



## Data directories

Linux	<code>/opt/nessus/var/nessus</code>
macOS	<code>/Library/Nessus/run/var/nessus</code>
Windows	<code>C:\ProgramData\Tenable\Nessus\nessus</code>

## Binary directories and utilities

Linux	<code>/opt/nessus/sbin</code> <code>/opt/nessus/bin</code>
macOS	<code>/Library/Nessus/run/sbin</code> <code>/Library/Nessus/run/bin</code>
Windows	<code>C:\Program Files\Tenable\Nessus</code> <code>C:\Program Files (x86)\Tenable\Nessus</code>

- `nessusd` - e.g. to recompile plugins
- `nessuscli` - e.g. to configure, manage and update Nessus ([docs](#))
- `nasl` - e.g. to test, run, sign plugins

## Logs directories and files

Linux	<code>/opt/nessus/var/nessus/logs</code>
macOS	<code>/Library/Nessus/run/var/nessus/logs</code>
Windows	<code>C:\ProgramData\Tenable\Nessus\nessus\logs</code>

- `nessusd.dump` – Nessus dump log file used for debugging output.
- `nessusd.messages` – Nessus scanner log.
- `www_server.log` – Nessus web server log.
- `backend.log` – Nessus backend log.
- `nessuscli.log` – Nessus CLI log.

## Plugin directories and files

Linux	<code>/opt/nessus/lib/nessus/plugins</code>
macOS	<code>/Library/Nessus/run/lib/nessus/plugins</code>
Windows	<code>C:\ProgramData\Tenable\Nessus\nessus\plugins</code>

- `*.nasl` - plugins with readable source code
- `*.nbin` - compiled plugins
- `*.inc` - include libraries

## Search in plugin content

```
cd /opt/nessus/lib/nessus/plugins
grep -rl script_id.19506 . ❶
```

- ❶ Due to big number of plugins you need to use `-r` parameter to recursively search in plugins directory (i.e., force grep to behave as rgrep).

## Advanced Settings

```
cd /opt/nessus/sbin
nessuscli fix --list
nessuscli fix --get setting_name
nessuscli fix --set setting_name=<value>
```

## API

```
https://localhost:8834/api ❶
https://localhost:8834/server/status ❷
https://localhost:8834/server/properties ❸
```

- ❶ Access Nessus API documentation.
- ❷ Check Nessus service status.
- ❸ Check Nessus service version.

## Plugin Feed

### Check latest available plugins feed

```
curl https://plugins.nessus.org/v2/plugins.php
202201311213
```

### Check Plugin Feed in Nessus

Login to Nessus, go to Settings > About > check Plugin Set, or on OS level:

```
cd /opt/nessus/lib/nessus/plugins
head -1 plugin_feed_info.inc
PLUGIN_SET = "202201311213";
```

## Good practices

When you run scan:

- Make sure that you have latest feed.
- Perform scan with credentials. ([docs](#))

When you analyze scan results:

- Use Audit Trail to make sure why plugin did not provide result.
- Check Knowledge Base to find more details.

## Additional resources

- [docs.tenable.com/Nessus.htm](https://docs.tenable.com/Nessus.htm) - Nessus documentation
- [tenable.com/downloads/nessus](https://tenable.com/downloads/nessus) - Nessus download page
- [tenable.com/plugins/search](https://tenable.com/plugins/search) - Nessus Plugins Search
- [community.tenable.com](https://community.tenable.com) - Tenable Community
- [github.com/tenable](https://github.com/tenable) - Tenable profile at GitHub