Interact > Question Builder**.
    - **Question Results page**: To refine a question that you already issued, click **Copy to Question Builder** beside the **Ask a Question** field

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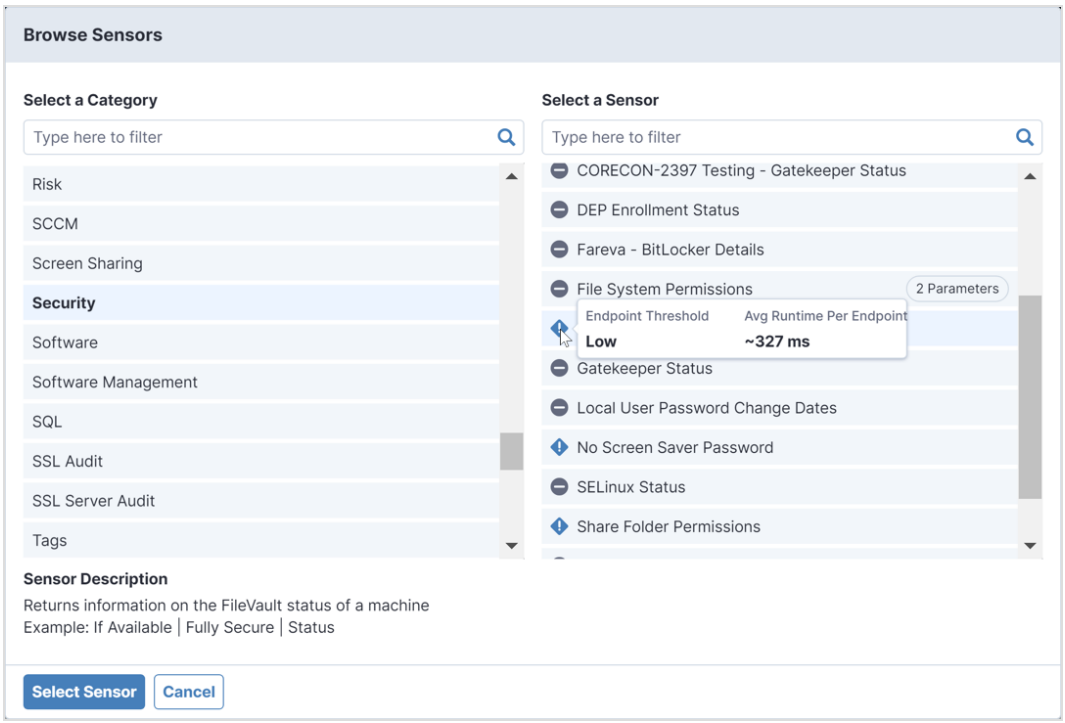
2. In the **Get the following data** section, perform the following sub-steps for each sensor in the `get` statement of the question:

   a. Click **Add Row** to add the first sensor and click ➕ to add each additional sensor. Then perform one of the following sub-steps to specify each sensor:

   - Start typing the sensor name in the **Filter by Name** text field. The typeaheads dropdown list below the field shows a list of sensors that match your entry. Select a sensor and click Apply ✓.



   - Click **Browse All Sensors** to open the **Browse Sensors** dialog and select a sensor. The bottom of the dialog displays the **Sensor Description**.



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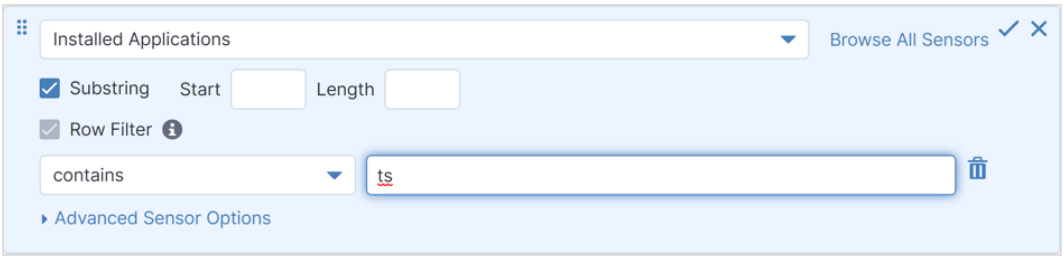
TIP

In the typeaheads dropdown list or **Browse Sensors** dialog, hover over a runtime icon (, , ,) to see the average runtime (in milliseconds) for a sensor. For more information, see Tanium Console User Guide: Managing sensor runtime thresholds.

b. (Optional) To filter the sensor results, click **Add filter**, select an operator (such as **matches**), and specify a regular expression to match result strings. For more information, see Use question filters on page 127.

You can configure the following filter options:

- **Column matching**: If a sensor produces data across multiple **Question Results** columns, filter matching applies only to the selected column by default. For example, you can filter the **Name** column or **Version** column of the **Installed Applications** sensor. For more information, see Use sensor column filters on page 138. To apply matching to all the columns for a sensor, select **Row Filter**.
- **Substring matching**: To match only part of a result string, select the **Substring** checkbox, enter the **Start** position (where `0` is the first position), and enter the number of characters (**Length**). The following example matches results from the **Installed Applications** sensor where the first two characters match the string `ts`. For a multi-column sensor, you cannot apply the **Substring** filter to a specific column, only across all the columns (**Row Filter**).



c. (Optional) Click **Advanced Sensor Options** below the filter to configure additional settings. For more information, see Use advanced sensor options on page 142.

d. Specify parameter values if you added a parameterized sensor. For more information, see Questions with parameterized sensors on page 19.

3. (Optional) In the **from computers with** section, perform the following sub-steps to add targeting filters in the `from` clause of the question. If you omit filters, the question targets all computers.

NOTE

For more information about targeting filters, see Questions with target filters on page 21.

Interact processes nested filters (group filters) and applies Boolean **AND**/**OR** logic for question targeting in the same way as for question results. For more information, see Overview of advanced filters on page 64.

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a. Click **Add Row** or **Add Group**.

b. (Group filter only) Select whether to apply a Boolean **AND** or **OR** to all the filters in the group.

c. Select an option for the first or only filter:

- **Sensor**: Specify a sensor using the same methods and options as in the **Get the following data** section.
- **Computer Group**: The dropdown lists all the computer management groups and filter groups that you have permissions to access. You can type a string in the typeaheads field to filter the list if it is long. Select a computer group and click Apply.

Perform the remaining sub-steps only if additional targeting filters are required.

d. Click and select one of the following options for each additional filter:

- **Add Row**: Configure the filter as you did for the first row. Then select a Boolean **AND** or **OR** to apply to this filter and other filters that are at the same level.
- **Add Group**: Configure a group of nested filters. Then select a Boolean **AND** or **OR** for filters within the group and a separate **AND** or **OR** for the relationship between the entire group and other filters at the same level as the group.

e. (Optional) Expand the **Advanced Question Options** and enable **Force Computer Id** to convert a counting question into a non-counting question. This option works only if the `get` statement has a single sensor; a `get` statement with multiple sensors is automatically a non-counting question. The option forces Tanium Clients to include the **Computer ID** sensor results in their answers. Note that the **Question Results** page does not show the **Computer ID** results when you select this option. For more information, see Counting and non-counting questions on page 16.

4. Click **Ask Question** to issue the question.
   The **Question Results** page opens to show the answers from endpoints.

NOTE

For more information, see Managing question results in Interact on page 58.

Search endpoints

Use the Interact **Search Endpoints** field to view comprehensive information about a single endpoint as an alternative to issuing a long, complex question in the **Ask a Question** field. Interact quickly retrieves and displays information for the **Search Endpoints** feature, even if the target endpoints are currently offline. This quick retrieval is possible because most of the sensors that collect the information are registered by default with Tanium Data Service (TDS), which collects the information through recurring questions and stores the results.

NOTE

The permissions that are required to use the **Search Endpoints** field are available to the **Administrator** reserved role, **Interact Power User**, and **Interact Basic User** role.

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NOTE

For more information about TDS, see Managing Tanium Data Service (TDS) on page 105.

The **Search Endpoints** field provides two levels of information:

- **Basic information**: This includes the results of the following sensors:
  - **Computer Name**
  - **Tanium Client IP Address**
  - **OS Platform**
  - **Last Logged in User**
  - **Online** status: online or offline
- **Detailed information**: You can open the Endpoint Details page, which shows comprehensive details from dozens of sensors and provides additional options for exploring and managing the endpoint. For more information, see Tanium Reporting User Guide: Working with a single endpoint.

TIP

You can also access the basic and detailed information through the Interact **Question Results** page. For more information, see View details for a single endpoint on page 74.

1. Perform one of the following steps to access the **Search Endpoints** field:
   - In the Quick Search bar of the Console header, click to display the search field.
   - Go to the Tanium **Home** page and click the **Search Endpoints** tab.
2. Display basic information about an endpoint by typing its computer name, Tanium Client IP address, or last logged-in user name without pressing **Enter**.

   TIP

   Type a partial string to see basic information about multiple endpoints. For example, if you type `10.20.21`, a dropdown list shows information about all the endpoints with an IP address that contains those digits.
3. Click the **Computer Name** to open the Endpoint Details page.

View question history

Use the **Question History** page to manually reissue questions or view a chronology of issued questions, as well as their syntax and other details (such as issuer and expiration time stamp). By default, the **Question History** page shows questions that were issued in the past 24 hours. You can change the date range to show more entries, or apply filters to limit the entries that appear.

By default, question **Expiration** date-times are based on the **Local Time** of the system that you use to access Tanium Interact, but you can switch to Coordinated Universal Time (**UTC**).

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NOTE

Users require a role with the **Question History read** permission to see the **Question History** page. For the permissions that are required to load questions from the page, see Tanium Console User Guide: Question history.

Reissue a question

To reissue a question, select the question in the grid and click **Load**. Interact displays the results in the **Question Results** page.

Export question history

Export information from the **Question History** grid as a CSV file to view the information in an application that supports that format. If you have the **Administrator** reserved role, you can also export the information as a JSON file.

1. From the Main menu, go to **Administration > Content > Question History**.
2. Select rows in the grid to export information only for specific questions. If you want to export information for all questions, skip this step.
3. Click Export.
4. (Optional) Edit the default export **File Name**.

   NOTE

   The file suffix (`.csv` or `.json`) changes automatically based on the **Format** selection.
5. Select an **Export Data** option: export information for all **All** questions in the grid or just for the **Selected** questions.
6. Select the file **Format**: **CSV** (default) or **JSON** (**Administrator** reserved role only).
7. Click **Export**.
   The Tanium Server exports the file to the downloads folder on the system that you used to access Interact.

Copy question history details

Copy question history details to your clipboard to paste them into a message, text file, or spreadsheet. Each row in the grid is a comma-separated value string.

1. From the Main menu, go to **Administration > Content > Question History**.
2. Perform one of the following steps:
   - **Copy row information**: Select one or more rows and click Copy.
   - **Copy cell information**: Hover over the cell, click Options, and click Copy.

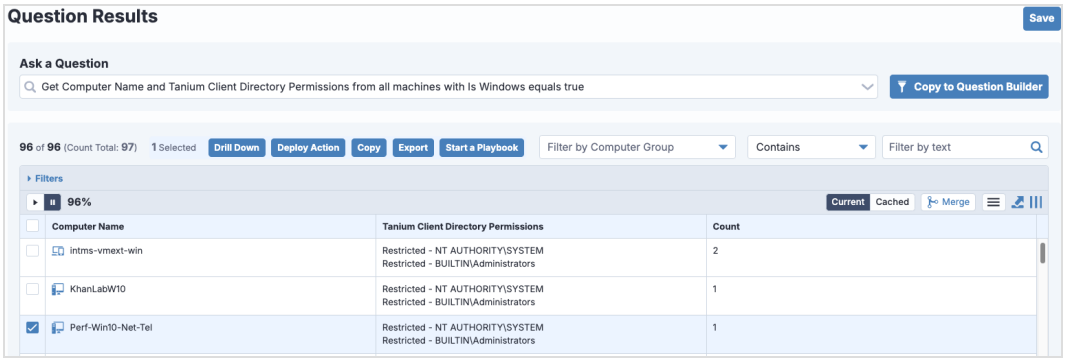
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Managing question results in Interact

Question results overview

After you issue a question, the Interact **Question Results** page opens and shows a grid with the answers (sensor results) from endpoints. The page facilitates analyzing the results by providing display options such as live updates, cached results, and filters. You can also retrieve more information from endpoints by using the page options to Merge questions on page 68, Drill down into results on page 71, and View details for a single endpoint on page 74. The option to view single endpoint details is available when the question includes certain sensors (such as **Computer Name**) for which the results show clickable icons that open the **Endpoint Details** dialog. If sensor results indicate that certain endpoints require changes, such as updates to directory access permissions, the **Question Results** page provides an option to deploy an action or playbook to those endpoints.

Question Results page



For more information about how the **Question Results** page shows sensor results across multiple columns, see What is a sensor? on page 13.

TIP

To refine the original question, update your entry in the **Ask a Question** field (see Issue a free-form question on page 48) or click **Copy to Question Builder** to open the **Question Builder** (see Issue a question through the Question Builder on page 51).

NOTE

The user roles and permissions that are required to ask questions also enable you to view the results. For more information, see Interact permissions on page 35.

You can view question results only from computer groups that are assigned to your user account or persona. For more information, see Tanium Console User Guide: Assign computer groups.

If endpoints do not answer questions, see Troubleshoot question results issues on page 115.

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Results aggregation

If more than one endpoint returned the same answer for a question, the results grid shows a **Count** column to indicate the number of endpoints for each answer. For more information, see Counting and non-counting questions on page 16.

Results for saved questions and dashboards

When you issue a saved question or a dashboard of questions, Interact opens the saved question results page or dashboard results page respectively. These pages resemble the **Question Results** page for dynamic questions but have additional options. For more information, see Issue a saved question on page 98 and Issue a dashboard of saved questions on page 99.



Use Tanium Reporting instead of Interact saved questions or dashboards if you want to review results from sensors that are registered with Tanium Data Service (TDS). For more information, see Interact overview on page 12.

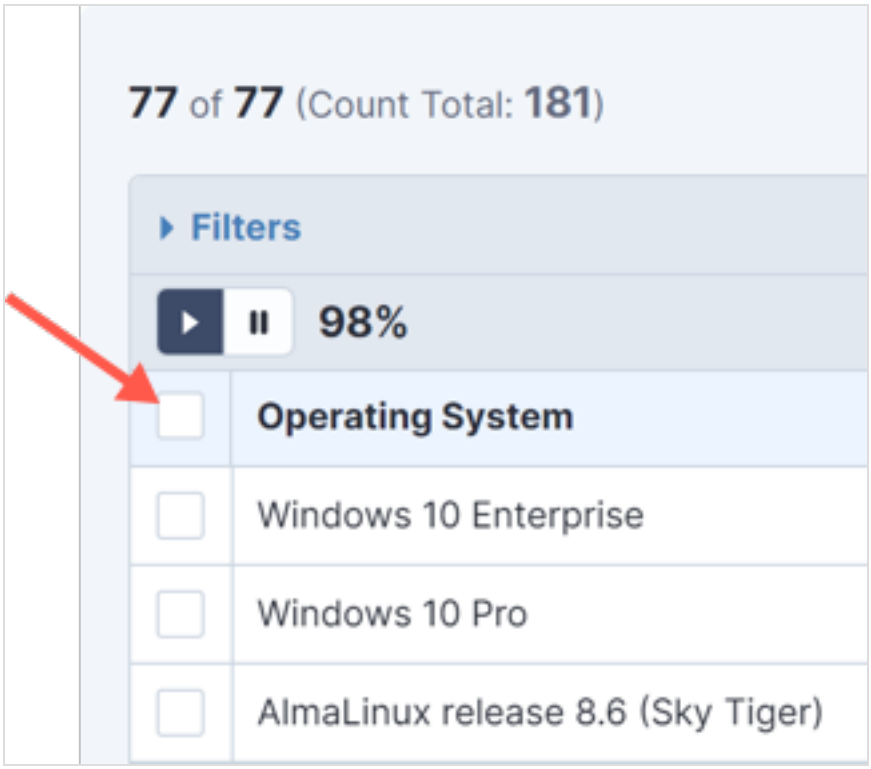
Selecting rows

After you manipulate the **Question Results** grid to show the results that you want, you can select result rows to perform additional operations, such as deploying actions. You can select up to 100 rows in the grid. The following options facilitate selecting multiple rows:

- To quickly select multiple consecutive result rows for drilling down, copying, exporting, or deploying actions, click the checkbox in the first row to include, hold down the **Shift** key, and then click the checkbox in the last row to include.
- Select the check box in the header row to select 100 rows, starting with the first row in the grid. If you already selected rows before selecting the check box, Interact only selects enough additional rows to reach the 100 limit. Clear the check box to clear any selected rows.

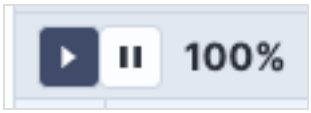
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Check boxes for selecting question results



Enable or disable live updates

On the **Question Results** page, the results grid has a toolbar that shows the percentage of Tanium Clients that reported results. The live updates feature is enabled by default, which means Interact updates the grid as more Tanium Clients report results.



Click Pause to stop the grid from updating and click Play to resume updating.

TIP

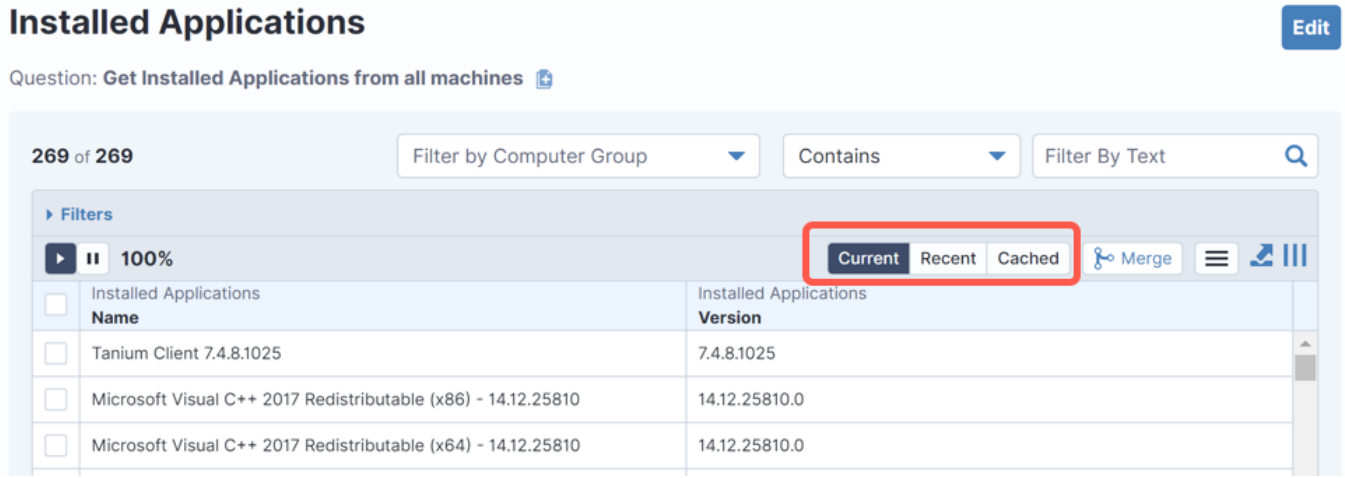
Even after 100% of Tanium Clients have reported, some answer rows might indicate incomplete results. To investigate incomplete results, see Troubleshoot question results issues on page 115.

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Display results for online and offline endpoints

When the **Question Results** page opens, it initially displays only current results, which are answers from endpoints that were online at the moment you issued the question. However, you can also display recent or cached results that the Tanium Server stored when it queried endpoints that were previously online but are currently offline.

Current, recent, and cached results for questions



The option to display stored results enables you to have a more complete view of your managed endpoints. For example, to evaluate the security state of both online and offline endpoints, you can display both current and stored results for questions about which endpoints have a critical patch applied or a particular third-party application installed. Click the button for the type of results that you want to display:

Current, recent, and cached results for questions

Results options	Description
Current	The grid shows results from endpoints managed using Tanium Client that are currently online.
Recent	This option is available only for the results of saved questions and only users who have permissions to create saved questions can view recent results. For more information, see Managing saved questions in Interact on page 88. In addition to results from online endpoints managed using Tanium Client, this option includes results from offline endpoints managed using Tanium Client if those results still reside on the Tanium Server after the last time the Server issued that question. The Server stores the results of saved questions for seven days by default. The Tanium Server associates recent results with specific saved questions, not with sensors. This means that even if multiple saved questions share the same sensor, the results grid might show different recent results for that sensor based on which question you issue and your computer management group permissions. For more information, see Tanium Console User Guide: Recent results and computer group assignments

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Current, recent, and cached results for questions (continued)

Results options	Description
Cached	The grid displays results that the Tanium Server collects by periodically querying all managed endpoints for specific sensors. The option appears only for questions in which all the sensors are registered for collection with Tanium Data Service (TDS). For more information, see Managing Tanium Data Service (TDS) on page 105. The Server stores the results for 30 days by default. The grid displays only the most recent collected results. The Server saves the results on a per-sensor basis. Consequently, the grid shows the same results for a particular sensor when you issue any dynamic or saved question that uses that sensor.



For offline endpoints, view **Cached** results instead of **Recent** results. For cached results, the Tanium Server more accurately identifies the responding endpoints, allows all users to view the results, and returns results for both dynamic and saved questions.

Filter question results

Use the following filter options in the header of the **Question Results** grid to show only results that match the criteria you specify:

- Filter by text on page 63
- Filter by computer group on page 63
- Filter by advanced conditions on page 64

Interact applies a Boolean AND if you configure multiple types of filters. For example, if you select a computer group filter and configure an advanced filter, Interact shows only the results that match both filters.

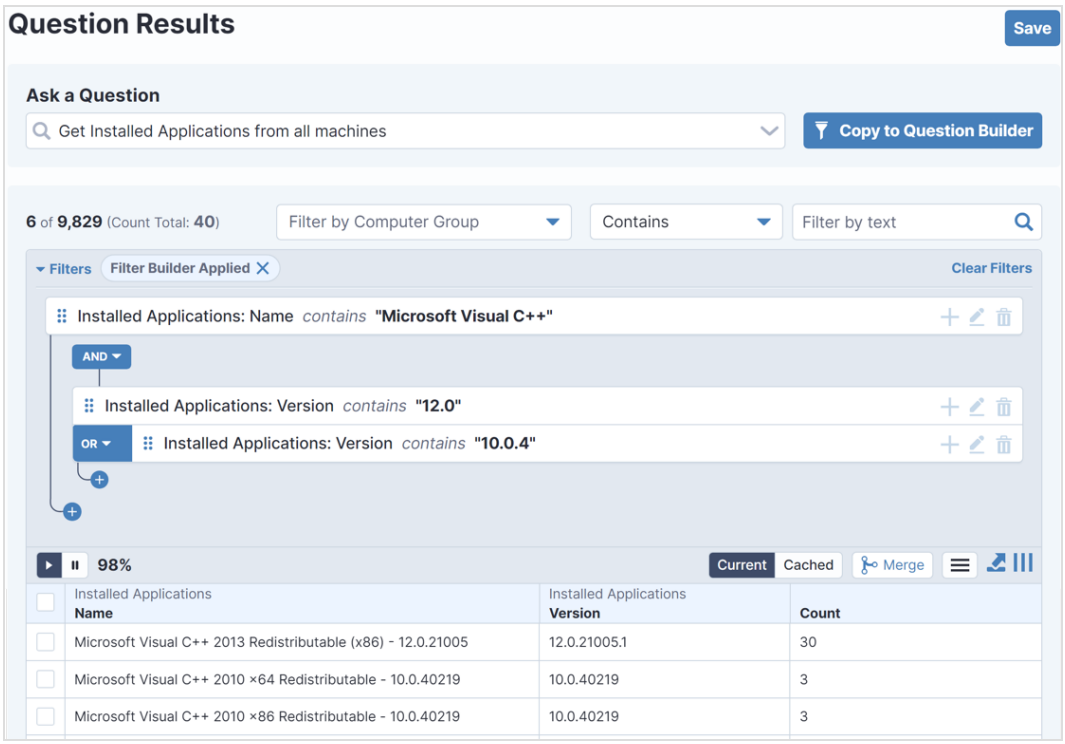


If you save a question, the question text does not include any filters that you added on the **Question Results** page.

To apply filters to a question instead of its results, see Use question filters on page 127.

Question Results grid filters

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Filter by text

On the **Question Results** page, use the **Filter by text** field to filter results based on their values. The Tanium Server filters the grid without reissuing the question.

1. Select **Contains** or **Does not contain** in the dropdown list beside the **Filter by text** field.
2. Enter a search string in the **Filter by text** field and click Search.

TIP

For most questions, the text filter shows matching results in any grid column. If you filter on certain cached results, the text filter ignores the **Count** column values.

Filter by computer group

On the **Question Results** page, select a **Filter by Computer Group** option to issue a new question with the added filter. If the dropdown list shows many computer groups, you can enter part or all of a group name in the text field to filter by that name.

NOTE

The **Filter by Computer Group** dropdown list shows only computer management groups that are assigned to your user account. The list also shows filter groups that are assigned to a content set for which your account has role permissions. For more information, see Tanium Console User Guide: Managing computer groups.

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Filter by advanced conditions

OVERVIEW OF ADVANCED FILTERS

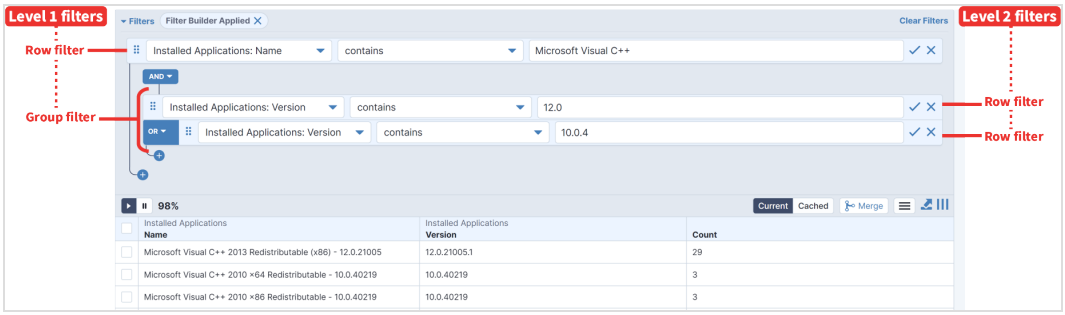
On the **Question Results** page, you can configure a filter that is based on conditions for matching sensor results. Interact evaluates the filter to a Boolean true or false and shows only the results that evaluate to true. For example, if you issue a question with the **Installed Applications** sensor and configure the filter `application name contains Microsoft Visual C++`, the **Question Results** grid shows only results in which an application name contains the string `Microsoft Visual C++`.

If you configure multiple filters, Interact shows results only if their true/false evaluations collectively match your Boolean AND/OR selection:

- **AND**: The grid shows only results for which all the filters evaluate to true.
- **OR**: The grid shows results for which any filter evaluates to true.

The AND/OR selection cannot differ among filters that are at the same level (not nested). If you configure multiple levels of filters through nested groups, you select a Boolean AND/OR for each level. Interact evaluates filters in ascending order, from the row filters in the lowest-level group to the highest level of row and group filters. The following figure shows two levels of filters: the first (highest) level has a row filter and group filter, and the second (lowest) level comprises the row filters within the group.

Row and group filters for question results



Interact evaluates these example filters in the following sequence:

1. Interact evaluates each row filter within the group: `application version contains 12.0` and `application version contains 10.0.4`.
2. Interact evaluates the group filter to a collective true if either filter inside the group evaluates to true because the Boolean OR is selected for those filters. Interact also evaluates the first-level row filter: `application name contains Microsoft Visual C++`.
3. Interact applies a Boolean AND to the first-level filters, which means they collectively evaluate to true only if both the row filter and the group filter evaluate to true.

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CONFIGURE ADVANCED FILTERS

1. In the header of the **Question Results** grid, expand the **Filters** section.
2. Select an attribute (sensor column), select an operator (such as **contains**), enter a value to match against (`Microsoft Visual C++` in the figure Row and group filters for question results on page 64), and click Apply. Interact evaluates the filter and refreshes the results grid as soon as you apply the filter.
   Results filters support the same operators as filters in the `get` statement of a question. Results filters do not support the **in** operator. For more information, see Filter operators on page 129.
   Perform the following steps only if you want additional filters. Repeat the steps for each filter.
3. Click Add and select an option:
   - **Add Row**: Specify the attribute, operator, and value as you did for the first filter.
   - **Add Group**: Specify the attribute, operator, and value for the first filter in the group. Then, for the next filter in the group, click Add and select a row or another group.
4. For each level of filters, select a Boolean **AND** or **OR**.

Manage results grid appearance

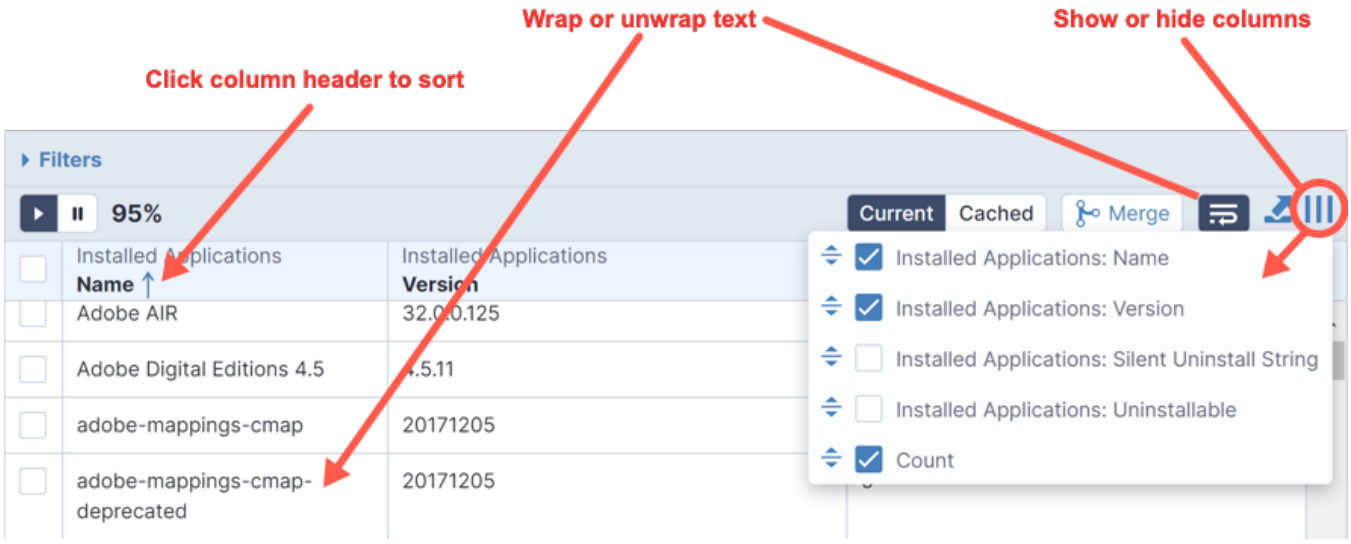
On the **Question Results** page, you can customize the following viewing options for the results grid to suit your activities or ergonomic preferences:

Viewing options for question results

Viewing options	
Sorting	To sort rows alphabetically or numerically based on the values in a specific column, click the column header. You can toggle between sorting in ascending or descending order. To perform a secondary sort based on another column, press the **Shift** key and click the other column header.
Column visibility and order	To change which columns the grid shows, click Customize Columns in the grid toolbar and select (show) or clear (hide) the column checkboxes. You can also change the order of columns by dragging them.
Text wrapping	To toggle text wrapping, click Wrap or Unwrap in the grid toolbar.

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Question Results grid sorting, column visibility, and text wrapping controls



Copy question results to the clipboard

On the **Question Results** page, copy information from the results grid to your clipboard to paste the information into a message, text file, or spreadsheet. Each row in the grid is a comma-separated value string in the copy.

- To copy specific results along with the sensor names (column headers), select the corresponding checkboxes and click **Copy**.
- To copy the contents of a grid cell, perform one of the following steps:
  - Hover over the cell, click Options , and click Copy Cell Value .
  - Press the **Alt** key (Windows) or **Option** key (macOS) and click in the grid cell. This operation works for most grids in Interact.

Export question results

You can use any application that supports CSV format to display the same columns of information as the grid on the **Question Results** page. For example, you can use Microsoft Excel to create charts based on results.

1. Select one of the following export options:
   - To export specific results, select the corresponding checkboxes and click **Export**.
   - To export the complete results, click Export in the header of the grid.
2. Enter a **File Name** for the CSV file.
3. To include sensor names (grid column headers) in the .csv file, select **Include headers in export**.
   If you selected only a subset of the results to export, click **Export** and skip the remaining steps, which describe options that are available only if you are exporting the complete results.

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4. Select how the CSV file displays results for questions where one sensor generates multiple results for each responding endpoint. As an example, for the question `Get Computer Name and High CPU Processes[5] from all machines`, the High CPU Processes sensor returns five processes for each endpoint. By default, the file displays one row for all the results that the sensor generated for an endpoint. For the example question, this would mean each row lists all the top five processes for each endpoint (identified by Computer Name).

Computer Name	High CPU Processes[5]
SQL1.tam.local	sqlservr.exe TaniumClient.exe cmd.exe conhost.exe cscript.exe
TS1.tam.local	TaniumReceiver.exe chrome.exe svchost.exe cmd.exe conhost.exe

   To display a row for each result that a sensor generates, select **Flatten rows**. For the example question, a flattened export results in five rows per endpoint: one row for each process that the High CPU Processes sensor returned. Note that this option works only if just one sensor in the question has multiple results.

Computer Name	High CPU Processes[5]
SQL1.tam.local	sqlservr.exe
SQL1.tam.local	TaniumClient.exe
SQL1.tam.local	cmd.exe
SQL1.tam.local	conhost.exe
SQL1.tam.local	cscript.exe

   If you select **Flatten rows**, the **Fail on errors** checkbox appears. Selecting **Fail on errors** causes the export to fail for all results if any result includes multiple columns (sensors) with more than one value. In the example, it would be an error if a single endpoint returned multiple results for both Computer Name and High CPU Processes. By default, **Fail on errors** is disabled, which means the export proceeds despite such errors. However, the output includes errors without flattening the affected results; the output does not use separate lines to account for multiple columns with multiple values.

5. Click **Export**.

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Merge questions

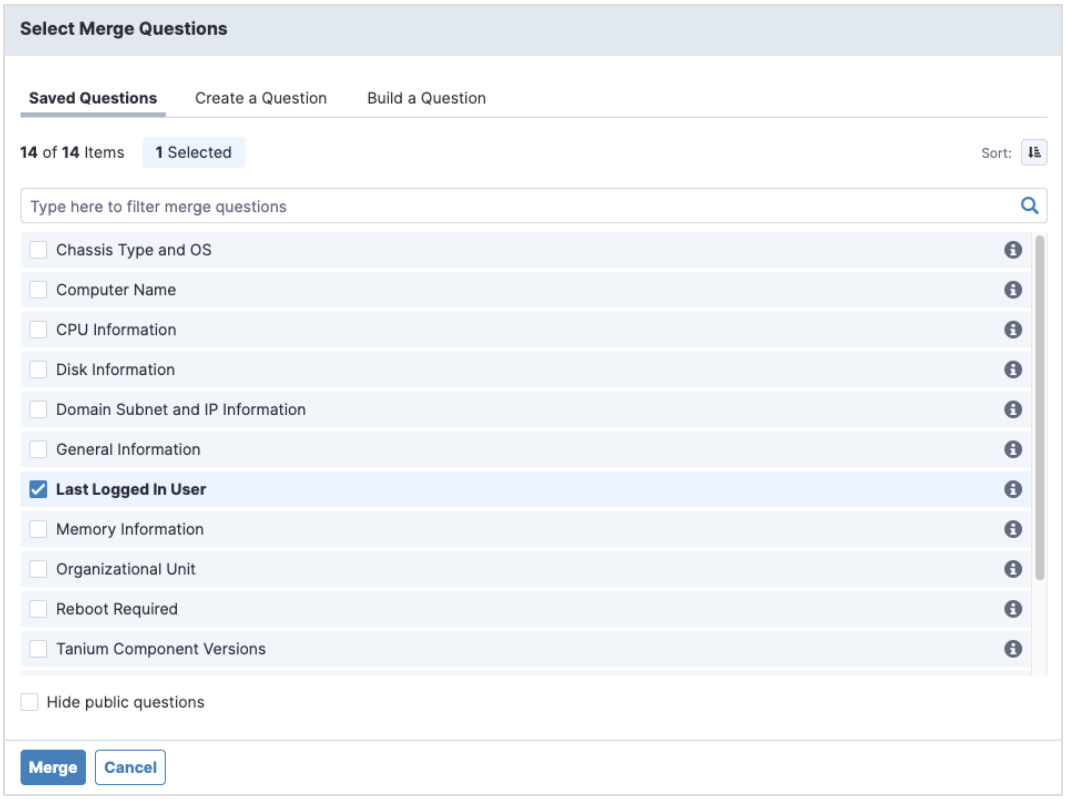
Question results often lead to additional questions. For example, the results of a question that returns computer names and running processes might indicate that some endpoints are running a suspicious process. You can *merge* the initial question with another question to learn more information, such as the last logged-in user. The Tanium Server issues the merge question in the background, and Interact re-displays the **Question Results** grid with one or more additional columns containing results for the sensors that the merge question specified.

> **NOTE**
>
> Merge operations automatically apply to all results. You do not need to select grid rows before merging.
>
> You can use only non-counting questions in merge operations. For more information, see Counting and non-counting questions on page 16.

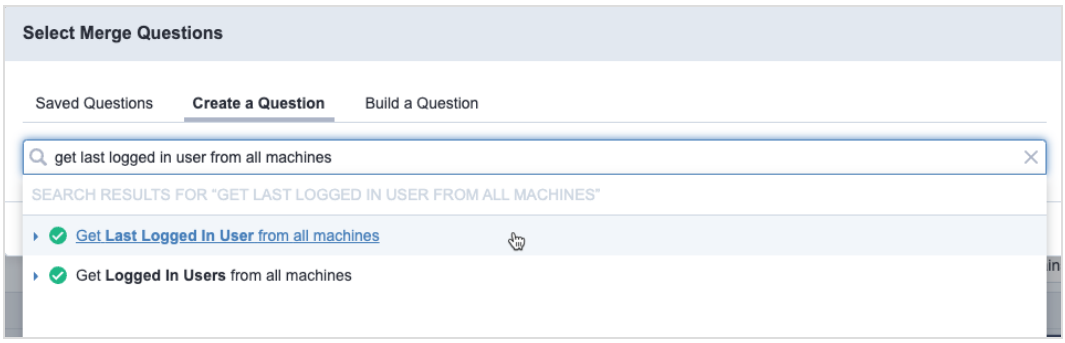
1. On the **Question Results** page, click **Merge** in the grid toolbar.
2. Use one of the following tabs to add questions and then click **Merge**:
   - **Saved Questions**: Lists saved questions that are assigned to content sets for which you have **Saved Question read** permission. The questions must also have the Show this question in the list of questions that are available to merge on page 96 setting enabled.

     > **TIP**
     >
     > To filter the list so that it includes only saved questions with **Visibility** is set to **Only the Owner and Admins can see this object**, select **Hide public questions**.

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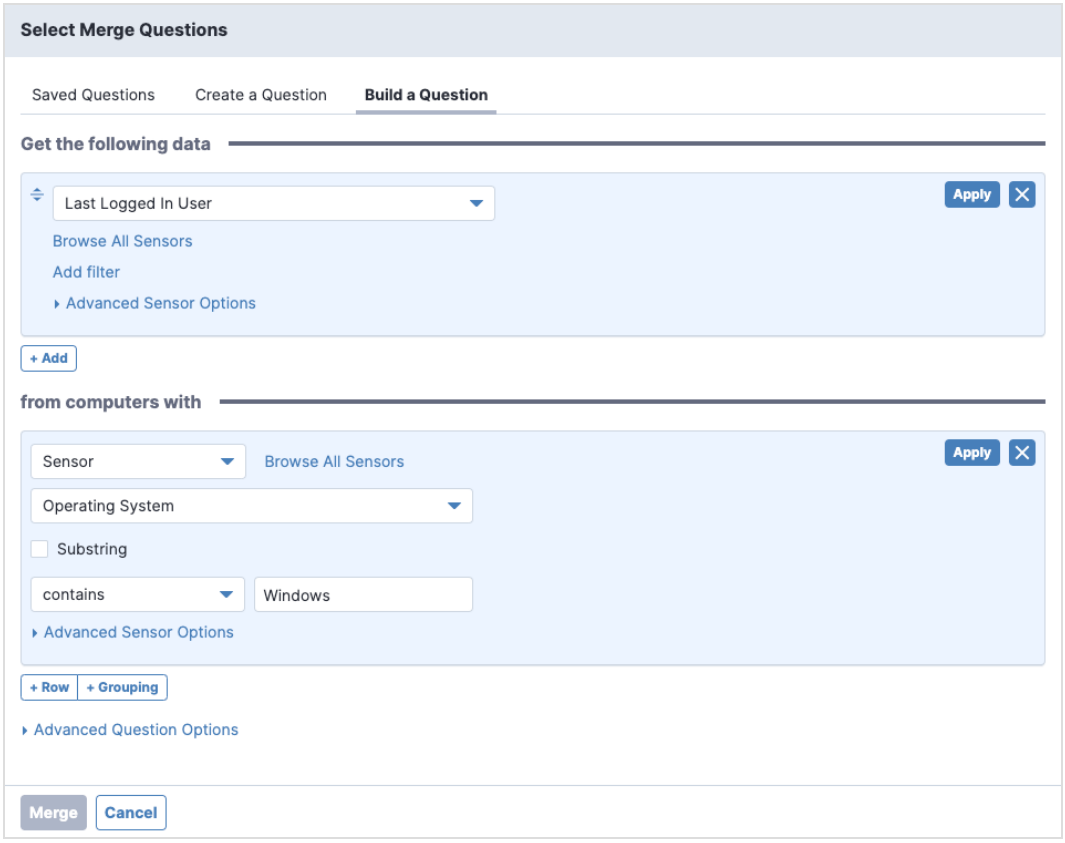
- **Create a Question**: Enter a question using the same syntax as in the Interact **Ask a Question** field. For more information about the syntax, see Issue a free-form question on page 48.



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- **Build a Question**: Construct a question using the same fields as in the Interact **Question Builder**. For more information, see Issue a question through the Question Builder on page 51.

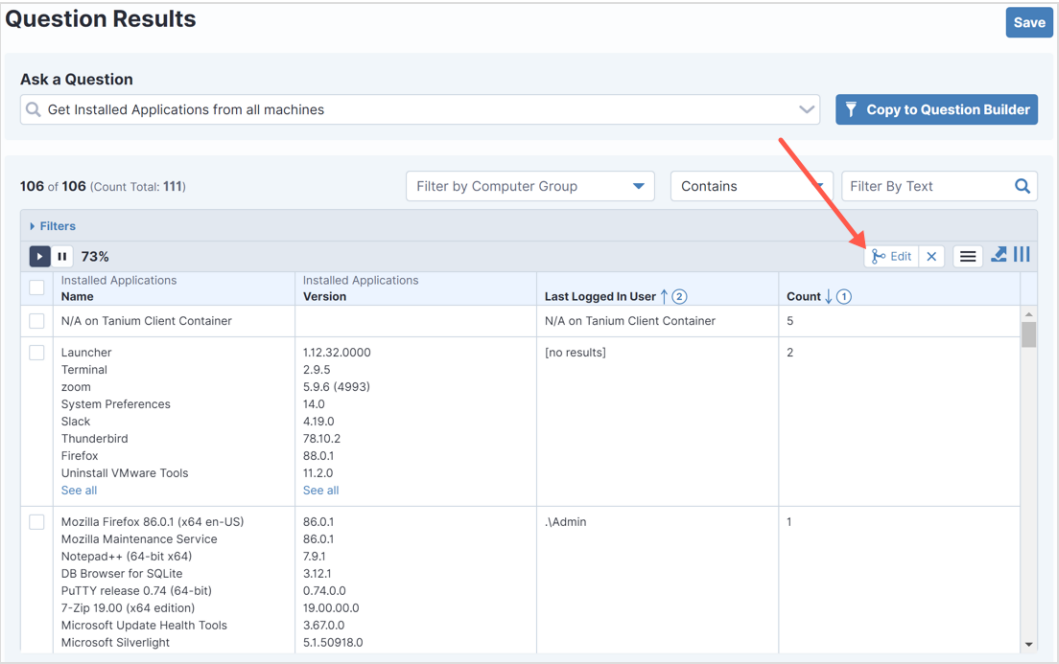
  Notice that you add sensors to the `get` clause but you do not add filters to the `from` clause. The `from` clause is automatically based on the rows that you selected in the **Question Results** grid when you clicked **Merge**.



After you click **Merge**, the **Question Results** grid displays the updated results. You can use the **Edit** button in the grid header to modify the merge settings.

Question results after a merge operation

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Drill down into results

In the **Question Results** grid, you can drill down into selected results to retrieve more information from the associated endpoints. Adding a drill-down question effectively means using its sensors to filter the selected results. A typical scenario is targeting a smaller group of endpoints for an action. For example, you might initially issue a question that returns a list of chassis types and operating systems for all endpoints. To see the identities of endpoints that return specific results, you can drill down into those results with the **Computer Name** sensor.

1. In the **Question Results** grid, select the results for which you want more information and then click **Drill Down**.
2. Use one of the following tabs to specify a drill-down question and then click **Drill Down**.

   TIP

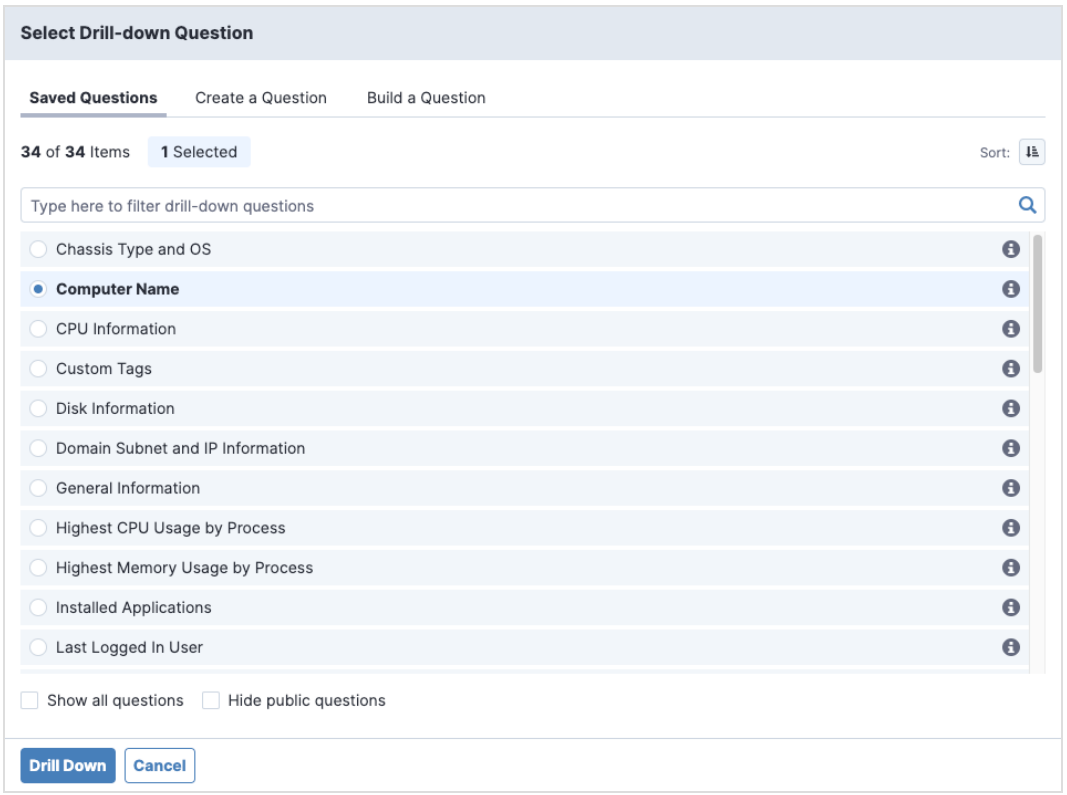
   If the selected **Question Results** include the value of a parameterized sensor and your drill-down question uses a sensor with a matching parameter, the **Select Drill-down Question** dialog automatically populates that parameter with the value from the selected results.

   - **Saved Questions**: Lists saved questions that are assigned to content sets for which you have **Saved Question read** permission. By default, the list includes only questions that have the Show this question in the list of questions that are available for drilling down on page 96 setting enabled. To include questions that do not have the setting enabled, select **Show all questions**.

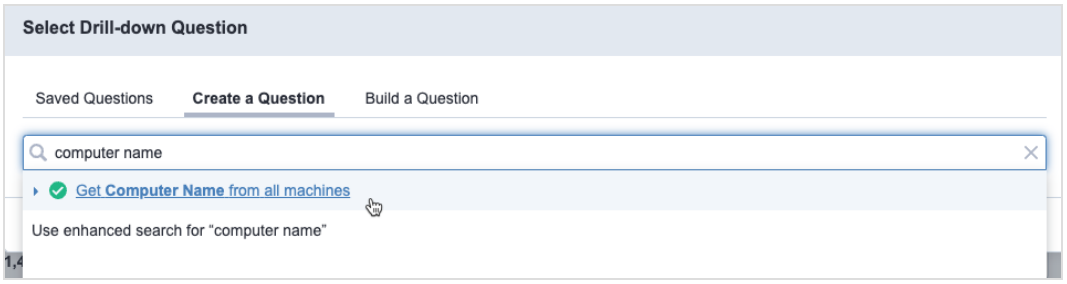
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TIP

To filter the list so that it includes only saved questions with **Visibility** is set to **Only the Owner and Admins can see this object**, select **Hide public questions**.

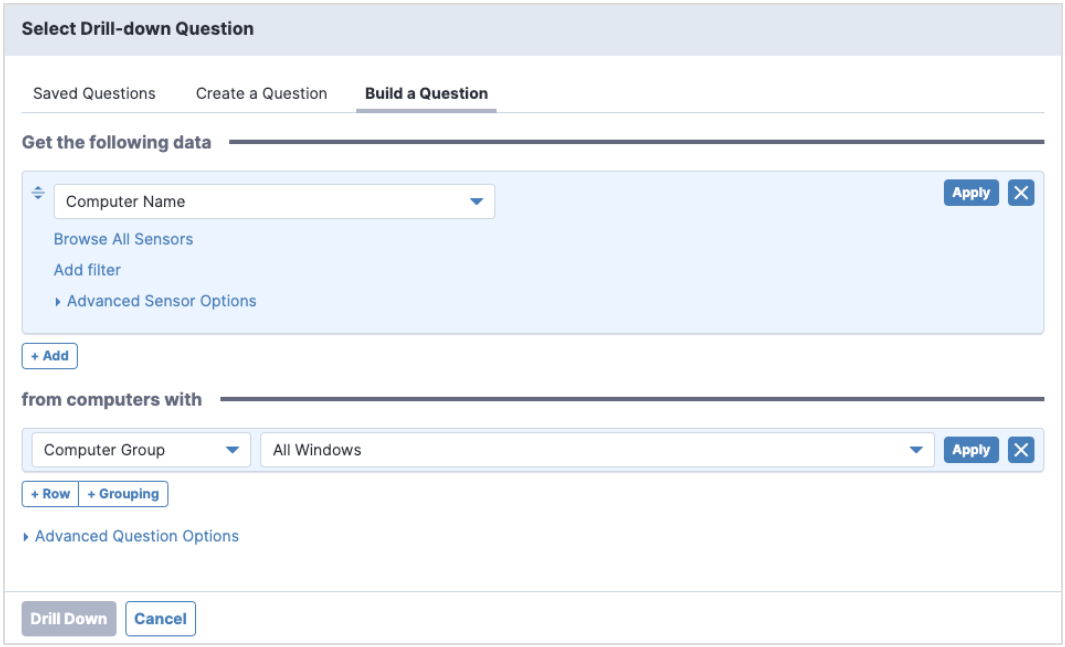


- **Create a Question**: Enter a question using the same syntax as in the Interact **Ask a Question** field. For more information about the syntax, see Issue a free-form question on page 48).



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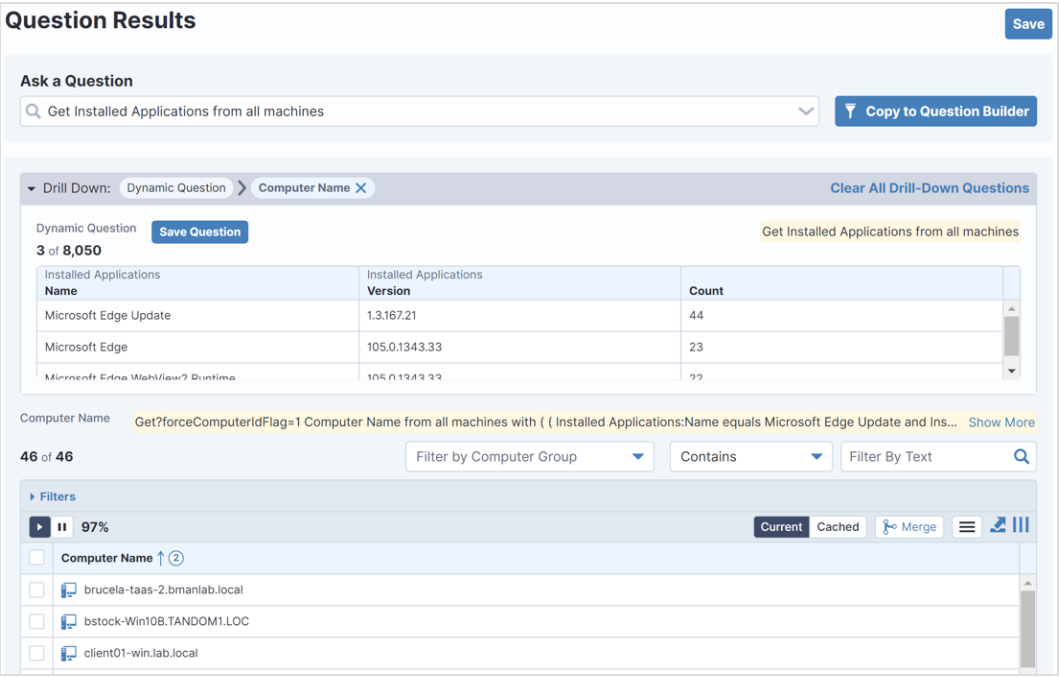
- **Build a Question**: Construct a question using the same fields as in the Interact **Question Builder**. For more information, see Issue a question through the Question Builder on page 51.



After you click **Drill Down**, Interact shows the progression of results, including a new **Question Results** grid for the drill-down question. You can then drill down further, deploy an action, save the question, or click **Copy to Question Builder** for further refinement.

Question results after drill-down operation

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View details for a single endpoint

When you analyze question results from endpoints, you might want to explore additional information about a particular endpoint. For example, if an endpoint returns `100%` for a question with the **CPU Consumption** sensor, you might want to see details about the processors on that endpoint. Interact provides a single endpoint view feature that quickly retrieves and displays the information, even for endpoints that are currently offline. This quick retrieval is possible because most of the sensors that collect the information are registered by default with Tanium Data Service (TDS), which collects the information through recurring questions and stores the results.

> **NOTE**
>
> For more information about about TDS, see Managing Tanium Data Service (TDS) on page 105.
>
> The permissions that are required to view endpoint details are available to the **Administrator** reserved role, **Interact Power User** role, and **Interact Basic User** role.

From the Interact **Question Results** page, you can access two levels of information about an endpoint:

- **Basic information**: This includes the results of the following sensors:
  - **Computer Name**
  - **Tanium Client IP Address**
  - **OS Platform**

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    - **Last Logged in User**
    - **Online** status: online or offline

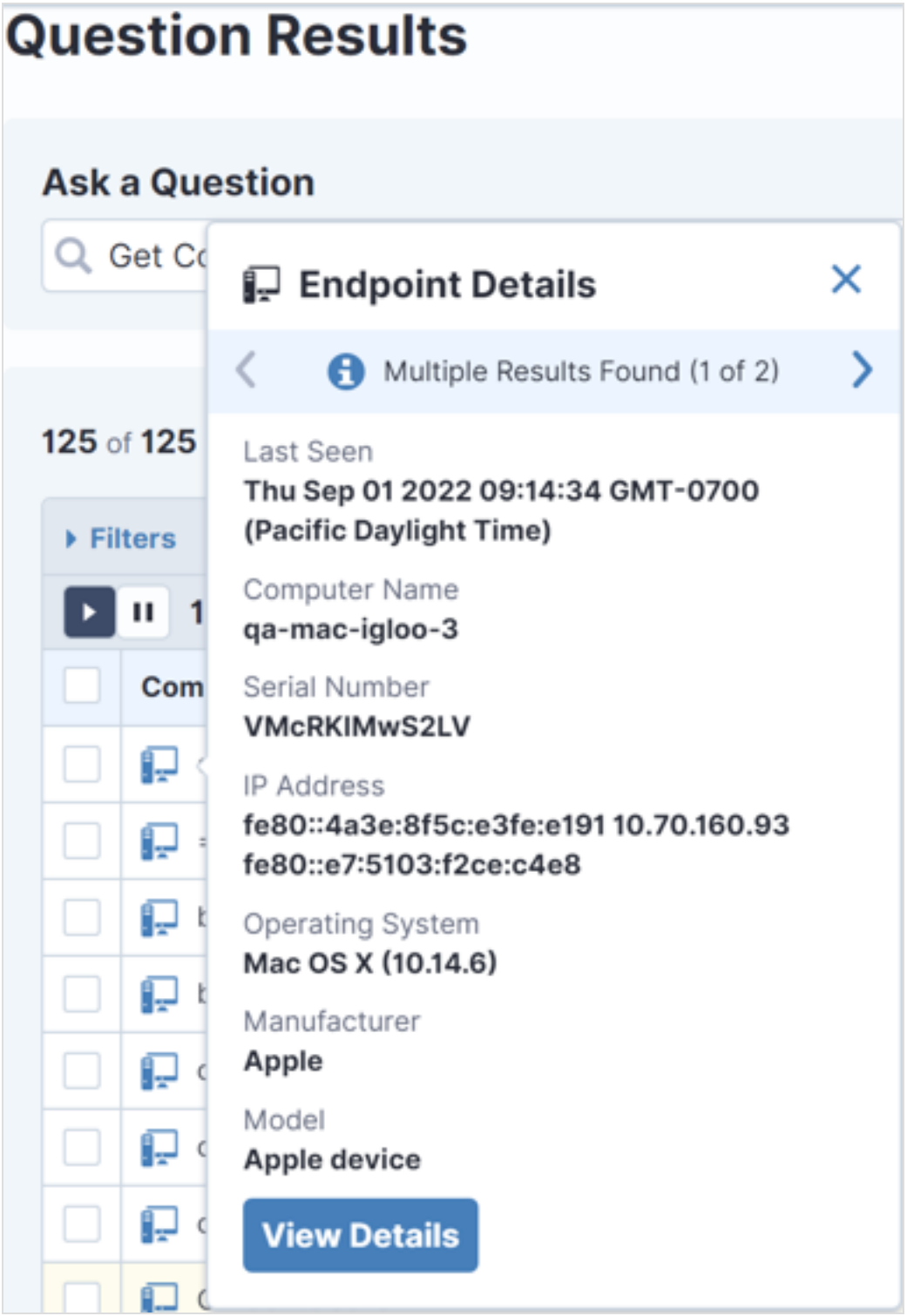
- **Detailed information**: You can open the Endpoint Details page, which shows comprehensive details from dozens of sensors and provides additional options for exploring and managing the endpoint. For more information, see Tanium Reporting User Guide: Working with a single endpoint.

You can access basic or detailed information about an endpoint without first issuing a question by using the **Search Endpoints** field in the Tanium Console header or Tanium **Home** page. For more information, see Search endpoints on page 55.

1. Issue a question that includes the **Computer Name**, **Computer ID**, or **Tanium Client IP Address** sensor. For more information about issuing questions, see Issue a free-form question on page 48 or Issue a question through the Question Builder on page 51.
2. In the **Question Results** grid, click an endpoint icon to see the details for that endpoint.

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An **Endpoint Details** dialog opens to display the basic information. If multiple endpoints have the same **Computer Name**, **Tanium Client IP Address**, or **Last Logged in User**, click Previous or Next in the **Multiple Results Found** banner to find the details for a specific endpoint.



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3. Click **View Details** to open the Endpoint Details page.

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Deploying actions and playbooks in Interact

A Tanium action is a configuration object that you deploy to endpoints to manage a change on those endpoints. In the action configuration, you specify the package that performs the change, endpoint targeting criteria such as an action group, and deployment conditions such as scheduling. You can schedule the action to run immediately or in the future and as a one-time deployment or at recurring intervals. An *adaptive action* deploys in progressive phases called rings that you define in a deployment plan. A *simple action* deploys to all targeted endpoints in one phase.

You can also deploy a series of actions as steps in a Tanium Automate playbook. For example, if question results indicate that some endpoints have non-approved software installed, you can run a playbook that uninstalls the software and performs related cleanup activities. You can run a playbook multiple times to streamline and simplify your business processes.



For the user role permissions required to deploy actions, see Deploy actions. **Automate Playbook execute** permission is required to run playbooks. For more information, see Tanium Automate User Guide: User role requirements.

For information about viewing, running, or creating a playbook, and the available playbook steps, see Tanium Automate User Guide.



Do not deploy an action unless you completely understand its scope, impact on individual endpoints, and impact on the environment given the number of targeted endpoints. Review the best practices before deploying actions. For more information, see Tanium Console User Guide: Actions overview.

Be sure that your organization has authorized you to perform the action. Some organizations require a second administrator to review and approve actions. For more information, see Tanium Console User Guide: Managing action approval.

Disable or delete a simple (non-ring-based) action to stop deploying it, as described in Tanium Console User Guide: Manage scheduled actions. To stop or pause an adaptive (ring-based) action, see Tanium Console User Guide: Stop, pause, or resume deployments.

Select an action or playbook initiation method

Perform the following steps to initiate a new custom action or an existing playbook through Interact.



To initiate an action through other means, such as a Tanium Guardian notification, see Tanium Console User Guide: Select an action initiation method.

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1. Issue a dynamic question (see Issue a free-form question on page 48) or a saved question (see Issue a saved question on page 98).
2. When the **Question Results** page shows the results, select up to 100 rows for the endpoints that require the action or playbook, and then perform one of the following tasks:
    - **Action**: Click **Deploy Action** and go to Configure action settings on page 79.
    - **Playbook**: Click **Start a Playbook**, click **Review Playbook** in the row for the playbook that you want, review the playbook settings to ensure they match your expectations, and click **Start**. For information about viewing, running, or creating a playbook, see Tanium Automate User Guide.

Configure action settings

After you open the **Action Deployment** dialog by initiating an action, configure the Action settings on page 79 and then perform the steps in Deploy or save an action on page 86. Some read-only settings appear only if you open an existing action configuration.

> NOTE
>
> If an existing action has **Start At** and **Re-issue every** values and you clear them instead of specifying new values, those settings revert to the values that existed before you cleared them.

Action settings

Settings	Guidelines
Local Time / UTC	Select a time standard for the **Start At** and **End At** dates/times: • **Local Time** (default) is local to the system that you use to access Console. • **UTC** is Coordinated Universal Time.

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Action settings (continued)

Settings	Guidelines
Deployment Package 	Select a package from the dropdown list or enter a search string to find a package by name. For more information, see Tanium Console User Guide: Packages overview. You might have to configure additional settings based on the **Deployment Package** that you select: • **Parameterized package** Configure any package parameters. For example, if you select the **Set Tanium Server Name List** package, you must enter the **Server Name List**. For more information, see Tanium Console User Guide: Example: Parameterized packages. • **Sensor-sourced package** If the package has a sensor variable in its name, the Tanium Server creates a separate action for each unique value that the sensor returns among the question results that you selected for the action. For example, if the package name includes the sensor **Computer Name**, the action deployment workflow automatically creates an action for each endpoint in the selected results. For more information, see Tanium Console User Guide: Sensor-sourced packages. • **Updated package** If you are re-issuing or editing an action, you cannot change the **Deployment Package** and any package parameters are read-only by default. However, if the package settings changed after the action was last issued or saved, clicking **Update Source Package** makes the action use the latest version of the package and enables you to update parameter values. Click **Revert Source Package** if you want to revert to the default behavior of using the same package version and parameter values as when the action was last issued or saved. If Interact cannot show the original package settings, a link below the **Deployment Package** prompts you to **Click here to continue to use updated package parameters**. For more information, see Tanium Console User Guide: Update action packages.
Size	This read-only setting shows the total size of all the files that are associated with the selected package. The value `Not available` indicates that the package has no associated files. The value `Pending` indicates that the Tanium Server has not finished downloading and caching the files.
Name	Specify a name to identify the action. The name appears in the record for the action on the **Scheduled Actions**, **Action History**, and action approval pages.
Description	(Optional) Enter a description to help other users understand the purpose of the action.
Status	This read-only setting appears when you create or reissue an action, and indicates whether the action is **New** or **Pending Reissue**.
Created	This read-only setting appears when you reissue or edit an action, and indicates the date and time when the action was created.

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Action settings (continued)

Settings	Guidelines
Expiration Period	This read-only setting indicates when the action expires, which means Tanium Clients can no longer run the associated package command. The value is the larger result of the following calculations: • The sum of the command and download timeout values in the selected package. For more information, see Tanium Console User Guide: Command Timeout and Download Timeout. • The sum of the package **Command** timeout and optional Distribute Over on page 83 action setting. The expiration applies to each deployment of a recurring action but does not change the schedule settings, which include **Reissue Every**, **Start At**, and **End At**.
Schedule Type	Select one of the following options: • **One Time Deployment**: Deploy the action only once. This option is required for adaptive actions and optional for simple actions. • **Recurring Deployment**: Schedule the action to deploy at intervals (**Re-issue every**) over a specified period (from the **Start At** to **End At** date-times). This option is required for policy actions and is available only for simple actions.
Re-issue every	This setting appears only if you set the **Schedule Type** to **Recurring Deployment**. Recurring deployments are available only for simple actions, not adaptive actions. Specify a number and unit: **Minutes**, **Hours**, **Days**. The **Re-issue every** interval must exceed the action **Expiration Period**. For more information about the use cases for recurring deployments, see Tanium Console User Guide: Scheduled actions.

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Action settings (continued)

Settings	Guidelines
Start At End At	By default, actions that do not require approval deploy immediately after you click **Deploy Action** at the bottom of the **Action Deployment** page. To override the default behavior, set a **Start At** date/time. For example, you might want deployment to start during a maintenance window for the targeted endpoints. Future start dates are available only for simple actions, not adaptive actions. NOTE If you set a Distribute Over on page 83 value, it delays the start time of the action beyond the **Start At** value. Note the following behavior when action approval is enable: • **Start At** time omitted: The action deploys immediately after it is approved, provided other action conditions do not preclude the Tanium Server from deploying it. • **Start At** time specified: The action deploys at the next start time following approval. For example, if you set the action to deploy daily at 1:00 am and a user approves it at 2:00 am, the action deploys the next day at 1:00 am. NOTE For more information, see Tanium Console User Guide: Enable or disable action approval. The **End At** setting appears only if you set the **Schedule Type** to **Recurring Deployment**. Configure the setting if you do not want to re-deploy the action indefinitely. For example, you might want to stop deployment before the end of a maintenance window for the targeted endpoints. BEST PRACTICE Specify an **End At** date-time unless you are sure that you want to re-deploy the action indefinitely. If you are not sure, configuring the schedule to end in six months is better than running indefinitely.

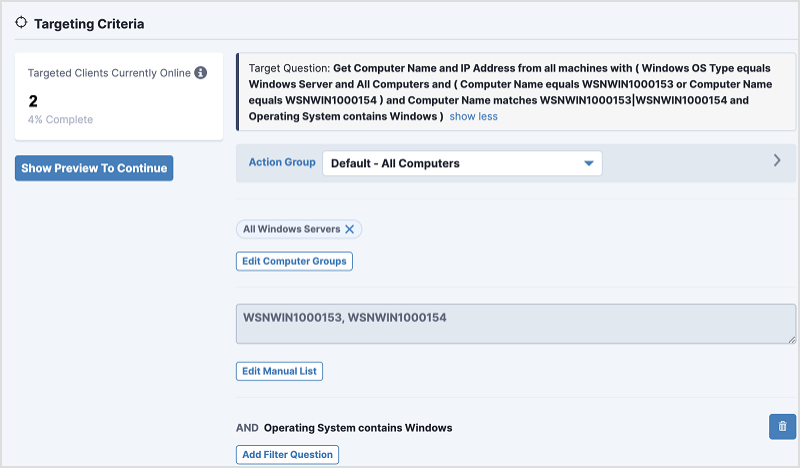
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Action settings (continued)

Settings	Guidelines
Distribute Over	The Tanium Server distributes actions to endpoints in batches. The **Distribute Over** option randomizes the distribution over the specified period to prevent spikes in network traffic or other resource consumption. For example, an action that depends on a sensor that queries Active Directory (AD) might cause a flood of traffic to the AD server unless the action is distributed over time. Similarly, an action that targets endpoints in a virtual machine farm might exhaust the shared CPU or memory resources if all endpoints simultaneously run a resource-intensive program. When the Tanium Client receives an action from the Tanium Server, the Client evaluates the action targeting criteria to verify that its endpoint is a target before calculating a **Distribute Over** delay to the action start time. Each Client sets a delay interval that ranges from zero to the **Distribute Over** value, which represents the maximum. After the delay, the Client starts running the action without re-evaluating the targeting criteria. The longer the delay between the targeting evaluation and action start, the higher the risk of the Client running an action for which the endpoint no longer qualifies. For example, an action might target endpoints with low disk space to run a package that removes data to clear space. An endpoint that has low disk space when the Client evaluates the targeting might no longer meet the low space threshold by the time the action starts. The Client uses the **Distribute Over** delay to calculate the action Expiration Period on page 81. Therefore, the **Distribute Over** value affects the action status that the Client reports to the Tanium Server. For more information, see Tanium Console User Guide: Action states. You can set a **Distribute Over** value only for simple actions, not adaptive actions.

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Action settings (continued)

Settings	Guidelines
Targeting Criteria	By default, the action targets all endpoints that match: • The **Target Question**, which is initially based on the rows that you selected in the **Question Results** page when you clicked **Deploy Action** there. The **Target Question** updates automatically when you change other targeting criteria. • The predefined **Default - All Computers** action group, which includes all managed endpoints unless you changed the group membership before initiating the action deployment. You can also select a different **Action Group**. Optionally, refine the targeting based on computer group membership or a filter question. • **Computer Groups**: Click this button, select computer groups, and click **Save**. • **Question Criteria**: Click this button, enter a question to target endpoints that return results, and click **Save**. For a recurring action, only the endpoints that match the latest results of the **Target Question** will perform the action.  NOTE Interact applies Boolean AND logic if you add both a manual list of endpoints and computer groups. If you **Enable Ring Deployment**, the **Targeting Criteria** apply as a filter to the endpoint assignments in a deployment plan. For more information, see Tanium Console User Guide: Endpoint targeting.

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Action settings (continued)

Settings	Guidelines
Enable Ring Deployment 	Select this option to deploy an action through rings. This option is available only for an adaptive action that meets the following conditions: • The action is new. • The **Schedule Type** is **One Time Deployment**. • The action is scheduled to deploy immediately, not with a future **Start At** date. • The action does not have a **Distribute Over** value.  NOTE For more information about adaptive actions, see Tanium Console User Guide: Ring-based deployment. Perform the following tasks to select and (optionally) review a deployment plan: • **Select a plan** Select the deployment plan in the **Select Plan** dropdown list. If only one deployment plan specifies a **Preferred for Deployment Type** that matches the action deployment type, that plan is the default selection. For more information, see Tanium Console User Guide: Deployment types. You can select a different plan than the default. The dropdown list shows the Tanium icon for Tanium-managed plans. • **Review ring details** By default, each ring section is collapsed and shows only the wait time, number of progression **Criteria**, and target endpoint count. You can Expand a ring or **Expand All** rings to show additional ring settings, such as assigned endpoints and progression criteria. The Not Applicable icon indicates criteria that do not apply to the current deployment type. TIP For each ring, you can click the count of target endpoints to view a list of the endpoints. The Interact **Question Results** page shows the list in a new browser tab. • **Review deferred endpoints** If the deployment plan specifies deferred endpoints, you also can Expand the **Deferred Endpoints** section to see the filter groups that are deferred to the last ring. TIP To view the entire deployment plan configuration in a new browser tab, click **Plan Details**. Optionally, you can then edit the plan settings. For more information, see: • Tanium Console User Guide: Configure the deployment plan overview • Tanium Console User Guide: Configure rings, progression criteria, and deferred endpoints

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Action settings (continued)

Settings	Guidelines
Custom Alerts 	(Adaptive actions only) Click the toggle to enable or disable the automatic generation of alerts in Tanium Console when events (changes in the deployment state) occur. For example, you can alert yourself (the **author-by-default**) when the deployment successfully progresses to the next ring or notify action administrators when the deployment fails to progress. Console shows the alerts as Guide notifications. For each combination of events and recipients (users to notify), click , select one or more **Trigger Events** to generate the alerts, and select one or more **Console Recipients**. If you click **Save as Default** for one combination, all Tanium platform actions that users subsequently create have **Custom Alerts** enabled by default and the default combination is automatically configured in those actions.

Deploy or save an action

After you Select an action or playbook initiation method on page 78 and configure the Action settings on page 79, perform the following steps on the **Action Deployment** page to deploy an action or save edits to its settings.

1. Go to the **Targeting Criteria** section, click **Show Preview to Continue**, and review the affected endpoints.
2. Click **Deploy** to deploy the action or click **Save Action** to save your edits.
3. If the number of **Estimated clients affected** exceeds the configured threshold (the default is 100), enter the estimated number and click **Confirm**. The Tanium Server enforces this confirmation step to ensure that you understand the impact that an action will have on your network.

If the action deploys immediately, a page opens automatically to show the action status. If the action requires approval or has a future start date/time, you can view its status after deployment starts in the **Action History** page or Deployment Details page. For more information, see Review action status on page 86.

Review action status

1. If the action does not require approval and deployment starts immediately, skip to the next step. Otherwise, go to **Administration > Actions > Scheduled Actions** and confirm the action is listed.
   Perform the next step after:
   a. A user approves the action, if approval is required. For more information, see Tanium Console User Guide: Approve pending actions.
   b. Deployment starts, if it is scheduled for a future date/time.
2. Perform one of the following steps based on the type of action:
   - **Adaptive action**: The Deployment Details page opens automatically. For more information, see Tanium Console User Guide: View all the details for a single deployment.

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- **Simple action**: If the action did not require approval and deployment started immediately, the **Action Status** page opens automatically. Otherwise, you can manually open the **Action Status** page from the **Action History** page after the action is approved and starts deploying. For more information, see Tanium Console User Guide: View status for simple actions.



To troubleshoot action deployment issues, see Tanium Console User Guide: Monitor actions.

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Managing saved questions in Interact

Saved questions overview

Saved questions are questions that you store on the Tanium Server as configuration objects that include settings such as reissue intervals and access permissions. Saved questions expedite collecting information from endpoints because you can reissue the questions without reconstructing them in the Interact **Ask a Question** field or **Question Builder**. You can configure settings that facilitate merge and drill-down operations when you analyze question results. You can also associate each question with specific packages to facilitate action deployment.

NOTE

To control which saved questions appear as favorites on the Tanium **Home** page, see Tanium Console User Guide: Work with favorite Interact categories, dashboards, and saved questions.

For information about the user roles and permissions required to manage saved questions, see Tanium Console User Guide: Manage saved questions. For information about how RBAC assignments control who can issue saved questions and view the results, see Tanium Console User Guide: Policy action.

Scheduled saved questions

You can reissue saved questions manually or based on a schedule through Tanium solutions or custom applications that use the Tanium XML API. For example, you can use Tanium™ Connect to periodically issue a saved question and send the results to an external server. If you schedule reissue intervals, saved questions can collect results in the future from endpoints that are not yet online.

Predefined and custom saved questions

Tanium solutions that you import provide predefined saved questions. You can also create a saved question by issuing a dynamic question through the **Ask a Question** field or **Question Builder** and then saving the question. For more information, see Create a saved question on page 94.

Management tasks for saved questions

Use the Interact **Overview** page to perform the following tasks for saved questions:

- View, issue, create, and edit saved questions.
- Move questions between content sets.
- Define categories and dashboards, and assign saved questions to them.
- View and select favorite categories, dashboards, and saved questions.

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NOTE

To control which saved questions appear as favorites on the Tanium **Home** page, see Tanium Console User Guide: Work with favorite Interact categories, dashboards, and saved questions.

For more information about the user roles and permissions required to manage saved questions, see Tanium Console User Guide: Manage saved questions. For more information about how RBAC assignments control who can issue saved questions and view the results, see RBAC for saved questions, dashboards, and categories on page 90.

Best practices for saved questions

The following are best practices for creating, editing, and issuing saved questions:

- **Maximum sensor or data age**

  A lower value for the **Max Sensor Age** or **Maximum Data Age** setting increases CPU usage on endpoints. Do not lower the default values for sensors in saved questions that periodically reissue, or in questions that you use to deploy actions, or in questions that define membership in computer management groups and filter groups. Both settings control the maximum time for which Tanium Clients can use a cached result for a sensor, instead of re-executing it for a fresh result, when answering questions that use the sensor. You define the **Max Sensor Age** in a sensor configuration and the setting applies to all questions that use the sensor. You set the **Maximum Data Age** for a sensor when you issue a question and the setting applies only to that question. For more information, see Tanium Console User Guide: Max Sensor Age and Maximum Data Age on page 145.

- **Registered sensors**

  If a question uses sensors that are registered with Tanium Data Service (TDS), Tanium Reporting has advantages over Interact for viewing the results. For more information, see Viewing results in Interact or Reporting on page 89.

- **Tanium-defined questions**

  Do not edit saved questions that are provided through Tanium solutions. For more information, see Tanium Console User Guide: Tip 4: Limit customizations to Tanium content. Contact Tanium Support on page 120 and review User-specific settings and results for saved questions on page 91 if editing Tanium-defined questions is necessary. Alternatively, you can Clone a saved question on page 97 that Tanium provides and edit the clone. You can also edit custom saved questions that you created from scratch.

Viewing results in Interact or Reporting

Interact provides a **Saved Question Results** page and dashboard results page for viewing the results of saved questions and dashboards of saved questions (see Question results overview on page 58). However, if you want to review results from sensors that are registered with TDS, Tanium Reporting provides the following advantages over Interact:

- **Fresh results**

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For online endpoints, results that you see in Reporting are never stale because TDS reissues questions every 30 minutes and the questions remain open for that entire interval. By contrast, results that you collect through Interact saved questions become stale if the associated values on endpoints change after the 10-minute question expiration interval but before the next reissue interval. For more information, see Question expiration on page 22.

- **Offline endpoint data**

  For offline endpoints, you can see results in Reporting for up to 30 days (the storage duration for registered sensors), whereas the Tanium Server stores the results of Interact saved questions for only 7 days. For more information, see Display results for online and offline endpoints on page 61.

Reporting shows results in reports and on the **Explore Data** page. For more information, see Tanium Reporting User Guide: Working with reports.

You must register sensors with TDS before their results appear in Reporting. For more information, see Register or unregister sensors for collection on page 109.

RBAC for saved questions, dashboards, and categories

Content set permissions and dependencies

By default, users can see a saved question, dashboard, or category only if you assign those users a role with the associated read permission for the content set of that content. For example, users require **Saved Question read** permission on a content set to issue saved questions in that set. Users require **Saved Question read** and **Dashboard read** permissions to issue a dashboard of questions. Users require **Dashboard Group read** permission to see a category.



You can override the default RBAC controls and allow access only to content owners and administrators through the **Visibility** setting of a question, dashboard, or category. For more information, see Visibility options on page 91.

Any single saved question, dashboard, or category can belong to only one content set. Assigning questions to dashboards or assigning dashboards to categories does not automatically realign the content set permissions of that content to account for dependencies. For example, consider a case where you configure the following RBAC assignments:

- **Content set assignments**: You assign two saved questions and a dashboard to content sets named **Base** and **Core Content**:

Content set name	Content name
Base	Dashboard 1 Saved Question A
Core Content	Saved Question B

- **Dashboard assignments**: You assign Saved Question A and Saved Question B to Dashboard 1.
- **Role configuration**: You assign **Saved Question read** and **Dashboard read** permissions only to the **Base** content set in Role X. The role does not provide permissions to the **Core Content** set.

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After you assign Role X to users, they can see Dashboard 1 and Saved Question A but not Saved Question B.

For more details about content permissions and content sets, see:

- Tanium Console User Guide: Content management permissions: Describes the roles and permissions required to manage saved questions, dashboards, and categories
- Tanium Console User Guide: Managing content sets: Describes how to view, create, edit, and reassign content sets

Visibility options

In the configuration of each saved question, dashboard, or category, you can select one of the following **Visibility** options to control user access to that content:

- **According to RBAC**

  Role permissions on content sets control access to the content, as described in Content set permissions and dependencies on page 90.

- **Only the Owner and Admins can see this object**

  Only the content owner and users with the **Administrator** reserved role can see the saved question, dashboard, or category. Other users cannot see the content even if they have the necessary content set permissions.

  By default, the user who creates a question, dashboard, or category is its owner but you can transfer ownership to another user. For more information, see Tanium Console User Guide: Delete content or transfer ownership.

To change the **Visibility** option for a saved question, see Edit a saved question on page 98. To change the option for a dashboard or category, see Edit category or dashboard settings on page 103.

The computer management groups that you assign to a user determine from which endpoints the question results are visible to the user. To change computer group assignments, see Tanium Console User Guide: Assign computer groups. For more information about how computer group assignments affect the visibility of recent results, see Tanium Console User Guide: Recent results and computer group assignments.

User-specific settings and results for saved questions

If you configure RBAC permissions that enable multiple users to work with the same saved question, the following factors control which question settings and results those users can see:

- **User-specific configuration changes**

  When a user saves changes to the question configuration, the Tanium Server saves a copy of the question. Anytime that user subsequently views the question, only the copy with the user-specific changes is visible instead of the original question.

- **Computer group management rights**

  The computer groups that you assign to users determine the **Reissue** value that they see in the question configuration and which recent results the users see for that question.

For more information, see Tanium Console User Guide: User-specific saved questions.

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View and filter saved questions

The number of saved questions tends to increase over time as users create them during the course of regular Tanium activities. You can apply filters to find specific questions in a long list. The available filters and the question settings that you can see vary by Tanium Console page:

- **Administration > Content > Saved Questions** page: Use this page to view all question settings and other information, such as when a question was last modified. For more information, see Tanium Console User Guide: View saved question details.
- **Modules > Interact > Overview** page: Use this page to see the list of questions and their text (syntax).
    - View question text on page 92
    - Filter by categories and dashboards on page 92
    - Filter by text strings on page 93
    - Filter by favorites on page 94

View question text

To see the full text of a question on the Interact **Overview** page:

1. From the Main menu, go to **Modules > Interact > Overview**.
2. Hover over the question in the **Saved Questions** panel.
3. Click Options and select **Show Question Text**.

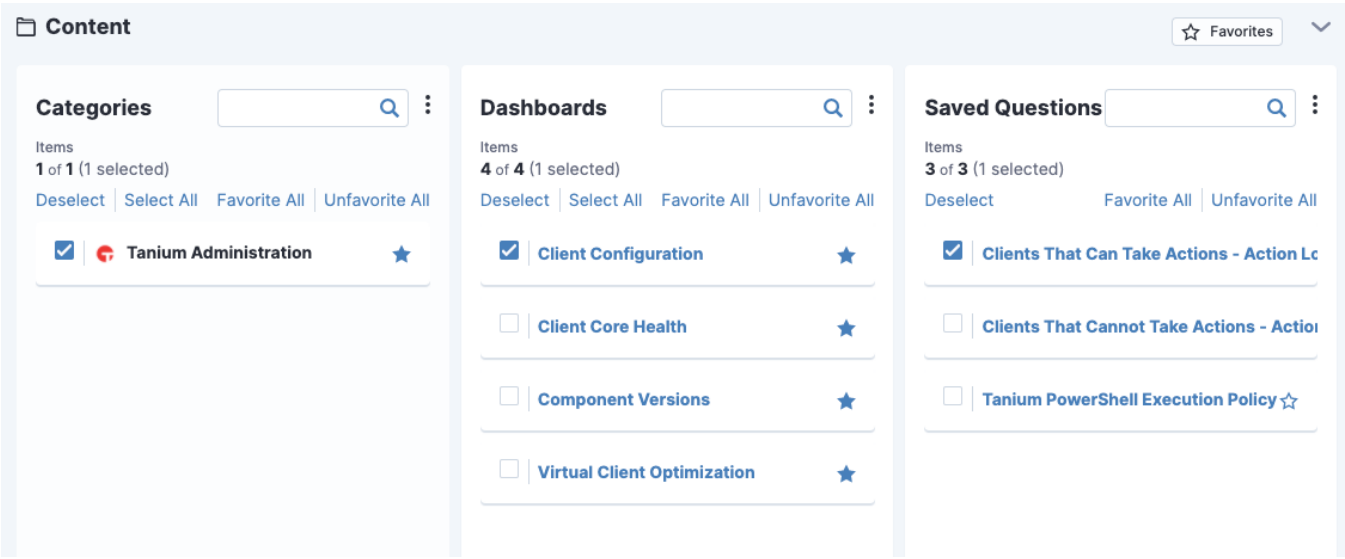
Filter by categories and dashboards

1. From the Main menu, go to **Modules > Interact > Overview**.
2. Select checkboxes in the panels so that only items belonging to the selected categories or dashboards appear. You can apply multiple filters.

Click **Deselect** in a panel header to clear all the panel filters.

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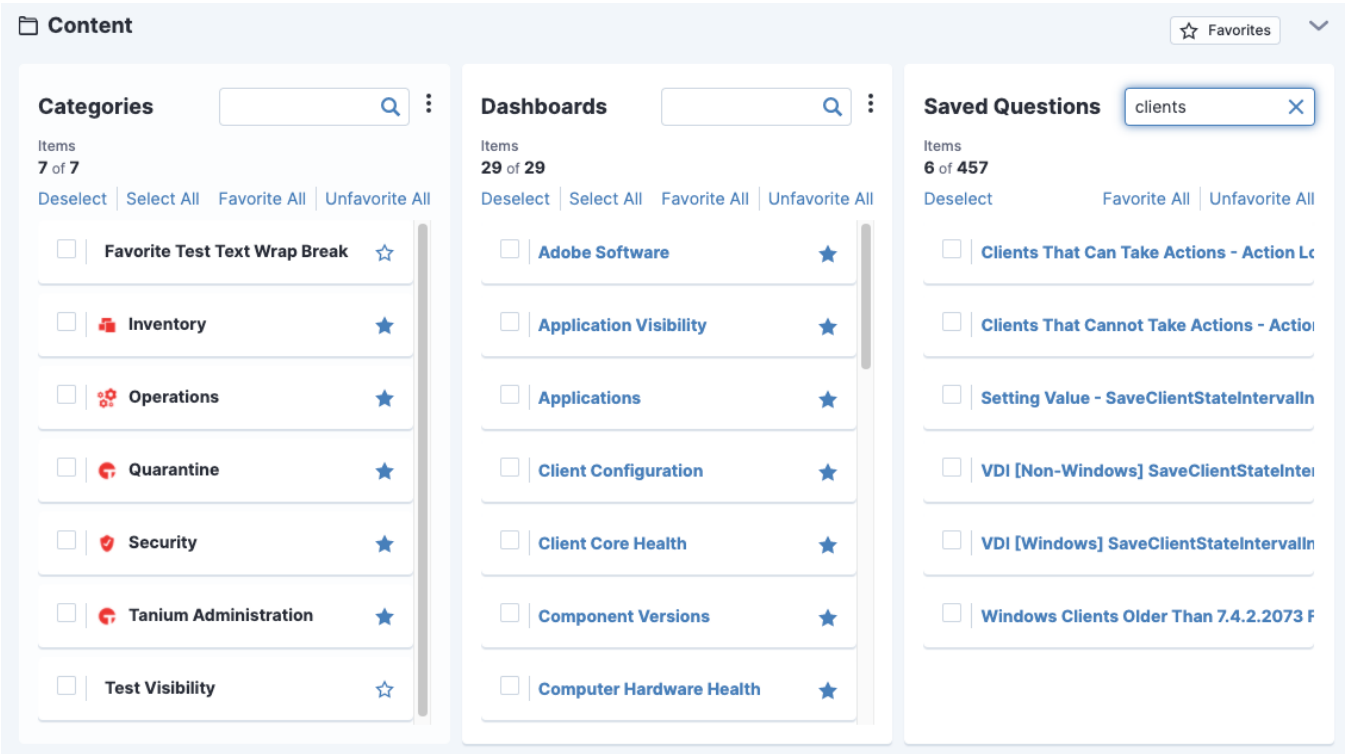
Filter Interact content by category and dashboard



Filter by text strings

1. From the Main menu, go to **Modules > Interact > Overview**.
2. Use the text filters in the panels to find items that match a specified string. Click the **x** in the text search box to clear the filter.

Filter Interact content by text



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Filter by favorites

A *favorite* is a category, dashboard, or saved question that you want to use as an optional filter on the Interact **Overview** page. The Tanium Server saves favorites as a user-specific setting; your favorites selections do not apply to other users.

NOTE

Favorites also appear on the Tanium **Home** page. For more information, see Tanium Console User Guide: Work with favorite Interact categories, dashboards, and saved questions.

To configure the display of favorite content, perform the following steps:

1. From the Main menu, go to **Modules > Interact > Overview**.
2. Click the Favorites icon next to the name of a category, dashboard, or saved question to select or deselect that item as a favorite.

   TIP

   To reduce clicks, click **Favorite All** or **Unfavorite All** in a panel header and then toggle on or off individual items in that panel.

3. To view only favorite categories, dashboards, and saved questions, click **Favorites** in the upper right of the **Content** section. The button changes to a dark background to indicate that the panels display only favorites. Click **Favorites** again to toggle off the filter.

   TIP

   After you find and select your favorite **Categories** or **Dashboards**, you might want to toggle off the **Favorites** filter so that the **Saved Questions** panel displays both favorite and non-favorite questions.

Create a saved question

IMPORTANT

If you create a saved question that has a parameterized sensor, review Questions with parameterized sensors on page 19 to understand the impact on results that Tanium Clients return if the sensor definition changes.

TIP

Instead of creating a new saved question from scratch, cloning is usually easier if the question settings differ only slightly from an existing question. For more information, see Clone a saved question on page 97.

BEST PRACTICE

Review Best practices for saved questions on page 89 before creating saved questions.

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1. Issue a dynamic question as described in Issue a free-form question on page 48 or Issue a question through the Question Builder on page 51.

   The **Question Results** page shows the results.

2. Click **Save** above the question field and configure the following settings.

Saved question settings

Settings	Guidelines
Name	Enter a name of up to 255 characters to identify the saved question in lists that appear in Tanium Interact workflows.
Content Set	Assign the question to a content set. The list is populated with all content sets for which you have **Saved Question write** permission.
Tags	To add tags for filtering lists of saved questions in Interact, click **Add tags**, enter a **Name** to identify the tag, and enter the tag **Value**. Add a **Name**-**Value** pair for each additional tag. NOTE: On the **Saved Questions** page, the **Tags** column is hidden by default. To show the column, click Customize Columns and select **Tags**.
Visibility	• **According to RBAC**. Users must have the **Saved Question read** permission for the content set to which the saved question belongs to see the saved question. • **Only the Owner and Admins can see this object**. Only the question owner and users with the **Administrator** reserved role can see the saved question. NOTE: By default, the user who creates the question is the owner but you can transfer ownership to another user. For more information, see Tanium Console User Guide: Delete content or transfer ownership.

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Saved question settings (continued)

Settings	Guidelines
Reissue	If you want to periodically reissue the question, select **Reissue this question every** and specify a number and unit for the reissue interval: **Minutes**, **Hours**, **Days**. The Tanium Server first issues the saved question immediately after you save the configuration and Tanium Clients that are online at that time return their answers. You can use the reissue option to account for Clients that are currently offline but will be online later. For example, employee laptops that are offline at the moment you save the saved question configuration might be online at least once during an eight-hour reissue interval. If you configure reissuing, the Tanium Server reissues the saved question in the background at the specified interval. For example, if you save the saved question configuration at 9:00 a.m. local time and specify a reissue interval of every eight hours, the the Server reissues the saved question at 5:00 p.m., 1:00 a.m., 9:00 a.m., and so on. By default, the Tanium Server stores responses for seven days. The Interact **Question Results** page shows the responses as **Recent** results for endpoints that are offline when the the Server issues the question. For more information, see Display results for online and offline endpoints on page 61. You can use the question history to verify that the Tanium Server issues the saved questions based on the specified reissue interval. For more information, see Tanium Console User Guide: Question history.  NOTE If you specify an eight-hour reissue interval, the Tanium Server reissues the question exactly every eight hours, regardless of time changes due to daylight savings time. Which users can see the reissue interval for a saved question depends on the computer groups assigned to those users. For more information, see Tanium Console User Guide: User-specific saved questions.
Show this question in the list of questions that are available for drilling down	Enable this option to include the question in the list that users see when selecting a question for a drill-down operation on question results. For more information, see Drill down into results on page 71.
Show this question in the list of questions that are available to merge	Enable this option to include the question in the list that users see when selecting a question for a merge operation on question results. Only non-counting questions provide this option. For more information, see Merge questions on page 68.  NOTE You cannot change this setting after you save a new saved question configuration. Enabling this option automatically enables the **Yes, turn into non-counting question** option.

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Saved question settings (continued)

Settings	Guidelines
Do not turn into non-counting question Yes, turn into non-counting question	The option to convert the question to a non-counting question is available only if the question has one sensor in the `get` clause. A single-sensor question is a counting question by default. Converting to a non-counting question is required for users to include the question in merge operations. However, converting has other ramifications to consider before you select that option. For more information, see Counting and non-counting questions on page 16. NOTE You cannot change this setting after you save a new saved question configuration.
Save these settings for myself and other users with no prior settings saved Save these settings for my view only	Select whether the **User Settings** values that you configured are visible to other users who might view the saved question configuration. This visibility option is useful when you want a question to initially have the same **User Settings** values for everyone until individual users specify their own values. • **Save these settings for myself and other users with no prior settings saved**: The **User Settings** that you configured appear to all users who view the question configuration. If a user subsequently edits the settings, only that user will thereafter see the values that the user configured instead of the values that you initially configured. • **Save these settings for my view only**: When users other than yourself view the question configuration, the **User Settings** have no values until individual users specify values.
Associated Packages	Optionally, select the packages that you want to appear at the top of the **Deployment Package** dropdown list in the **Action Deployment** page when users deploy an action based on the question. By default, the **Deployment Package** selection is set to the first package that you add to the **Associated Packages**. As an example, for a question that returns the logging level of Tanium Clients on Windows endpoints, you might want to add **Set Windows Tanium Client Logging Level** as an **Associated Package**. For more information, see Deploying actions and playbooks in Interact on page 78 and Tanium Console User Guide: Example: Saved questions with associated packages.

3. Expand the **Preview** section to preview the results of the saved question, and then click **Save**.

The question appears in the **Administration > Content > Saved Questions** page.

Clone a saved question

Cloning is useful when you need to:

- Create a modified version of a Tanium-defined saved question.
- Create a new saved question with settings that differ only slightly from an existing question. This is often easier than creating a new question from scratch.

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BEST PRACTICE

Review Best practices for saved questions on page 89 before cloning saved questions.

Perform the following steps to clone a saved question:

1. From the Main menu, go to **Modules > Interact > Overview**.
2. In the **Saved Questions** panel, mouse over the question, click Options, and select an option to issue the question:
   - **Copy to Question Bar**: Go to the **Ask a Question** field, optionally modify the question, and press `Enter`. For more information, see Issue a free-form question on page 48.
   - **Copy to Question Builder**: Optionally modify the question and then click **Ask Question**. For more information, see Issue a question through the Question Builder on page 51.
3. Click **Save**, configure the Saved question settings on page 95, and click **Save**.

Edit a saved question

You can edit all the attributes of a saved question except the actual query (**Question Text**).

NOTE

To edit the query, create a new question. For more information, see Create a saved question on page 94.

BEST PRACTICE

Review Best practices for saved questions on page 89 before editing questions.

TIP

To change the content set assignment for multiple saved questions that must belong to the same set, see Tanium Console User Guide: Move saved questions between content sets.

1. Use one of the following methods to open the **Edit Saved Question** page:
   - From the Main menu, go to **Administration > Content > Saved Questions** and click the question **Name**.
   - From the Main menu, go to **Modules > Interact > Overview**, find the question in the **Saved Questions** panel, mouse over the question, click Options, and select **Edit Properties**.
2. Configure the settings described in Saved question settings on page 95 and click **Save**.

Issue a saved question

After you save a question, use one of the following methods to issue the question to endpoints:

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- **Interact Overview page**

  From the Main menu, go to **Modules > Interact > Overview**, go to the **Saved Questions** panel, and click the question name.

- **Tanium Home page**

  Go to the Tanium **Home** page and, if the question has favorite status, go to the **Favorite Interact Questions** section and click the question name. If the **Favorite Interact Questions** section is not visible, see Tanium Console User Guide: Work with favorite Interact categories, dashboards, and saved questions.

- **Saved Questions page**

  From the Main menu, go to **Administration > Content > Saved Questions**, select a question, and click **Load**.

- **Question configuration**

  To automatically reissue a saved question at intervals, edit the question configuration and set the **Reissue** interval. For more information, see Edit a saved question on page 98.

Tanium Console shows the results in the saved question results page. To filter or otherwise manipulate the results, see Managing question results in Interact on page 58.

BEST PRACTICE

Use Tanium Reporting instead of Interact saved questions if you want to review results from sensors that are registered with Tanium Data Service (TDS). For more information, see Viewing results in Interact or Reporting on page 89.

Issue a dashboard of saved questions

In some cases, it is useful to issue several saved questions that are related based on the kind of information they retrieve from endpoints. In such cases, you can group the questions in a single dashboard and issue them simultaneously. For example, the predefined **Hardware Inventory** dashboard contains questions that retrieve chassis type, operating system, monitor, CPU, disk, memory, and BIOS information. For more information, see Interact dashboards and categories on page 23.

BEST PRACTICE

Use Tanium Reporting instead of Interact dashboards if you want to review results from sensors that are registered with Tanium Data Service (TDS). For more information, see Interact overview on page 12.

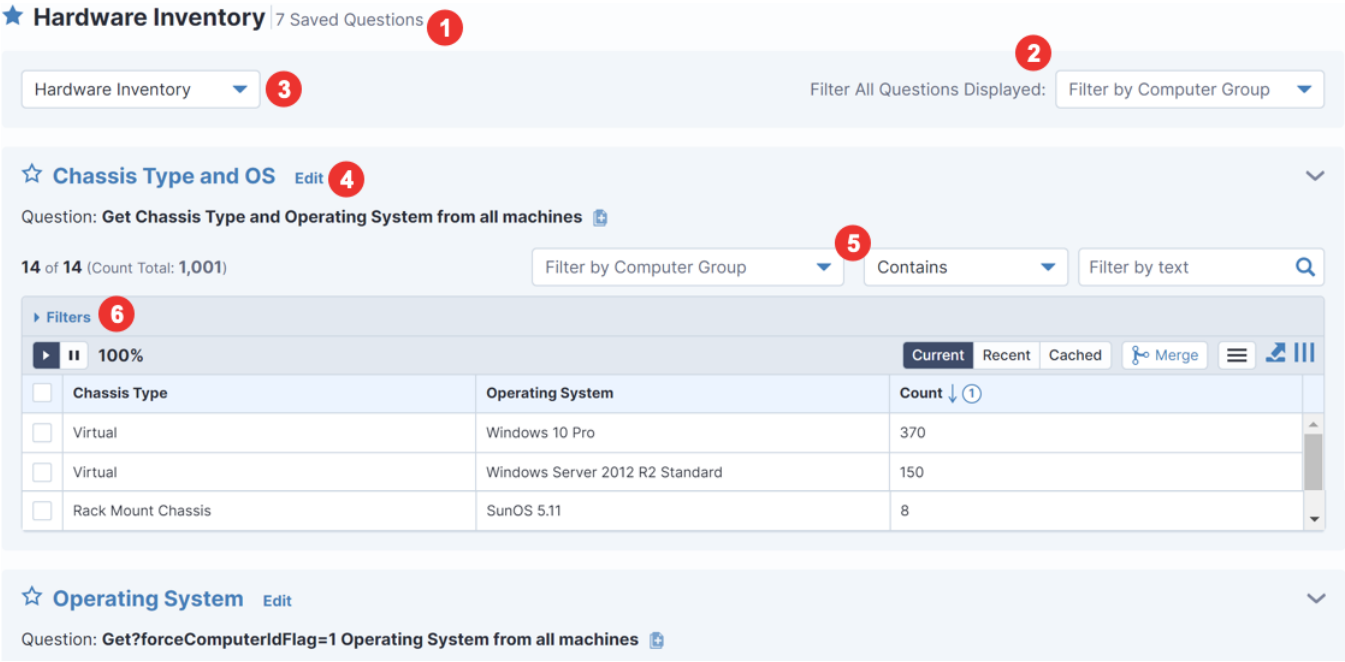
To issue all the questions in a dashboard:

1. From the Main menu, go to **Modules > Interact > Overview**.
2. In the **Dashboards** panel, click the dashboard name.

   The dashboard results page appears, which shows a results grid for each saved question in the dashboard.

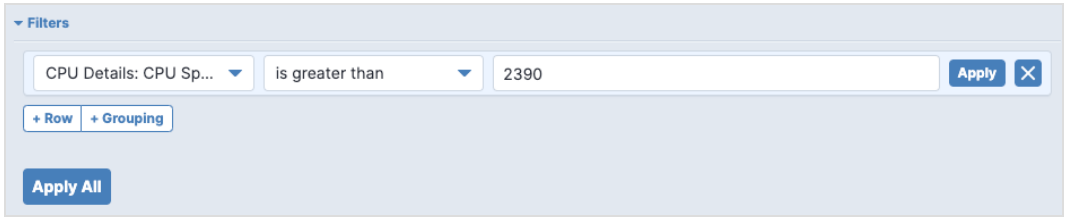
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Dashboard results page



For each question, the dashboard results page provides all the features that are available in the saved question results page, such as viewing **Current**, **Recent**, or **Cached** results. For more information, see Managing question results in Interact on page 58. The dashboard results page also has the following features (matching the numbers in the figure Dashboard results page on page 100):

1. The page shows the dashboard name, favorite status (★ for favorite, ☆ for non-favorite), and number of saved questions in the dashboard. Click the favorite icon ★/☆ to toggle the favorite status of the dashboard.
2. Use the **Filter All Questions Displayed** drop-down to filter all the results grids by computer group.
3. Use the dashboards dropdown list to issue a different dashboard.
4. For each results grid, the page shows the question name and favorite status. Click the favorite icon ★/☆ to toggle the favorite status of the question. Click the question name to reissue the question. Click **Edit** to change the question settings. For more information, see Edit a saved question on page 98.
5. Filter by computer group or text string.
6. Apply additional filters to a specific results grid.



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Manage categories and dashboards

Interact provides predefined dashboards and categories for organizing saved questions. For example, the **Inventory** category contains all the dashboards related to your hardware, software, and virtual inventory. The **Applications** dashboard contains saved questions that collect information about installed and running applications. You can manage both predefined and custom dashboards and categories to suit the needs of your organization. For example, you might create a custom dashboard to contain custom saved questions that do not relate to any existing dashboard.

The following tasks describe how to create, edit, reassign, export, or delete dashboards and categories.

> NOTE
>
> For more conceptual information, see Interact dashboards and categories on page 23.

View and filter categories or dashboards

You can filter the categories and dashboards on the Interact **Overview** page if the lists are too long to scan quickly.

- Filter by categories and dashboards on page 92
- Filter by text strings on page 93
- Filter by favorites on page 94

To view the settings of a category or dashboard, open it in edit mode. For more information, see Edit category or dashboard settings on page 103.

Create a category

1. From the Main menu, go to **Modules > Interact > Overview**.
2. In the **Categories** panel heading, click Options and select **New Category**.
3. Configure the following settings and click **Save**:

Category settings

Setting	Description
Name	Enter a name to identify the category.
Content Set	Assign a content set to control user access to the category. NOTE: If you set the **Visibility** option to **Only the Owner and Admins can see this object**, other users cannot see the category even if they have the necessary content set permissions.
Change Icon	(Optional) Click **Choose File** and select the file of an icon to add as a visual identifier for the category.
Visibility	Select one of the options described in Visibility options on page 91 to control user access to the category.

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Create a dashboard

1. From the Main menu, go to **Modules > Interact > Overview**.
2. In the **Dashboards** panel heading, click Options and select **New Dashboard**.
3. Configure the following settings and click **Save**:

Dashboard settings

Setting	Description
Name	Enter a name to identify the dashboard.
Content Set	Assign a content set to control user access to the dashboard. NOTE If you set the **Visibility** option to **Only the Owner and Admins can see this object**, other users cannot see the category even if they have the necessary content set permissions.
Change Icon	(Optional) Click **Choose File** and select the file of an icon to add as a visual identifier for the dashboard.
Visibility	Select one of the options described in Visibility options on page 91 to control user access to the dashboard.

Assign dashboards to a category

1. From the Main menu, go to **Modules > Interact > Overview**.
2. In the **Categories** panel, mouse over the category, click Options, and select **Add/Remove Dashboards**.
3. In the **Dashboards** panel, select the dashboards to include in this category and click **Apply**.

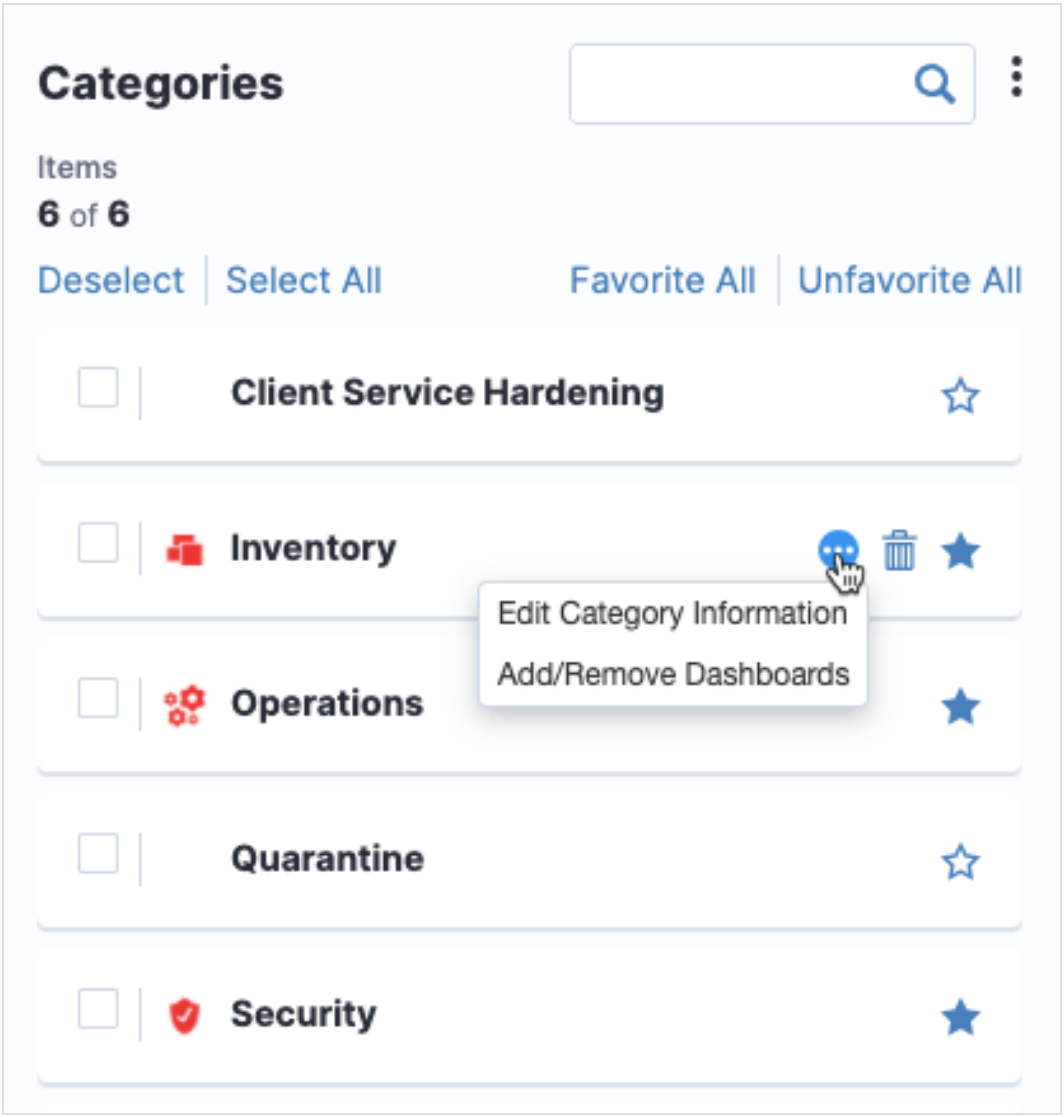
Assign saved questions to a dashboard

1. From the Main menu, go to **Modules > Interact > Overview**.
2. In the **Dashboards** panel, mouse over the category, click Options, and select **Add/Remove Saved Questions**.
3. In the **Saved Questions** panel, select the saved questions to include in this dashboard and click **Apply**.

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Edit category or dashboard settings

1. From the Main menu, go to **Modules > Interact > Overview**.
2. In the **Categories** or **Dashboards** panel, mouse over the category or dashboard, click Options ..., and select **Edit Category Information** or **Edit Dashboard Information**.



3. Edit the settings and save the configuration. For more information, see Category settings on page 101 or Dashboard settings on page 102.

TIP To edit saved questions settings, see Edit a saved question on page 98.

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Delete a category or dashboard configuration

When you delete a category, the Tanium Server does not assign its dashboards to any other category. When you delete a dashboard, the Server does not assign its saved questions to any other dashboard.

1. From the Main menu, go to **Modules > Interact > Overview**.
2. In the **Categories** or **Dashboards** panel, mouse over the category or dashboard and click Delete .
3. Confirm that you want to delete the configuration.



You cannot delete a saved question configuration from the Interact **Overview** page, only from the **Administration > Content > Saved Questions** page.

Export categories, dashboards, or questions

If you are assigned a role with the **Export Content** permission, you can export category, dashboard, and saved question configurations as a JSON file. The **Administrator** reserved role has that permission.

1. From the Main menu, go to **Modules > Interact > Overview**.
2. In the panel for **Categories**, **Dashboards**, or **Saved Questions**, click Options in the header and select the export option.
3. Select items to export or **Select all**.
4. Click **Export**, optionally modify the **File Name**, and click **Export** again.

The JSON file is saved to the downloads folder on the computer that you use to access Tanium Interact.

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Managing Tanium Data Service (TDS)

Overview of TDS

Tanium Data Service (TDS) is a shared service that periodically collects and caches sensor results from endpoints. The cache enables Tanium Console, Tanium Interact, and other Tanium solutions to respond quickly to questions about endpoint status, configuration, or activity, even for endpoints that are currently offline. Many sensors are automatically registered with TDS for collection. You can also manually register additional sensors to support workflows and content (such as dashboards) that depend on the data.

For example, Interact users can issue a question to view cached data about the hardware specifications of offline endpoints. As another example, Tanium Reporting dashboards can quickly load both real-time data and historical cached data for charts that show trends related to common vulnerabilities and exposures (CVEs).



TDS also caches sensor data that Tanium solutions generate without running sensors on endpoints. For more information, see Endpoint data sources that are not on endpoints on page 107.

You can view cached results for both online and offline endpoints in the following locations:

- **Interact Question Results**: On the **Question Results** page, select the **Cached** option. For more information, see Display results for online and offline endpoints on page 61.
- **Explore Data page**: For more information, see Tanium Reporting User Guide: Explore Data.
- **Reports**: For more information, see Tanium Reporting User Guide: Reports.
- **Dashboards**: You can view dashboards in Tanium Console (the Tanium **Home** page), Reporting, and other Tanium solutions. For more information, see Tanium Reporting User Guide: Dashboards.

TDS does not have a dedicated workbench. You register sensors for data collection and customize TDS settings through the Interact workbench.



For the user role permissions required to manage sensor results collection, see Tanium Data Service (TDS) permissions on page 39.

To troubleshoot issues that relate to sensor results collection, see Troubleshoot TDS issues on page 118.

Results collection and removal settings

TDS collects sensor results from endpoints by issuing questions in batches to minimize bandwidth usage and endpoint processing. By default, TDS caches the results from each endpoint for 30 days after the last successful collection and periodically removes expired results through a *garbage collection* process. You can customize the collection and garbage collection settings to suit the needs of your environment and organizational policies. For example, your organization might have compliance standards that mandate data storage for a specific time range. For more information, see:

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- Configure advanced collection settings on page 111
- Configure removal of expired results on page 112

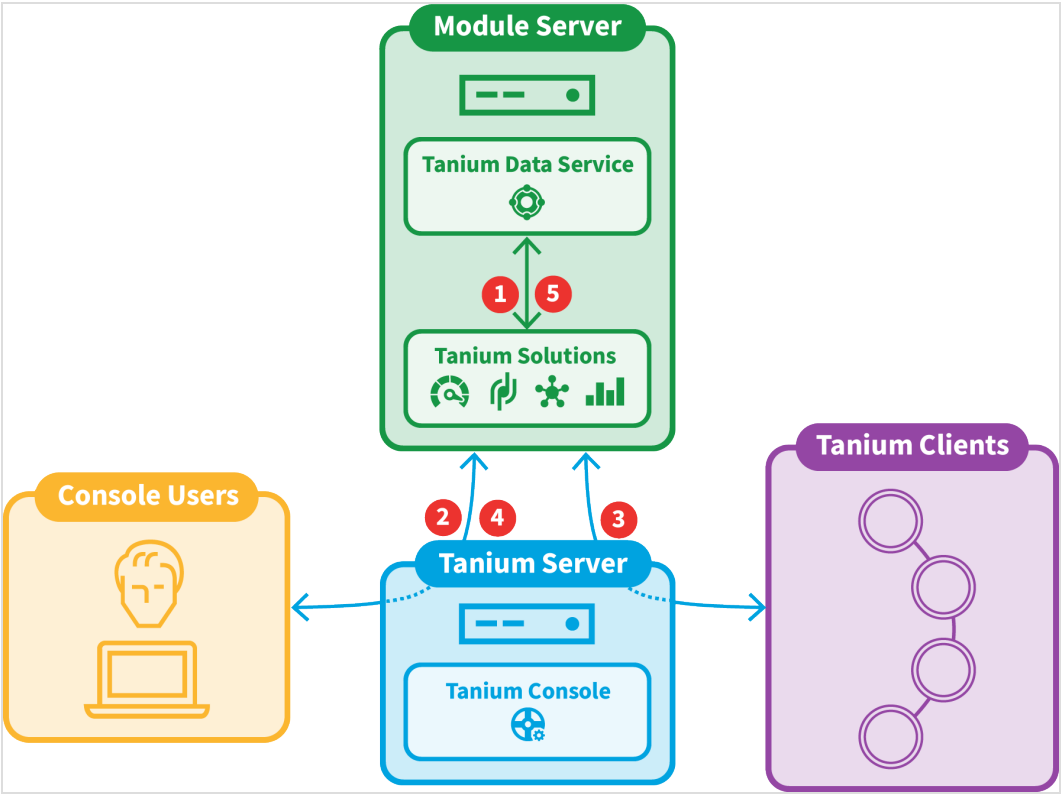
Sensor registration and results collection process

TDS collects results only from sensors that are registered for collection. TDS and other Tanium solutions automatically register certain sensors and you can manually register other sensors. For more information, see:

- Sensors that are registered by default on page 113
- Register or unregister sensors for collection on page 109

The following figure illustrates the process of sensor registration, results collection, and viewing results.

Sensor registration and results collection process



1 TDS automatically registers multiple sensors for collection after you install Tanium Interact. Other Tanium solutions also automatically register sensors upon installation.

2 You can manually register additional sensors through the Interact workbench.

3 The Tanium Server periodically issues questions to collect results for registered sensors. TDS caches the results.

4 Access Interact, Reporting, or other solutions through Tanium Console to view question results, reports, or dashboards.

5 Tanium solutions retrieve and show the latest data from TDS. The service provides current data for online endpoints and cached data for offline endpoints.

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Timing for sensor results caching and updates

The Tanium Server reissues the questions for registered sensors every two hours to update the results in the TDS cache. The questions remain open (not expired) on endpoints for the entire two-hour reissue interval. However, the Tanium Client updates its own results cache at intervals that might differ from the question interval. The freshness of the result that the Client returns for any particular sensor depends on the **Max Sensor Age** setting in the sensor configuration. The setting determines the maximum time for which the Client returns a cached result when answering questions, instead of rerunning the sensor for a fresh result.

For example, the **Max Sensor Age** for the **CPU Consumption** sensor is 10 minutes. When the Tanium Server issues a question with that sensor to collect results for TDS, the Client runs the sensor, stores the result in its cache, and returns the result to the Server. If the Client receives any other question with the **CPU Consumption** sensor in the next 10 minutes, the Client returns its cached result. When 10 minutes pass, the Client reruns the sensor because the original question is still open. The Client then updates its cache and returns the fresh result to the Server, which updates the TDS cache. This update cycle ensures that the TDS results for the **CPU Consumption** sensor are never more than 10 minutes old for online endpoints. Conversely, the Client returns a fresh result for the **AD Domain** sensor only once every 24 hours because that sensor has a **Max Sensor Age** of 1 day. If an endpoint is currently offline, the age of its results in the TDS cache reflect the last time the endpoint was online and returned a result.

For more information, see Tanium Console User Guide: Max Sensor Age.



The expiration interval is 10 minutes instead of 30 for questions that are not associated with results collection for TDS. For more information, see Question expiration on page 22.

Endpoint data sources that are not on endpoints

Tanium solutions can send endpoint data directly to TDS without the need for a sensor that runs on endpoints. For example, if you add the virtual sensor **Tanium Risk Score** to reports, Tanium™ Benchmark calculates its values without using a source on endpoints. Other sensors derive data partly from data on endpoints and partly from data that Tanium solutions generate. For example, Tanium™ Comply generates some of the data for the sensor **Comply - Compliance Findings Details** and some of the data for that sensor comes from another sensor that runs on endpoints, **Comply - Compliance Status**. For more information, see

- Tanium Console User Guide: Virtual sensors
- Tanium Console User Guide: Solution-generated sensor attributes

Purging short-lived endpoints

A *short-lived endpoint* is one that is online less than 1% of the time (approximately 30 minutes) within a 48-hour period that starts when TDS first receives sensor results from that endpoint. TDS purges all the results of short-lived endpoints. TDS checks for short-lived endpoints and purges them every 15 minutes by default. You can change the check and purge frequency through the **Garbage Collection Interval** setting as described in Configure removal of expired results on page 112.



Short-lived endpoints still count as managed endpoints after TDS purges them until and unless the Tanium Clients on those endpoints do not register with the Tanium Server for more than 30 days.

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View sensor registration details

Viewing registration status and related details for sensors can help you manage and troubleshoot data collection from endpoints:

1. From the Main menu, go to **Modules > Interact > Overview** and click Settings **> Registration and Collection**.

   The **Status** column contains a status for all sensors. Status icons include the following:

   Sensor registration status

Status	Description
	The sensor is registered and enabled for collection.
	The sensor is registered but collection is disabled.
	The sensor is blocked due to high cardinality and cannot be registered. For more information, see Resource consumption for registered sensors on page 109.
(no icon)	The sensor is not registered.

   You can hover the mouse cursor over any icon to see additional information.

   In the far right column, the **Actions** drop-down contains the available operations for each sensor: register (**Add**), unregister (**Release**), pause collection (**Disable**), resume collection (**Enable**), and purge results (**Purge**). Note that you cannot unregister, pause collection, or purge results for the sensors listed under Sensors that are registered by default on page 113.

   By default, the sensor grid is filtered to exclude hidden sensors. For more information about hidden sensors, see the **Hide this sensor from sensor lists and parse results** setting in Tanium Console User Guide: Sensor settings.

2. (Optional) To show only specific sensors, click to expand **Filters** and select from the following options:

   - **Category**: Show only the sensors that are used in questions that are assigned to dashboards contained in a specific category.
   - **Registered**: Show only the sensors that are registered and enabled for collection (**True**), or are not registered (**False**) for collection.
   - **Show Hidden Sensors**: Show only the sensors that are hidden (**True**) or are not hidden (**False**).
   - **Has Parameters**: Show only parameterized sensors (**True**) or non-parameterized sensors (**False**).
   - **Status**: Show only sensors that match the corresponding status.

   To clear a filter, select **Any** in the corresponding field.

3. (Optional) Enter a text string in the **Filter Items** field above the grid to filter it by sensor **Name** or **Category**.

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Register or unregister sensors for collection

Sensor registration and unregistration

After you register or unregister sensors for collection, TDS automatically applies the changes for the next collection, when the Tanium Server issues questions to update the sensor results. Additionally, after you register a sensor for collection, the Server immediately starts collecting results for the sensor.



Certain sensors are intentionally unavailable in Reporting even if you register them in TDS. For a list of these sensors, see Tanium Reporting User Guide: Unavailable sensors in Reporting.

UNREGISTERING SENSORS

After you unregister a sensor, TDS purges results for the sensor after 30 days by default. To purge results sooner, see Purge results for specific sensors on page 111 and Configure removal of expired results on page 112.

You cannot unregister a sensor that is registered by default. For more information, see Sensors that are registered by default on page 113 and Sensors for computer groups on page 109.

SENSORS FOR COMPUTER GROUPS

TDS automatically registers sensors that define membership in custom computer groups when you assign those groups to at least one of the following:

- User
- Persona
- User group with at least one user or persona that does not have **Unrestricted Management Rights** for all computer groups

You cannot manually unregister a sensor in the preceding cases. However, if you later unassign the custom computer group from all users, personas, and user groups, TDS automatically unregisters the sensor. For more information, see Tanium Console User Guide: Assign computer groups.

Resource consumption for registered sensors

When you decide which sensors to register with TDS, consider that results collection consumes resources such as network bandwidth, processing on endpoints, and disk space on the Tanium Server. Resource consumption increases with the cardinality of sensors. For example, the **IP Address** sensor produces a unique result string for each endpoint, whereas the **Operating System** (OS) sensor produces the same string for all endpoints that have the same OS. In this case, the high cardinality **IP Address** sensor requires more bandwidth, CPU usage, and storage than the **Operating System** sensor.



To optimize resource consumption, configure collection only for low cardinality sensors that produce frequently accessed results, such as for daily reports. For example, you might generate reports based on the results of the

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Applicable Patches sensor to assess the hygiene or security posture of both online and offline endpoints. Conversely, the results of the **High CPU Processes** sensor fluctuate too much to be reliable for gauging activity on offline endpoints.

For more information, see Monitor resource usage for sensor results collection on page 118.

Manage sensor registration

Perform the following steps to register or unregister sensors:

1. From the Main menu, go to **Modules > Interact > Overview** and click Settings > **Registration and Collection**.
2. (Optional) Use filters to find specific sensors. For more information, see View sensor registration details on page 108.
3. Perform one of the following steps:
   - **Register sensors**: Select **Actions > Add** to register a sensor.
     The **Sensor Preview** page opens with a preview of the results while TDS checks the cardinality (uniqueness) of the sensor results. After the check, a message indicates if you can register the sensor or if the service blocks registration due to high cardinality. For more information about cardinality, see Resource consumption for registered sensors on page 109. If you can register the sensor, click **Confirm**.
     For each parameterized sensor, you can register multiple instances. For each instance, specify the parameters and click **Apply**.

     IMPORTANT

     Tanium recommends that you do **not** disable the cardinality check because high cardinality sensors can negatively impact Tanium Server performance. Contact Tanium Support on page 120 for guidance if you want to disable the cardinality check.
   - **Unregister sensors**: Select **Actions > Release** to unregister a sensor.

Pause or resume collection

When the Tanium Server issues questions to update sensor results, it excludes any paused sensors. You can pause or resume collection for individual sensors without unregistering or re-registering them. When you pause a sensor, the **Question Results** page, reports, and dashboards continue showing the last results (if any) that the Server collected for that sensor before you paused it.

NOTE

You cannot pause sensors that are registered by default. For more information, see Sensors that are registered by default on page 113.

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1. From the Main menu, go to **Modules > Interact > Overview** and click Settings **> Registration and Collection**.
2. (Optional) Use filters to find specific sensors. For more information, see View sensor registration details on page 108.
3. Select **Actions > Disable** to pause collection or **Actions > Enable** to resume collection for a sensor.

After you resume collection for a sensor, the Tanium Server immediately starts collecting the sensor results.

Configure advanced collection settings

To collect results for registered sensors, the Tanium Server issues questions one batch at a time. TDS downloads the results from the Server and writes the results to the Tanium database. The default collection settings prevent the questions from consuming too much network bandwidth and endpoint processing. The default settings also prevent TDS from consuming too much Server memory when downloading and writing results. You can edit the settings as necessary based on the number of sensors that you registered for collection and on the resource limits of your network, Tanium Server, and endpoints.

IMPORTANT

Contact Tanium Support on page 120 before modifying the collection settings. Only users with the **Administrator** reserved role can modify the settings.

1. From the Main menu, go to **Modules > Interact > Overview** and click Settings **> Service Configuration > Collection**.
2. Configure the following settings:

Sensor collection process settings

Setting	Description
Max Sensors Per Question	Specify the maximum number of single-column sensors in each question that the Tanium Server issues to collect results. A single-column sensor returns an answer that the **Question Results** page and reports display in a single column. The default is 30 sensors per question. NOTE The service applies a non-configurable limit of one multi-column sensor per question.

Purge results for specific sensors

You can purge the results of selected sensors from storage so that the **Question Results** page, reports, and dashboards do not display them.

TIP

To purge sensor results that TDS collects from specific endpoints, see Tanium Reporting User Guide: Purge endpoint data.

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NOTE

You cannot purge the results of sensors that are registered by default. For more information, see Sensors that are registered by default on page 113.

TDS automatically removes results for endpoints that do not answer questions within the **Max Endpoint Age** interval. To configure this garbage collection process, see Configure removal of expired results on page 112.

1. From the Main menu, go to **Modules > Interact > Overview** and click Settings **> Registration and Collection**.
2. (Optional) Use filters to find specific sensors. For more information, see View sensor registration details on page 108.
3. Unregister or pause collection for the sensors that you want to purge:
   - **Pause collection**: Select **Actions > Disable**.
   - **Unregister**: Select **Actions > Release**.
4. For each sensor that you want to purge, select **Actions > Purge** and click **Confirm**.

Configure removal of expired results

When TDS stores results, it maps them to each endpoint and evaluates their expiration age relative to when the endpoint last returned updates. This means that if multiple endpoints returned the same results but at different times, the garbage collection process removes only the results for endpoints that did not return updates within the expiration interval (**Max Endpoint Age** setting). You can edit garbage collection settings as necessary based on the growth rate for result strings and the available resources (storage space and memory) in your deployment. To monitor string growth and determine which sensors are generating the most strings, see Monitor resource usage for sensor results collection on page 118.

IMPORTANT

Contact Tanium Support before modifying garbage collection settings. Only users with the **Administrator** reserved role can modify the settings. For more information, see Contact Tanium Support on page 120.

1. From the Main menu, go to **Modules > Interact > Overview** and click Settings **> Service Configuration > Garbage Collection**.
2. Configure the following settings:

Garbage collection settings for sensor results

Setting	Description
Garbage Collection Interval	Specify how frequently TDS checks which results have expired and removes them. The units are minutes and the default is 15.

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Garbage collection settings for sensor results (continued)

Setting	Description
Garbage Collection Timeout	Specify how long the garbage collection process runs before timing out. The units are minutes and the default is 30. While the process is running, TDS delays any pending updates to the stored results. Be sure to specify enough time to remove all the expired results without delaying updates to a degree that significantly affects users who need to see the latest results. NOTE If the garbage collection process times out before removing all the expired results, it resumes the removal at the next **Garbage Collection** Interval.
Max Endpoint Age	Specify the expiration age of collected results. For each endpoint, TDS evaluates the age of its results based on when the endpoint last returned updates for any sensors. The units are days, the default and maximum is 30, and the minimum is 1. The garbage collection process removes the entries for any endpoints and their associated results from storage if those endpoints have not answered sensor collection questions within the **Max Endpoint Age** interval.
Computer Group Max Endpoint Age	For each computer group, you can specify the expiration age of the collected results. Use this option to set lower expiration ages than the value specified in **Max Endpoint Age**. Note that any values that you set in **Computer Group Max Endpoint Age** do not override the value set in **Max Endpoint Age**; whichever value is lower triggers the garbage collection process. If an endpoint belongs to multiple computer groups, the lowest value among those groups applies to the endpoint. The units are hours. a. Click **Add Group** and **Select Computer Group**. b. Select a computer group and click **Save**. c. Enter the **Max Endpoint Age** and click **Save**.

Sensors that are registered by default

Tanium solutions register certain sensors for collection by default. After you install Interact, the Tanium Server immediately starts collecting and storing results for the registered sensors. You cannot unregister, pause collection, or purge results for these sensors.

Sensors that are registered with TDS by default

Sensor type	Description
Endpoint identification sensors	TDS automatically registers Tanium Core Platform sensors that uniquely identify endpoints. For example, TDS registers the following sensors and uses their results to generate the virtual sensor **Endpoint ID**. TDS uses **Endpoint ID** to accurately match endpoints with all their sensor results for storage in the Tanium database. • Computer Name • Computer ID • Endpoint Fingerprint

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Sensors that are registered with TDS by default (continued)

Sensor type	Description
Computer group sensors	TDS automatically registers Tanium Core Platform sensors that define membership in Tanium-provided computer groups. Examples of these sensors are: • Chassis Type • Is AIX • Is Linux • Is Mac • Is Solaris • Is Virtual • Is Windows • Operating System • Operating System Generation • Windows OS Release ID • Windows OS Type  NOTE TDS also automatically registers sensors that define membership in custom computer groups if you assign those groups to a user, persona, or (under certain conditions) user group. For more information, see Sensor registration and unregistration on page 109. If some sensors that define computer group membership are not yet available in your deployment, you can import them through the content-only solution Default Computer Groups. For more information, see Tanium Console User Guide: Content-only solutions.
Virtual sensors	Virtual sensors are available in Reporting reports and dashboards but not in Interact questions. Examples of these sensors are: • Endpoint ID • EID Last Seen • EID First Seen For more information, see Tanium Console User Guide: Virtual sensors.
Solution-registered sensors	Sensors that Tanium solutions register automatically when you import the solutions. In addition to sensors that run on endpoints, solutions might register virtual sensors and sensors with solution-generated attributes. For more information, see Tanium Console User Guide: Solution-generated sensor attributes.

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Troubleshooting Interact

View and copy the Local Error Log

Tanium Interact maintains an error log on the local host computer for your web browser. It includes details on the last 100 errors that were returned to the Interact in response to actions that you performed through the browser. For example, the log records errors that are associated with attempting to save a configuration or import a content file. Interact maintains a separate log for each browser that you use.

1. In the Interact header, hover over the user icon and select **Local Error Log**.
2. (Optional) Expand a log entry and Copy the log details to the clipboard.
3. (Optional) Click **Clear Log** if you want to remove all the log entries. For example, you might want to remove the entries after you finish resolving the associated issues.

Troubleshoot question runtimes

If Tanium Clients answer a question slower than expected, the question might use sensors that take a long time to run. When you enter text in the **Ask a Question** field, Interact shows the average runtimes of sensors that you select for questions. If necessary, you can customize the thresholds that determine which icon appears for a specific runtime, as described under Tanium Console User Guide: Managing sensor runtime thresholds.

On the **Question Results** page, you might initially see the answer `[current result unavailable]` from endpoints that take longer than usual to evaluate a question sensor. For more information, see Current result unavailable on page 116.

Complex regular expressions might increase the time that Clients take to answer a question. For more information, see Reference: Advanced question syntax in Interact on page 127.

Troubleshoot question results issues

If the **Question Results** page shows errors, unavailable results, or unexpected results, review the following issues and remediation tasks.

> **NOTE** The Tanium Console user preferences control, on a per-user basis, whether the **Question Results** page shows error results. For more information, see Tanium Console User Guide: Hide error results from questions.

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Issues and remediation for question results

Issue	Remediation
No results	The **Question Results** grid shows `[no results]` from a Tanium Client if: • The sensor returns no value. • The Client does not have a value that matches the sensor filter. This occurs if you apply a filter to the `get` clause and not the `from` clause. For example, if the question is `Get Computer Name starts with tan from all machines`, all endpoints return answers and all endpoints that do not start with `tan` in their computer name return `[no results]`.  BEST PRACTICE Add the filter in the `from` clause. For example, `Get Computer Name from all machines with Computer Name starts with tan` does not return unexpected `[no results]` rows.
Current result unavailable	If an endpoint takes longer than usual to evaluate a sensor, it might initially supply the answer `[current result unavailable]` to the answer message that it passes along the linear chain and ultimately to the Tanium Server. However, the sensor process continues on the endpoint after supplying that initial answer and, upon completing the process, the endpoint sends its updated answer. The Server then updates the **Question Results** grid.
Results currently unavailable	The **Question Results** grid displays the `[results currently unavailable]` message to indicate that the Tanium Server cannot correctly parse an answer. Parsing errors can result from various conditions, such as the excessive growth of answer strings. Contact Tanium Support on page 120 if you observe this message.
Too many results	The **Question Results** grid displays `[too many results]` to indicate that more results are available, but the Tanium Clients will not return the additional results. The Tanium Server has certain checks to limit the network and memory impact of questions. Because of how the Server generates these messages, you cannot drill down on this response. Try the following solutions to avoid this message: • Use sensors that are more focused. • Target only a certain endpoint or computer group to limit the unique number of strings for each answer. • Use a non-counting question instead of a counting question. For more information, see Counting and non-counting questions on page 16.

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Issues and remediation for question results (continued)

Issue	Remediation
TSE-Error	Messages that begin with `[TSE-Error` indicate a Tanium Client is in a state that prevents it from answering the question. Common reasons include: • Unstable operating system (OS) • Configuration issues • Lack of memory • Sensor cannot execute the script • Antivirus software blocks: To ensure that all the required exclusions are configured in your antivirus software, see Tanium Client Management Guide: Reference: Endpoint security exclusions and for Windows-based Tanium Core Platform deployments, see Tanium Core Platform User Guide for Windows Deployments: Tanium Core Platform Server security exclusions. • Corrupted Windows Management Instrumentation (WMI) repositories • Sensor quarantines: The **Question Results** page displays `TSE-Error: The sensor is quarantined` if the question uses quarantined sensors. You can remove those sensors from quarantine if appropriate. For more information, see Tanium Console User Guide: Manage sensor quarantines. • Issues related to the roles that are assigned to your user account. For more information, see Tanium Console User Guide: Troubleshoot RBAC issues. • Issues related to the computer groups that are assigned to your user account. For more information, see Results missing from certain endpoints on page 117.
Results missing from certain endpoints	You can see question results only from endpoints in computer groups that are assigned to the user account or persona that you use to issue questions. If certain endpoints to do return results, troubleshoot computer group assignments and configurations: • **Assignments**: Verify that the appropriate computer groups are assigned. If your user account inherits computer group assignments, you might have to assign a different user group: ◦ Tanium Console User Guide: Assign computer groups ◦ Tanium Console User Guide: Manage user group assignments for a user • **Configurations**: View the computer group configurations to ensure that their membership **Expression** is correct. Note that you cannot edit the membership of a computer group. If the membership does not include the correct endpoints, you must create and assign a new computer group. ◦ Tanium Console User Guide: View computer group details ◦ Tanium Console User Guide: Create a computer group
Tanium Client communication issues	View the status of Client connections and, if necessary, correct them. For more information, see Tanium Console User Guide: Troubleshoot Tanium Client issues.

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Troubleshoot action deployment issues

To ensure actions deploy as expected and to troubleshoot deployment issues, see the task for the action type:

- Simple (non-ring-based) actions: Tanium Console User Guide: Monitor actions.
- Adaptive (ring-based) actions: Tanium Console User Guide: Troubleshoot action deployments.

Troubleshoot TDS issues

Monitor resource usage for sensor results collection

Tanium Data Service (TDS) collects and stores the results of all sensors that are registered for collection so that users can see those results for endpoints that are offline at the moment the users issue questions. Sensor collection consumes resources such as network bandwidth, disk space on the Tanium Server, and processing on endpoints. Resource consumption increases with the cardinality of sensors. For more information, see Resource consumption for registered sensors on page 109. Interact provides charts that enable you to visualize resource usage metrics related to results collection.



For more information and procedures related to sensor results collection, see Managing Tanium Data Service (TDS) on page 105.

1. From the Main menu, go to **Modules > Interact > Overview** and click Info  **> Metrics** .
2. Review the following charts:
   - **Harvest Metrics**: These charts display metrics related to the number of database rows that are processed when question results are collected for registered sensors.
   - **Data Service Sensor Metrics**: Use these charts to determine whether specific sensors are generating result strings that consume too much storage.
   - **Data Service Database Metrics**: These charts provide indicators on the disk space usage for TDS. The **Database Key Size** and **Database Value Size** charts show usage in bytes.
   - **Data Service Resource Consumption Metrics**: Use these charts to determine the resource usage for TDS.

Resolve TDS resource consumption issues

If you determine that sensor collection consumes too many resources, consider the following solutions:

- Pause collection for sensors that you determine are currently not important for users who view the stored results of offline endpoints. For more information, see Pause or resume collection on page 110.
- Unregister specific sensors for which users will never need to see stored results. For more information, see Register or unregister sensors for collection on page 109.
- Purge the results of specific sensors if those results are not useful to users. For more information, see Purge results for specific sensors on page 111.

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- Contact Tanium Support on page 120 about editing the default settings that govern results collection and garbage collection:
  - Configure advanced collection settings on page 111
  - Configure removal of expired results on page 112

Review TDS logs and question history

To troubleshoot other sensor collection issues, see:

- **TDS logs**: These logs indicate when the Tanium Server issued each question to collect results, the question ID, and information about each sensor in the question. To access the logs, see:
  - Tanium Appliance User Guide: Tanium Core Platform troubleshooting and logs in an Appliance deployment
  - Tanium Core Platform User Guide for Windows Deployments: Reviewing logs and troubleshooting Tanium Core Platform in a Windows deployment
- **Question history**: From the Main menu, go to **Administration > Content > Question History** and use the question ID (`Harvesting qid`) from the TDS logs to find specific questions that the Tanium Server issued to collect sensor results. For more information, see Tanium Console User Guide: Question history.

Collect TDS logs

To send information to Tanium Support for troubleshooting TDS, perform the following steps to collect logs and other relevant information. The information is saved as a ZIP file that you can download through your browser. The ZIP file is also known as a support bundle.

1. From the Main menu, go to **Modules > Interact > Overview** and click Help **> Troubleshooting**.
2. Click **Download Support Package**.
   A `tanium-interact-support-<date-time>.zip` file downloads to the local download directory.
3. Attach the ZIP file to your Tanium Support case form or send it to Tanium Support. For more information, see Contact Tanium Support on page 120.

Uninstall Interact

If you need to uninstall Interact, perform the following steps.

IMPORTANT

If you uninstall Interact, and no users, personas, or user groups are assigned to the **Feed User** role before uninstalling Interact, you lose the ability to access Tanium™ Feed. To regain access to Feed, either reinstall Interact, or assign users, personas, or user groups to the **Feed User** role.

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1. Sign in to Tanium Console as a user with the Administrator role.
2. From the Main menu, select **Administration > Configuration > Solutions**.
3. In the **Interact** tile, click **Uninstall** .

To reinstall Interact, see Installing Interact on page 44.

Contact Tanium Support

To contact Tanium Support for help, sign in to the Tanium Customer Community.

For more information about how to submit a support case, see Case Submission Form.

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Reference: Example questions in Interact

Review the following examples to learn about the kinds of questions that Tanium Interact enables you to issue to endpoints.

Example questions

The following examples show common questions. You can add filters to the `from` clause of these questions in cases where not all endpoints return useful results and you want to see fewer rows in the **Question Results** grid to make it easier to scan. Common reasons for filtering include:

- **Endpoint-specific results**

  Targeting a specific endpoint is useful if the `get` clause of a question includes sensors that return many rows in the **Question Results** grid. For example, the question `Get IP Address and Logged In Users from all machines` produces as many rows as there are endpoints managed using Tanium Client in your network. To view results only from a specific endpoint, add a target filter that identifies the endpoint, such as `from all machines with Computer Name equals "<hostname>"`, where `<hostname>` is the computer name.

- **OS-specific results**

  If the sensors in a question are intended only for endpoints that run a specific operating system (OS), you can use the `Is <OS> equals true` filter to return results only from those endpoints. For example, the **Registry Value Data** sensor applies only to Windows endpoints, and non-Windows endpoints would return results that are not useful, such as `N/A on Linux`. In this case, you can specify `from all machines with Is Windows equals true` to return results only from Windows endpoints.

How can I get a list of running services on endpoints?

On the **Question Results** page, the following question returns one row for each unique service that is running on any Tanium Client managed endpoint in your environment. For each row, the **Running Service** column shows the service name and the **Count** column shows the number of endpoints where the service is running.

```
Get Running Service from all machines
```

The following question returns additional details about each service, such as its status and startup mode:

```
Get Service Details from all machines
```

How can I get a list of running processes on endpoints?

On the **Question Results** page, the following question returns one row for each unique process that is running on any endpoint managed using Tanium Client in your environment. For each row, the **Running Processes** column shows the process name and the **Count** column shows the number of endpoints where the process is running.

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```
Get Running Processes from all machines
```

The following question returns additional details about each process, such as its path and ID. The `get` clause uses a parameterized sensor that requires you to enter two parameters: **Hashing Algorithm** and **Hostname or IP** address. In this example, the parameter values are `SHA256` and `192.168.0.1`.

```
Get Process Details[SHA256, 192.168.0.1] from all machines
```

How can I see Windows Registry keys and values?

The following questions use sensors that apply only to Windows endpoints.

To view registry values, issue a question with the parameterized sensor **Registry Value Data**, which requires the *`<registry key path>`* and *`<value-name>`* parameters in the following format:

```
Get Registry Value Data[<registry key path>, <value-name>] from all machines
```

The following example shows the question after you enter specific parameter values and add a targeting filter for Windows endpoints.

```
Get Registry Value Data[HKEY_LOCAL_
MACHINE\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion, CommonFilesDir] from all
machines with Is Windows equals true
```

You use similar question syntax to determine if a registry key value exists on endpoints:

```
Get Registry Key Exists[HKEY_LOCAL_
MACHINE\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion, CommonFilesDir] from all
machines with Is Windows equals true
```

How can I get a list of open ports?

The following question returns the open ports on each Tanium Client managed endpoint:

```
Get Computer Name and Open Port from all machines
```

How can I get user authentication information?

The following question returns users who are signed in to Tanium Client managed endpoints and who have the string `Administrator` in their user name:

```
Get Logged In Users contains Administrator from all machines
```

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The following question identifies each endpoint and the user who is signed in to the Tanium Client managed endpoint:

```
Get Computer Name and Logged In Users from all machines
```

The following question returns users who are signed in to Windows endpoints and the dates when they signed in. For endpoints where no user is signed in, the **Local User Login Dates** sensor returns the last user who signed in.

```
Get Local User Login Dates from all machines with Is Windows equals true
```

The following question returns users who are signed in to Tanium Client managed endpoints that run any OS and returns the current date on the endpoints:

```
Get Logged In Users and Client Date from all machines
```

The following question returns the same information as the preceding question except that, for Tanium Client managed endpoints where no user is signed in, the **Last Logged In User** sensor returns the last user who signed in.

```
Get Last Logged In User and Client Date from all machines
```

The following question returns users who are signed in to Tanium Client managed endpoints and returns other session information, such as session states. The **User Sessions** sensor applies only to Windows and macOS endpoints.

```
Get User Sessions from all machines
```

The following question returns users and groups who are considered administrators on non-Windows endpoints that have Tanium Client installed:

```
Get Local Administrators from all machines
```

The following question returns users and groups that are members of the local Administrators group on Windows endpoints.



The **AD Query - Local Administrators** sensor is part of the Core AD Query Content solution and returns results only from endpoints where you deployed an action with the **Collect Active Directory Info** package.

```
Get AD Query - Local Administrators from all machines with Is Windows equals true
```

How can I get sign-in information for service accounts?

The following question returns the names of accounts under which services are configured to run, but excludes the default accounts, including LocalSystem, LocalService, and NetworkService.

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```
Get Service Login Names from all machines
```

How can I get certificate information?

The following questions use the parameterized sensor **Machine Certificate Details**, which applies only to Windows endpoints. The sensor returns certificate information for the certificate store that you specify as the parameter.

The following question returns information about trusted certificate authority (CA) root certificates:

```
Get Machine Certificate Details[root] from all machines with Is Windows equals
true
```

The following question returns information about third-party CA certificates:

```
Get Machine Certificate Details[authroot] from all machines with Is Windows
equals true
```

The following question returns information about intermediate certificates:

```
Get Machine Certificate Details[CA] from all machines with Is Windows equals true
```

The following question returns information for revoked certificates:

```
Get Machine Certificate Details[disallowed] from all machines with Is Windows
equals true
```

How can I detect all running Oracle instances within a Linux environment?

The following question includes `Running Processes contains ora_pmon` in the `from` clause to ensure that you see results only from endpoints that are running Oracle instances. Without that filter, the **Question Results** page would return results for every endpoint because the question includes the **Computer Name** sensor.

```
Get Computer Name and Running Processes contains ora_pmon from all machines with
Running Processes contains ora_pmon
```

How can I get asset information?

The following question returns identification and architecture details for Tanium Client managed endpoints.

```
Get Computer Name and "Computer Serial Number" and IP Address and MAC Address and
BIOS Name and CPU Details and Chassis Type from all machines
```

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Example dashboard questions

Reviewing the list of predefined saved questions in categories and dashboards is a good way to learn how to use questions and get meaningful results. The following examples show a few predefined questions that are organized by ***<category> > <dashboard>***.

Security > Data Leakage

The questions in the **Data Leakage** dashboard return information about established connections that a prohibited process opened or that connect to a prohibited destination:

```
Get Computer Name and Non-Approved Established Connections from all machines with
Non-Approved Established Connections matches ".*:.*"
```

```
Get Non-Approved Established Connections from all machines with Non-Approved
Established Connections matches ".*:.*"
```

Security > Proactive Network Security

The questions in the **Proactive Network Security** dashboard return information that you can use to assess the security of your network:

```
Get Computer Name and IP Address and MAC Address from all machines with "DHCP
Enabled?" contains True
```

```
Get Firewall Status contains disabled from all machines with Firewall Status
contains disabled
```

```
Get DNS Server from all machines
```

```
Get Computer Name and Open Share Details from all machines with all Open Share
Details not contains No shares
```

Security > Wireless Network Security

The questions in the **Wireless Network Security** dashboard return information that you can use to assess the security of wireless networks in your environment:

```
Get Computer Name and Username and Wireless Network Connected SSID from all
machines with all Wireless Network Connected SSID not matches ".*:No
Connection:.*"
```

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```
Get Wireless Networks Visible from all machines
```

```
Get Wireless Network Details from all machines
```

```
Get Hosted Wireless Ad-Hoc Networks from all machines with Hosted Wireless Ad-Hoc
Networks contains started
```

```
Get Wireless Networks Using WEP from all machines with Wireless Networks Using
WEP contains wep
```

```
Get Unencrypted Wireless Networks from all machines with Unencrypted Wireless
Networks contains open
```

Security > Workstation USB Write Protection

The questions in the **Workstation USB Write Protection** dashboard return information about which workstations have USB storage devices that are in write-protected mode. That mode prevents users from copying data from the workstation to a USB device.

```
Get Computer Name and Username from all machines with ( Operating System not
containing "server" and USB Write Protected containing "False" )
```

```
Get Computer Name and Username from all machines with ( Operating System not
containing "server" and USB Write Protected containing "True" )
```

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Reference: Advanced question syntax in Interact

You can issue complex questions in natural language without understanding the precise associated syntax. When you start typing a free-form question in one of the Tanium Console or Interact question fields, the Tanium natural language parser evaluates your entry and proposes a question in valid syntax, as described in Issue a free-form question on page 48. However, understanding the syntax is useful if you want to edit the proposed question, add filters or options, reuse the question in other contexts, or learn more about the question results. For example, you can issue a question with the **Computer Name** sensor filtered to return results only from endpoints that match a case-sensitive character string.

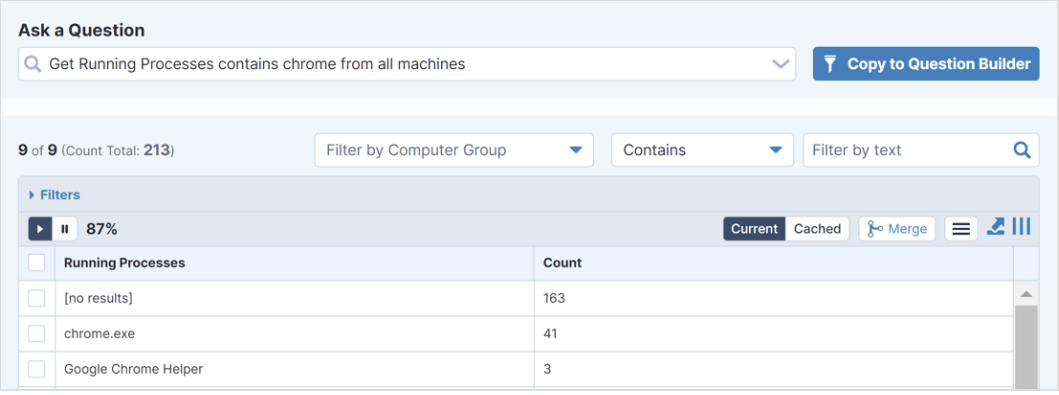
Use question filters

Each Tanium question has a `get` clause that specifies the information to retrieve and a `from` clause that specifies the target endpoints. You can add filters to both clauses when you issue a question.

Filters in get clause

In a Tanium question, the `get` clause specifies the sensors that Tanium Clients run to answer the question. Clients apply any filters to the sensor results and return the filtered results to the Tanium Server. Interact then shows the filtered results in the **Question Results** page. For example, if the `get` clause specifies `Get Running Processes contains chrome`, Clients filter the **Running Processes** sensor to show processes with names that contain the string `chrome`. Clients return the answer `[no results]` if no results match the filter. In this example, Clients return `[no results]` if they have no running processes that contain `chrome`.

Filter in Get clause of question



Filters in from clause

In a Tanium question, the `from` clause specifies whether the question targets all Tanium Client (`from all machines`) or only Tanium Clients that evaluate the filtering sensor to a Boolean true. For example, the question `Get Running Processes from all machines with CPU Consumption > 80%` returns the names of all running processes on endpoints managed using Tanium Client where CPU consumption exceeds 80%.

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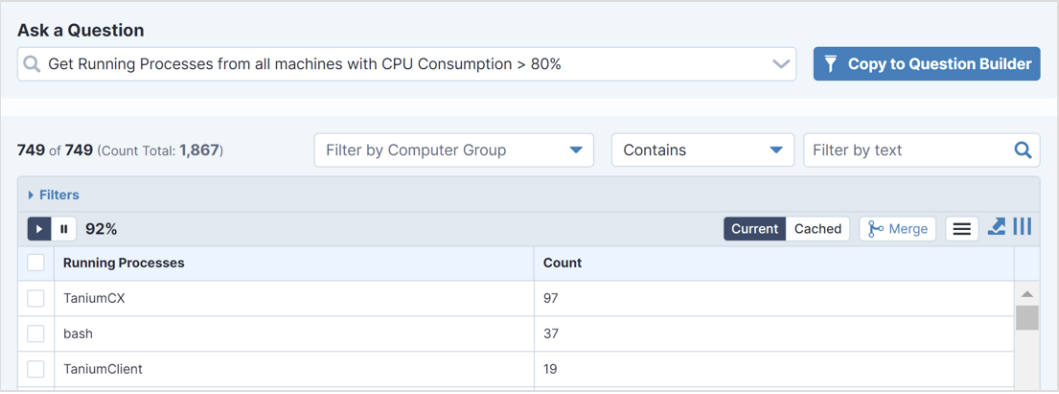
NOTE

Regardless of targeting filters, you can see question results only from endpoints that are in computer management groups that are assigned to the user account or alternative persona that you use for the current Console session. For more information, see Tanium Console User Guide: Computer groups in questions.

You also use filters to define the dynamic membership of computer management groups and filter groups. For more information, see Tanium Console User Guide: Computer group membership.

For more information about `from` clause filters, see Questions with target filters on page 21.

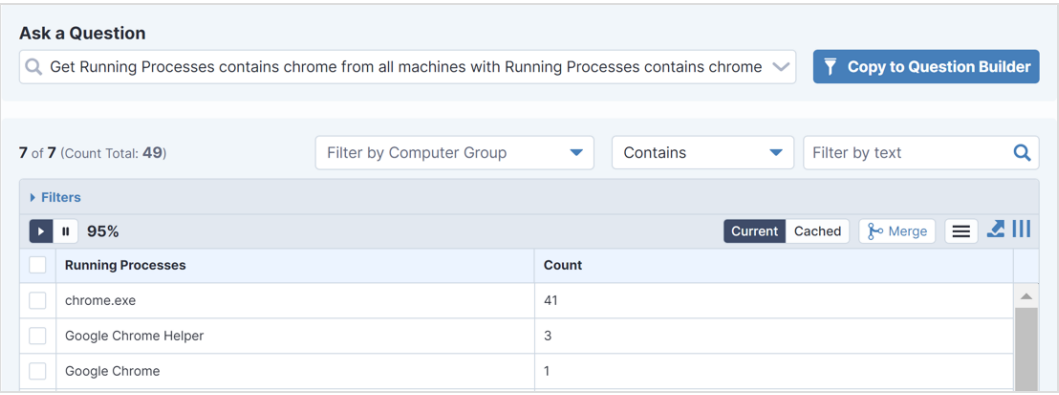
Filter in From clause of question



Exclude [no results]

Use a combination of `get` and `from` filters in a question if you want the **Question Results** page to exclude Clients that return `[no results]`. For example, the following question shows processes with names that contain the string `chrome` but only on Clients that have at least one process name with that string.

Filter to exclude [no results]



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Filter operators

Filter expressions in questions can match strings or regular expressions. The following table describes the supported filter operators as they appear when you use the Interact **Question Builder**. The table also describes how some operators are normalized after you enter the expressions in the **Ask a Question** field or issue a question from the **Question Builder**.

NOTE

If you use operators that evaluate integer results from sensors and a Tanium Client returns a string result instead (such as `true`, `false`, or an error), Interact interprets the error string as the value 0. For example, if a Client returns `TSE-Error` for a question with the filter `installed application version[chrome] <= 12`, the filter evaluates to true for that Client because Interact interprets `TSE-Error` as a 0 value. Adding the filter `and <sensor> not equals 0` causes Interact to evaluate strings to false in such cases, but also evaluates non-string 0 values to false.

If you use operator words as string literals instead of as filters in question text, you must enclose the words in quotation marks. For more information, see Use reserved words or characters on page 131.

Filter operators

Filter operator	Usage
contains	The sensor value contains the specified string. Example: `running processes contains "chrome"`
does not contain	The sensor value does not contain the specified string.
starts with	The sensor value starts with the specified string. Example: `starts with "chrome"` When you issue the question, the expression is translated to a regular expression using the `matches` operator.
does not start with	The sensor value does not start with the specified string.
ends with	The sensor value ends with the specified string. Example: `ends with "chrome.exe"` When you issue the question, the expression is translated to a regular expression using the `matches` operator.
does not end with	The sensor value does not end with the specified string.

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Filter operators (continued)

Filter operator	Usage
matches	The sensor value matches the specified regular expression. For more information, see Use regular expression filters on page 135. For sensors in the `get` clause of a question, use the `matches` operator to match any value in a list. In the **Ask a Question** field, enclose the values in quotation marks and parentheses `"( )"`, and use the pipe character `|` as a separator. In the **Question Builder**, you can skip the quotation marks; Interact adds them automatically when you issue the question. For example, the following question matches the user names `root` or `reboot`: `Get Last Logged In User matches "(root|reboot)" from all machines` In the `from` clause of a question, you can also use the `in` operator to match values in a list.
does not match	The sensor value does not match the specified regular expression. When you issue the question, the expression shown in the question field uses `not matches` in place of `does not match`.
in (`from` clause only)	The sensor value is equal to one of the specified strings. Enclose the values in parentheses and use commas as separators. When you issue the question, the question field shows the expression with `equals` in place of `in` and with `or` in place of commas. Example: the filter `with Chassis Type in (Virtual,Physical)` in the **Ask a Question** field becomes `with (Chassis Type equals Virtual or Chassis Type equals Physical)` when you issue the question. For more information, see Use the "in" operator for filtering on page 139. NOTE In the `get` clause of a question, the `in` operator is not available but you can use the `matches` operator instead.
is equal to	The sensor value is equal to the specified value or string. When you issue the question, the expression shown in the question field uses `equals` in place of `is equal to`.
is not equal to	The sensor value is not equal to the specified value or string. When you issue the question, the expression shown in the question field uses `not equals` in place of `is not equal to`.
is less than	The sensor value is less than the specified value. When you issue the question, the expression shown in the question field uses a symbol (`<`) in place of the operator words. Example: `installed application version[chrome] < 12`

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Filter operators (continued)

Filter operator	Usage
is less than or equal to	The sensor value is less than or equal to the specified string. When you issue the question, the expression shown in the question field uses symbols (`<=`) in place of the operator words. Example: `installed application version[chrome] <= 12`
is greater than	The sensor value is greater than the specified value. When you issue the question, the expression shown in the question field uses a symbol (`>`) in place of the operator words. Example: `installed application version[chrome] > 12`
is greater than or equal to	The sensor value is greater than or equal to the specified string. When you issue the question, the expression shown in the question field uses symbols (`>=`) in place of the operator words. Example: `installed application version[chrome] >= 12`

Use reserved words or characters

Reserved words or characters in question text

The Tanium™ parser uses certain words and characters to interpret the question text that you enter as valid query syntax. For example, the parser uses the bracket characters `[` and `]` to enclose the values of parameterized sensors and uses variations of the word `match` to support regular expressions. You must enclose these reserved words and characters in quotation marks when you use them as string literals in questions. For example, to see all endpoints that have computer names containing the letter combination `in`, issue the question `Get Computer Name from all machines with Computer Name contains "in"`.

- "
  Use double quotation marks as an escape-character sequence for each instance of quotation marks in a text string. For example, to see which endpoints have a computer name that contains the string `"test"`, issue the question:
  `Get Computer Name from all machines with Computer Name contains """test"""`
- .
- ,
- :
- ?
- $

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- White spaces

  For example, to see which endpoints have a computer name that has a blank space before and after the string `DBserver`, issue the question:

  ```
  Get Computer Name from all machines with Computer Name contains " DBserver "
  ```

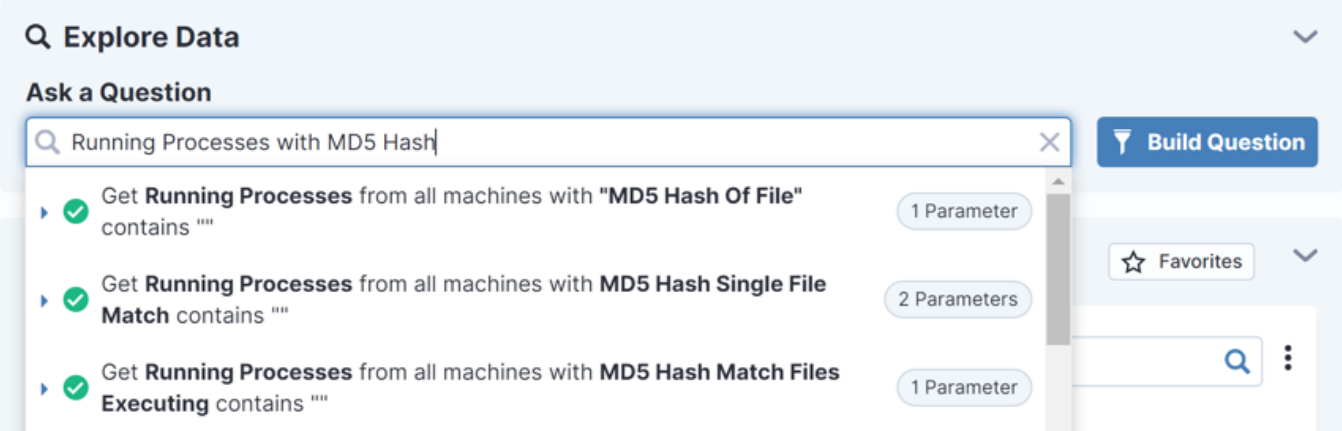
- all
- and
- any
- contain
- containing
- contains
- does match
- does not match
- ending
- ends
- equals
- get
- having
- in
- matches
- matching
- not
- or
- with
- starting
- starts

Reserved words in sensor names

Sensors with names that use reserved words require quotation marks when you use them as string literals in the Interact **Ask a Question** field. Otherwise, the dropdown list that displays suggested questions cannot accurately match your entry. For example, if you enter the **Running Processes with MD5 Hash** sensor without quotation marks, the dropdown list displays suggestions that confuse your entry with other sensors that contain the words `MD5 Hash`:

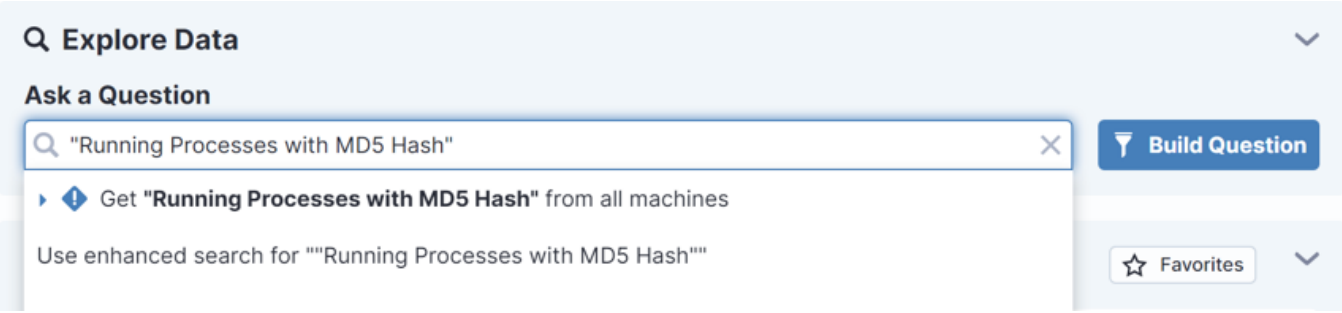
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Sensor name without quotations



If you use quotation marks around the sensor name, the dropdown list displays the correct question:

Sensor name with quotations



- $serverNames
- $serverIDs
- $substring
- $unescape
- all
- All
- ALL
- and
- any
- computers
- Computers
- COMPUTERS
- contains

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- containing
- equals
- from
- From
- FROM
- get
- Get
- GET
- having
- Having
- HAVING
- in
- machines
- Machines
- MACHINES
- matches
- matching
- not
- number
- Number
- NUMBER
- of
- Of
- OF
- or
- where
- Where
- WHERE
- with
- With

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- WITH

Use regular expression filters

Tanium questions support regular expression matching in both the `get` statement and `from` clause.

> NOTE
>
> You can also use regular expressions to define the membership of computer groups. For more information, see Tanium Console User Guide: Computer group membership.

Processing limits for regular expressions

The Tanium Core Platform stops processing regular expressions that run for an excessive amount of time to protect against the misuse of platform resources. For example, if complex regular expressions in a question cause it to exceed the limit for processing resources, the Tanium Client stops processing that question and returns `[no results]` for it.

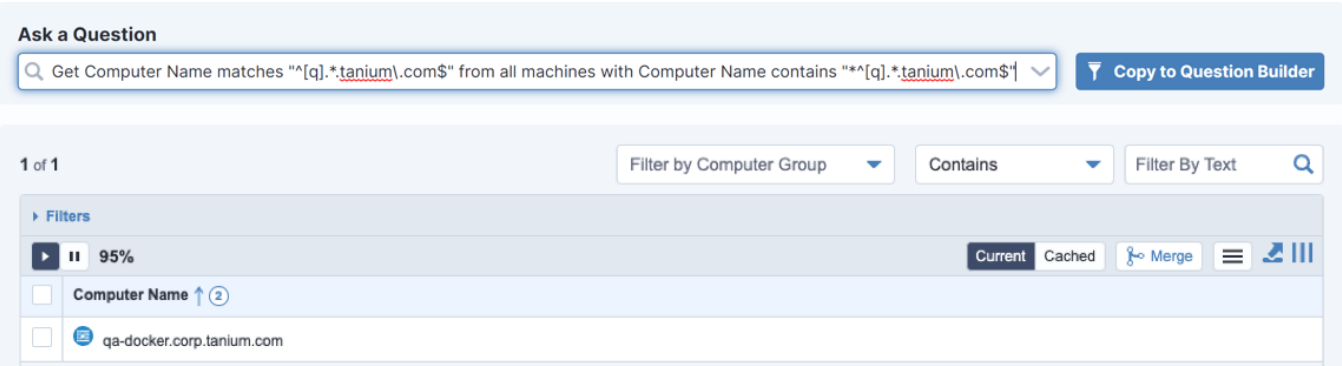
The following types of regular expressions might exceed the resource limit:

- Negative lookaheads (`?!` syntax), such as `(?!tool)ai.*`
- Positive lookaheads (`?=` syntax), such as `(?=tool)ai.*`
- Named capture groups (`?<group-name>` syntax), such as `?<year>` in the expression `/(?<year>\d{4})-\d{2}|\d{2}-(?<year>\d{4})/`

Example: Match a starting character

The following regular expression matches computer names that start with the letter `q` in the domain `tanium.com`.

Regular expression to match initial character

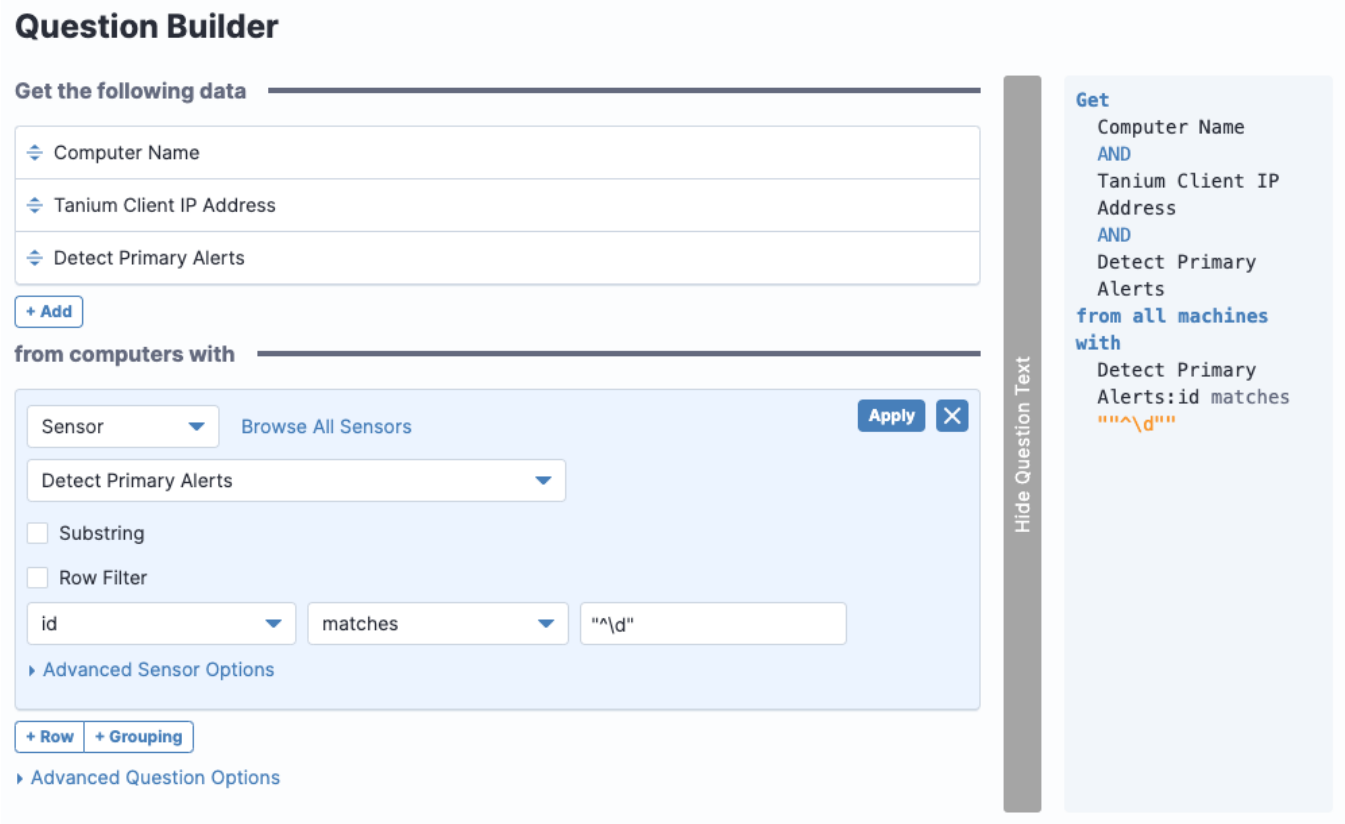


Example: Match any digit

The **Detect Primary Alerts** sensor uses a regular expression to collect results that match any digit in the range 0 to 9. Because alerts have numeric IDs, this expression excludes empty results.

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Regular expression to match any digit

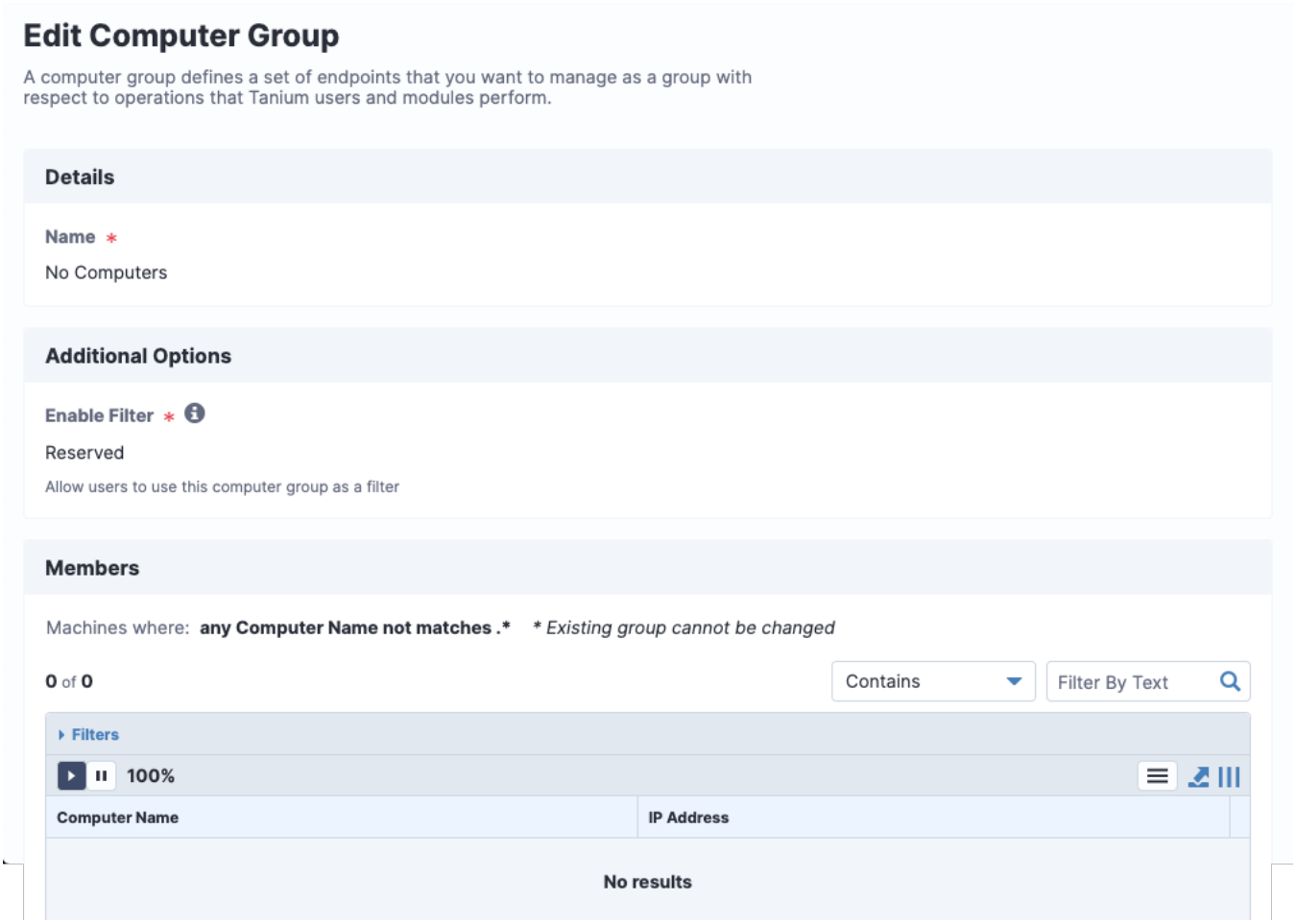


Example: Negation

You can also use a combination of negation and regular expressions to build filter expressions. For example, the predefined computer group **No Computers** has a membership definition that uses a question with the `not matches` expression and a regular expression (`.*`) to match empty results. Because the **Computer Name** sensor always returns a string, this combination provides a way to prevent action deployment. To stop the Tanium Server from deploying certain actions to any endpoints, configure those actions to target the **Default** action group, which includes only the **No Computers** computer group.

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Regular expression with negation



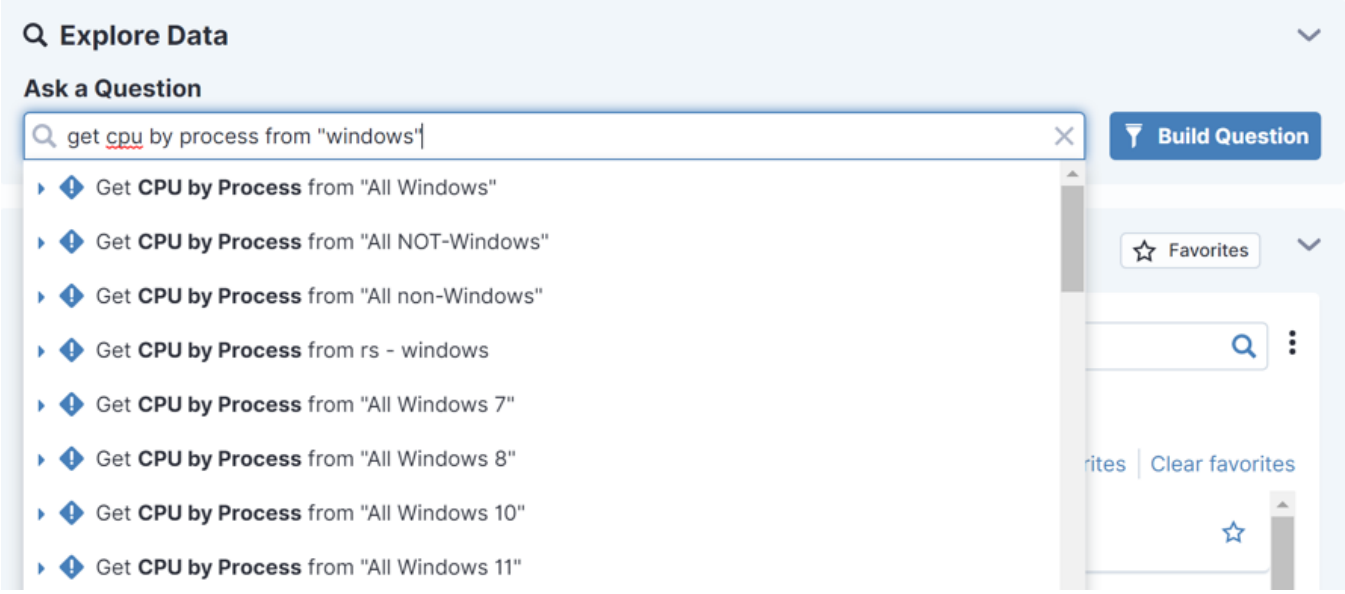
Use computer group filters

You can issue questions with a computer group filter in the `from` clause to ensure that only endpoints in the group respond. The computer group can be a management group or filter group. For more information about these types, see Tanium Console User Guide: Managing computer groups.

Use quotation marks around the computer group name when you enter it in the `from` clause. For groups with dynamic (filter-defined) membership, the question parser converts the specified group name into a question that determines membership. For more information, see Tanium Console User Guide: Computer group membership.

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Question with computer group in From clause



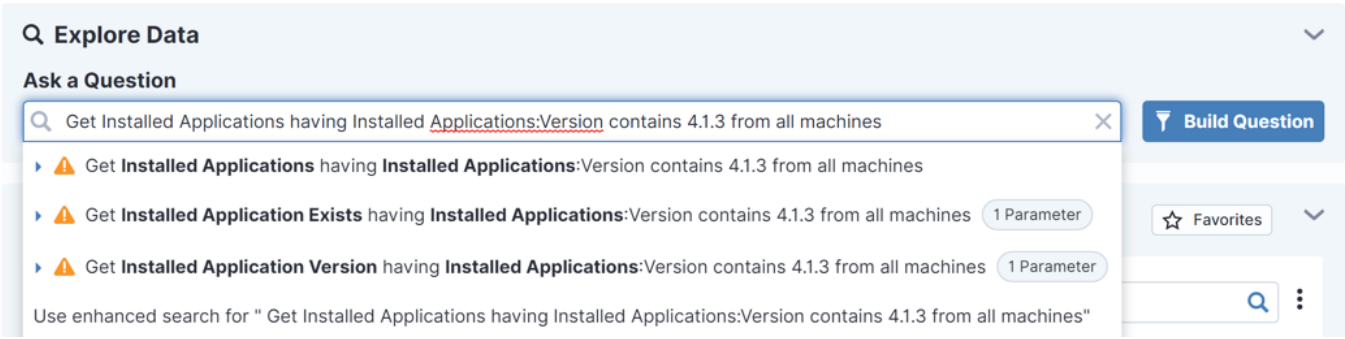
Use sensor column filters

Multi-column sensors are designed to collect multiple pieces of related information in a single answer. For example, the **Installed Applications** sensor returns four columns of information, as shown in the figure Sensor column filter in the Get and From clauses of a question on page 139. Using the regular expression `starts with`, `ends with`, or `contains` in a question to filter results for a multi-column sensor can be tricky because the sensor result string is actually a single string with column delimiters. If you enter the filter incorrectly, you might match a string in an unexpected column or unknowingly match a string in a hidden column. To avoid unintended results, you can specify a particular column for results matching. The syntax is `get <sensor> having <sensor>:<column> contains <value>`. The column name is case sensitive.

Single-column filtering works only if the sensor configuration specifies column delimiters with a single character (such as `|`), not multiple characters (such as `|:`). For more information, see Tanium Console User Guide: Split into multiple columns. To match results from all the columns, the syntax is `get <sensor> contains <value>`.

The following example shows a sensor column filter in the `get` clause of a question.

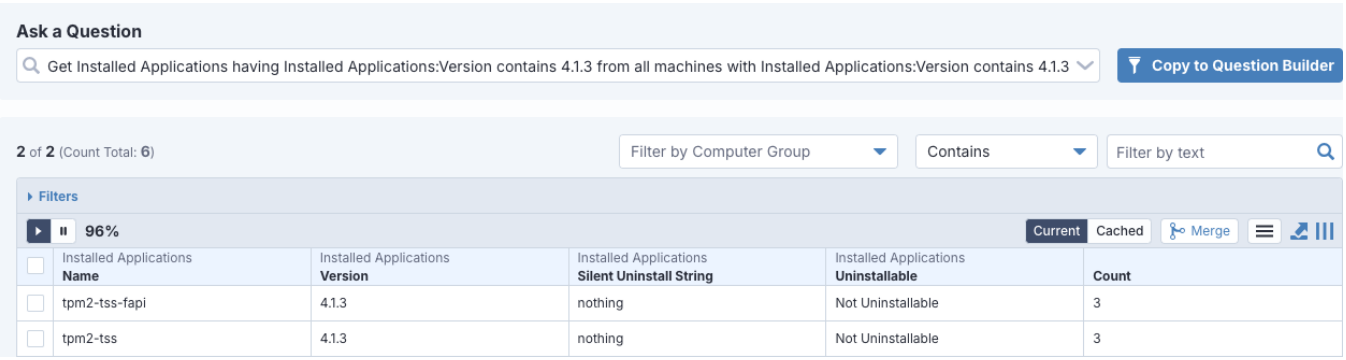
Sensor column filter in the Get clause of a question



The following example shows a sensor column filter in both the `get` clause and the `from` clause of a question and shows the results.

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Sensor column filter in the Get and From clauses of a question

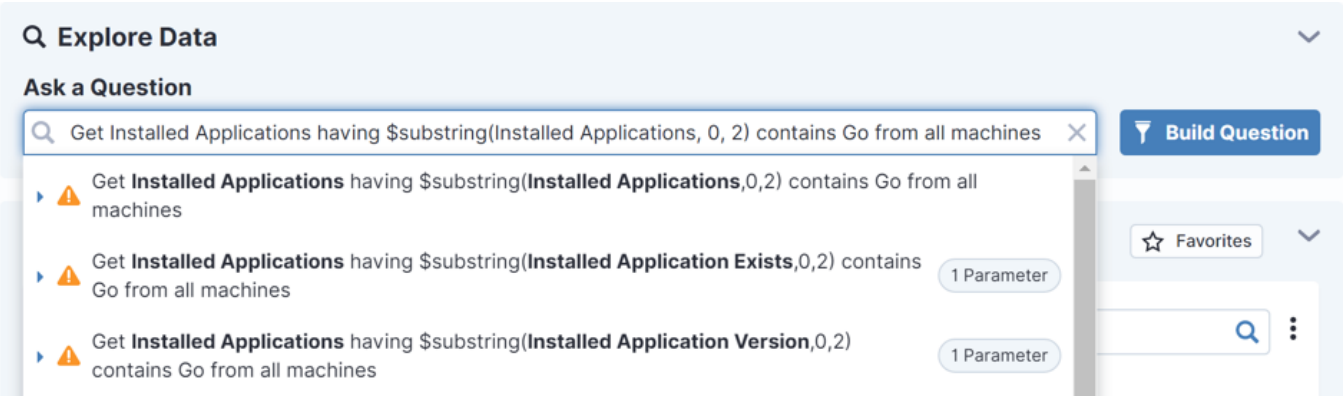


Use $substring() filters

You can use `$substring()` filters in questions to match result string patterns. The `$substring()` function takes the following arguments: sensor name, starting position (where 0 is the first position), number of characters.

The following example matches results from the **Installed Applications** sensor where the first two characters match the string `Go`.

$substring() filter in a question



NOTE

In a multi-column sensor, the `$substring()` filter applies across all the columns. You cannot apply the `$substring()` filter to a specific column.

Use the "in" operator for filtering

In the `from` clause of a question, use the `in` operator to specify a collection of matching sensor results. The `in` operator applies the is equal to on page 130 operator to any value in a comma-separated list that you enclose in parentheses. After you issue the question, the question field shows the expression with `equals` in place of `in` and with a Boolean `or` in place of commas.

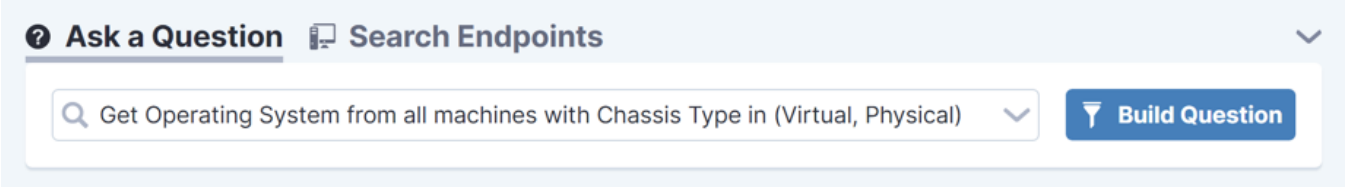
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NOTE

In the `get` clause of a question, the `in` operator is not available but you can use the matches on page 130 operator instead.

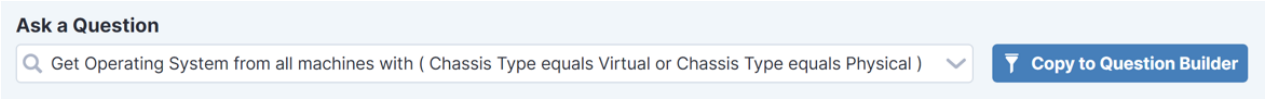
The following example shows the `in` operator applied to results containing `Virtual` or `Physical`.

Question with "in" operator



The following example shows the question syntax after you issue the question.

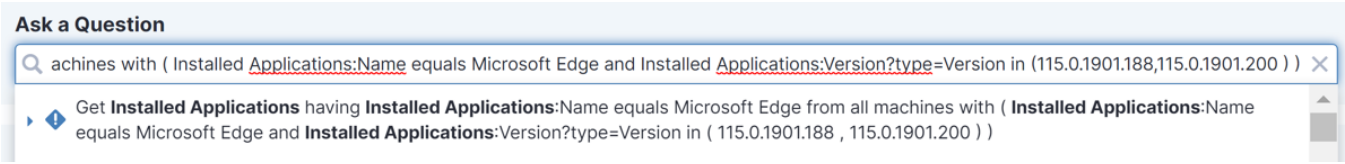
Issued question with "in" operator



The following question applies the `in` operator to values (`115.0.1901.188` or `115.0.1901.200`) in a specific column (`Version`) of the multi-column sensor (`Installed Applications`):

```
Get Installed Applications having Installed Applications:Name equals Microsoft Edge from all machines with ( Installed Applications:Name equals Microsoft Edge and Installed Applications:Version?type=Version in (115.0.1901.188,115.0.1901.200 ) )
```

Question with "in" operator applied to a sensor column filter



After you issue the question, its syntax changes to:

```
Get Installed Applications having Installed Applications:Name equals Microsoft Edge from all machines with ( Installed Applications:Name equals Microsoft Edge and ( Installed Applications:Version?type=Version equals 115.0.1901.188 or Installed Applications:Version?type=Version equals 115.0.1901.200 ) )
```

Use nested filters

In the `from` clause of a question, you can configure multiple filters, including nested filters.

The following example shows nested filters in the **Question Builder**. The example combines one matching expression with either one of the nested expressions.

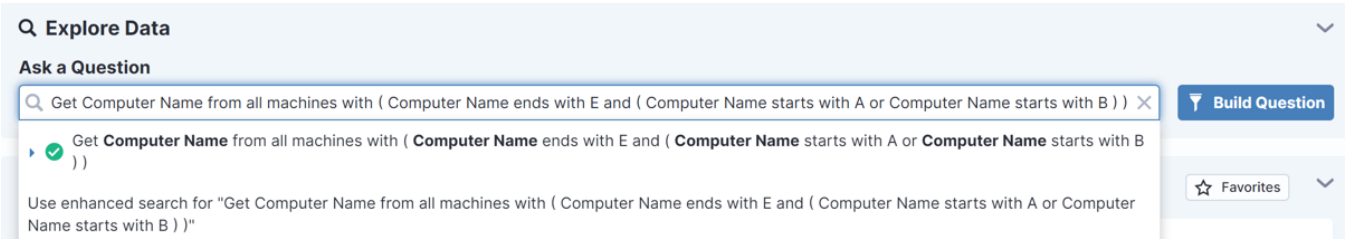
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Nested filters in the Question Builder



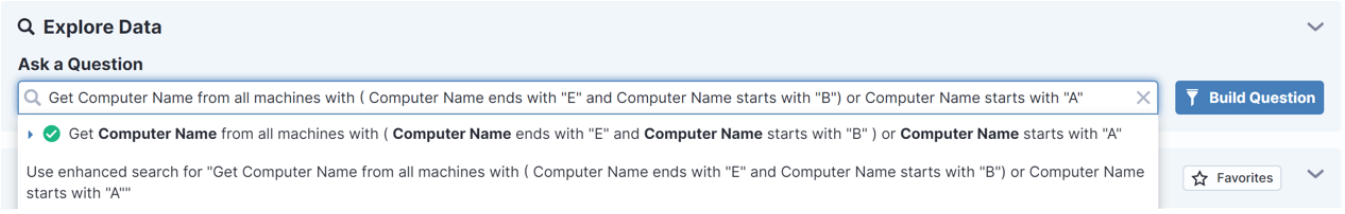
You can also specify nested filters in the **Ask a Question** field.

Nested filters in the Ask a Question field to match either of two results



The following example shows different Boolean logic: match both of these or this one.

Nested filters in the Ask a Question field to match both results or one result



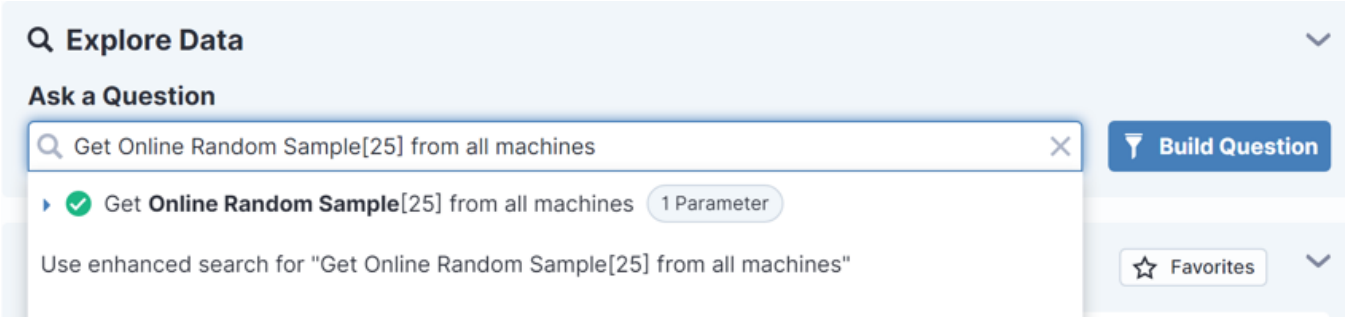
Target random endpoints

Use the **Online Random Sample** sensor to identify a random subset of online endpoints managed using Tanium Client from all targeted endpoints. You might want to target random endpoints when you test a new package or configuration on a random subset of endpoints, or to check a random set of endpoints to ensure they have proper configurations prior to an audit. The **Online Random Sample** sensor is included in the content-only solution Default Content.

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The **Online Random Sample** sensor retrieves `True` and `False` results from all targeted endpoints. The sensor accepts a **Sample %** parameter from 0-100 to determine the rough percentage of endpoints that answer with True. For example, if you pass 25 as a parameter and target `from all machines`, approximately 25% of endpoints in the environment will return a True response. Because each endpoint evaluates the sensor and generates a random True or False answer according to the percentage that you specify, the number of endpoints that return True can vary. The default value for **Sample %** is 5.

Online Random Sample sensor

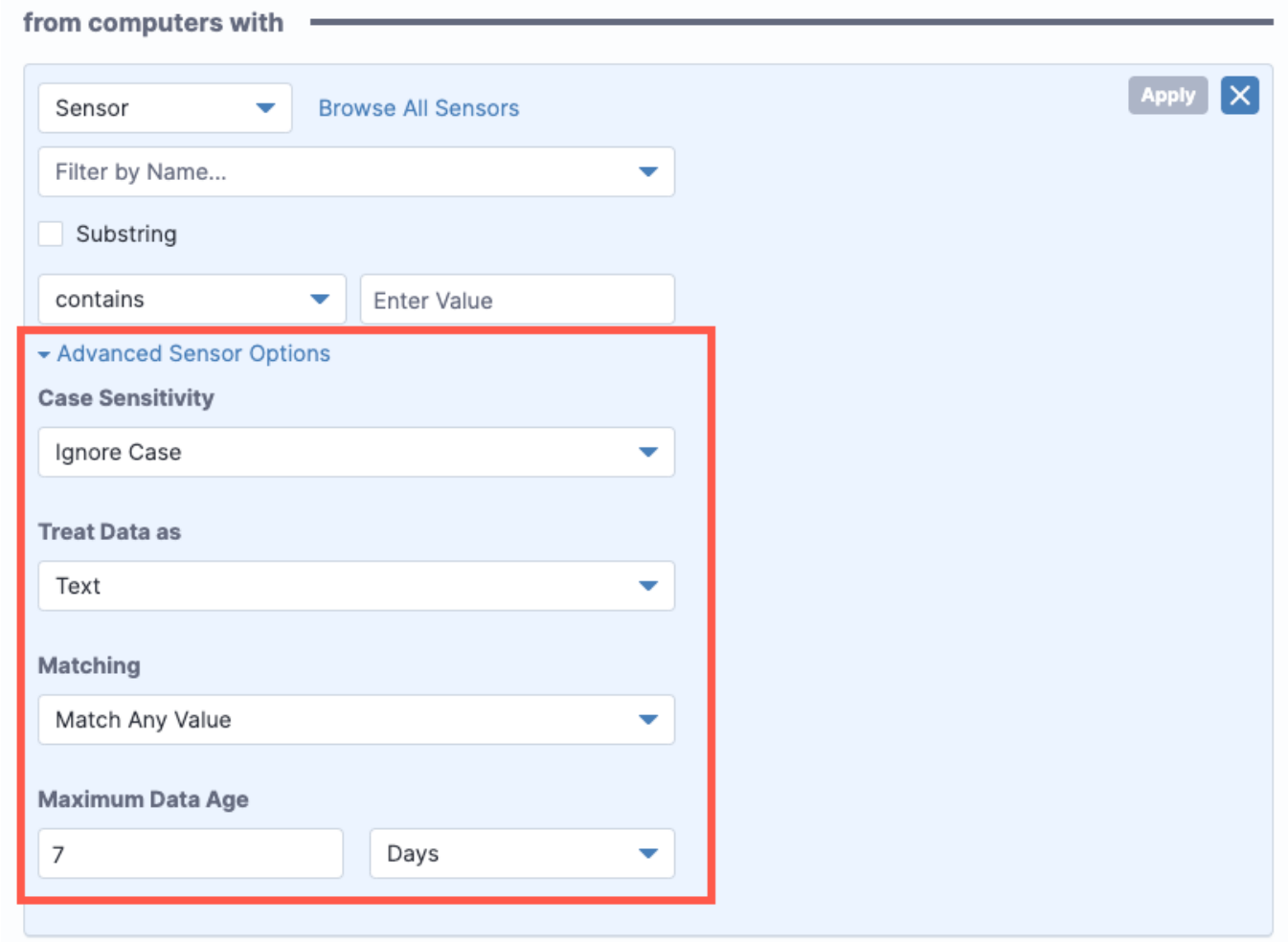


Use advanced sensor options

Question results from Tanium Clients must conform with any advanced options that you specify for sensors in the question. You can configure advanced sensor options in the **Question Builder** (see Question Builder: Advanced sensor options on page 143) or the **Ask a Question** field.

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Question Builder: Advanced sensor options



The table Advanced sensor options in questions on page 144 describes the advanced sensor options and provides examples of their syntax in the **Ask a Question** field. The field syntax for all sensor options has the format `<sensor>?<option>=<value>`. To specify multiple advanced options for a sensor, separate each option with an ampersand `&`: `<sensor>?<option 1>=<value>&<option 2>=<value>...&<option N>=<value>`. The following example shows a question with two options for the **Installed Applications** sensor.

```
Get Installed Applications?ignoreCase=0&maxAge=120 contains A from all machines
```

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Advanced sensor options in questions

Option	Descriptions and examples
Case Sensitivity	Select whether Interact accounts for upper-case and lower-case characters when grouping and counting question results that contain letters. In the **Question Builder**, the options are: • **Ignore case** • **Match case** In the **Ask a Question** field, the syntax is `<sensor>?ignoreCase=[0|1]`. The value `0` means match the case and the value `1` means ignore the case. The following example specifies the **Case Sensitivity** option with a value set to **Match Case**. `Get Installed Applications having Installed Applications:Name?ignoreCase=0 contains A from all machines`
Matching	If the Tanium Client computes multiple results for certain sensors, you can use the **Matching** option as a filter such that the Client answers the question only if its results conform to your selection. For example, a Client with multiple interfaces returns multiple results for the **IP Address** sensor. You can specify matching to return results only from Clients on which all the interfaces have an IP address that contains the string `192`. In the **Question Builder**, this option is available only in the **from computers with** section, and the options are: • **Match Any Value**: The Client returns results if any of its results match the sensor value. • **Match All Values**: The Client returns results only if all its results match the sensor value. In the **Ask a Question** field, this option is available only in the `from` clause. The syntax is `with [all] <sensor> contains <value>`, where omitting the `all` option specifies **Match Any Value**. In the following example, the **Matching** option is set to **Match All Values** (`with all`) for the **IP Address** sensor. `Get IP Address from all machines with all IP Address?type=String contains 192`

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Advanced sensor options in questions (continued)

Option	Descriptions and examples

Treat Data As	Interact treats sensor values as the type of data that you specify. For descriptions of the data types that you can select in the **Question Builder**, see Tanium Console User Guide: Result Type.
	
	In the **Ask a Question** field, the syntax for filtering by data type is `<sensor>?type=<type>`. The following example specifies **Numeric** as the type.
	
	`Get Free Memory?type=Numeric > 300 from all machines`
	
	The **File Size** data type in the **Question Builder** corresponds to the `DataSize` type in the **Ask a Question** field, where the syntax is `<sensor>?type=DataSize`. The following example returns results from endpoints where the installation folder of the Tanium Client is at least 10 GB.
	
	`Get Tanium Client Folder Size?type=DataSize >= 10 GB from all machines`
	
	NOTE
	Use the **Treat Data As** option only with comparison operators, such as `>` and `>=` in the preceding examples.

Maximum Data Age	Specify the maximum time for which the Tanium Client can use a cached result for the sensor, instead of re-running it for a fresh result, when answering questions. For example, you might specify 15 minutes for the **File Size** sensor. When a Client receives a question that runs the **File Size** sensor, it caches the result. Over the next 15 minutes, if the Client receives another question with the **File Size** sensor, it returns the cached result. After 15 minutes, if the Client receives a question with the **File Size** sensor, it re-runs the sensor script to return a fresh result. To improve the accuracy of results, use shorter ages for sensors with values that change frequently, such as status and usage sensors. To reduce unnecessary resource consumption on endpoints, use longer ages only for sensors with values that typically do not change frequently, such as the chassis type or Active Directory domain membership. In the **Question Builder**, you can specify the **Maximum Data Age** units (**minutes**, **hours**, **days**). In the **Ask a Question** field, the syntax is `<sensor>?maxAge=<value>` and the units are always seconds. The following example specifies a maximum age of `3600` seconds. `Get Computer Name?maxAge=3600 from all machines` NOTE If you omit the **Maximum Data Age**, the **Max Sensor Age** setting in the sensor configuration determines the maximum time for cached results. For more information, see Tanium Console User Guide: Max Sensor Age. BEST PRACTICE Specify a **Maximum Data Age** only when issuing dynamic questions, not when creating saved questions that periodically reissue or when configuring endpoint membership in computer management groups and filter groups. Setting a **Maximum Data Age** that is lower than the **Max Sensor Age** increases CPU usage on endpoints.

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Use advanced question options

Enable the **Force Computer ID** option to convert a single-sensor, counting question into a non-counting question by forcing Tanium Clients to include the computer ID in their answers. Note that the **Question Results** page does not include the computer ID results when you select this option. Converting to a non-counting question is a workaround that resolves cases where a counting question returns the `too many results` answer. For more information, see Too many results on page 116. You can enable the option in the **Ask a Question** field by using the `Get?forceComputerIdFlag=1` statement. You can also enable the option in the **Question Builder**, under **Advanced Question Options**.

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