

Configure and Run Tests

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Run a Raw Test

To test the storage performance in HxBench, select the **Bench Tests** tab and click the **Create Test** button. The **Create** page appears. This is the first of three pages that guide you through creating a bench test.

Step 1 On the **Test Profile** page, complete the following fields:

| Field Name | Description |
|-----------------|---|
| Test Name field | Type a unique name into the field. The test name is used to associate test parameters and test results into user-defined reports. |
| Test Type list | Select Raw Disk from the list. |

a) Select the desired **Profile Type** for the named test from the following options:

| Profile Type | Description |
|-----------------|---|
| Select Existing | Use an existing profile from the list of available Test Profiles. |

| Profile Type | Description |
|--------------|---|
| Create New | Create a new test. Complete the Vdbench test parameter values to define a new custom test: |
| | Test Parameters |
| | • Read Mix (%): Valid range is 1-100%. The default is 60%. |
| | • IO Type list: Valid values are Random and Sequential. The default is Random. |
| | • IO Block Size (KB): Valid range is 0-99. The default is 8. |
| | • Threads per VM: Value must be greater than 1. The default is 32. |
| | Data Set |
| | • Deduplication (%) : Valid range is 0-99%. The default is 50%. |
| | • Compression (%): Valid range is 0-99%. The default is 50%. |
| | • Dataset per VM (GB): Value must be greater than 1. The default is 100. |
| | • Working Set (% of Dataset): Valid range is 0-100%. The default is 100%. |
| | Loadpoint and Run Time |
| | Select the Loadpoint: Fixed Load (only 100% loadpoint) or Stepwise Load (Initial calibration, 10%, 50%, 75% 90%, 100% load point) |
| | • Run Time (min): Length of time of the test: Value must be greater than 1. |
| Upload File | Click the Browse button to navigate to upload Vdbench test parameters from a file. |

- b) Click Next to continue to the VM Group.
- **Step 2** On the VM Group page, provide the infrastructure details of the virtual machines you want to test.
 - a) Select the infrastructure to run the tests.

| Infrastructure Type | Description |
|-----------------------|--|
| Use Existing VM Group | To use the existing infrastructure to run the tests, select the VM from the Select VM Group list. |

| Infrastructure Type | Description |
|---------------------|--|
| Create New VMs | To create a new infrastructure, select Create New VMs and complete the following fields: |
| | • VM Name Prefix: Name of the VM. |
| | • vCenter: Pre-populated values. You cannot edit or change the values. |
| | • Datastore list: List of datastores in the vCenter that are queried at runtime. |
| | • Number of VMs: Valid value range is 1 to 4 VMs. The default is 4. |
| | • Stretched Cluster: Enable Stretched Cluster; If you are benchmarking a Stretched Cluster complete the additional fields: |
| | • HX Connect IP: HX Connect IP address |
| | • HX Connect Username: HX Connect Username |
| | • HX Connect Password: HX Connect Password. |
| | • Fetch Data Store: After entering HX Connect details click on this button to fetch Datastore details. |
| | |

b) Click Next.

c) Upon successful selection of Define Test and Define Infra, click **Start Test** to start the test. As the test progresses, it will automatically transition through the following work flow progress pages.

| Work flow Page | Description |
|-----------------|---|
| Create Infra | View the Test VMs created with the given specifications. Use the Log Details tab to view the progress. |
| Validate Infra | VM infrastructure is validated for its availability and reachability. |
| Create Data Set | Data disk priming is carried out to run the test. The VM infrastructure is ready upon the completion of data disk priming. Now, the Vdbench tool is triggered to run the storage performance test using the provided test inputs on the VM infrastructure. |
| Run Tests | Performance metrics are captured and updated as the test progresses. |
| Completed | When the test is successfully Completed , the status turns green. The fields under Aggregate Test Results are updated. |

Testing iSCSI Storage for HyperFlex

Testing iSCSI Storage: HyperFlex Cluster

To test HyperFlex storage performance in HxBench, perform the following steps:

- **Step 1** On the **Bench Tests** tab, click **Create Test**. The **Test Profile** page appears. This is the first of three pages that guide you through creating a bench test.
- **Step 2** On the **Test Profile** page, complete the following fields:

| Field Name | Description |
|-----------------|---|
| Test Name field | Type a unique name into the field. The test name is used to associate test parameters and test results into user-defined reports. |
| Test Type list | Select iSCSI Block Storage Workload – HX from the list. |

- **Profile Type** Description Select Existing Use an existing profile from the list of available Test Profiles. Create a new test. Complete the Vdbench test parameter values to define a new custom Create New test: **Test Parameters** • Read Mix (%): Valid range is 1-100%. The default is 60%. • IO Type list: Valid values are Random and Sequential. The default is Random. • IO Block Size (KB): Valid range is 0-99. The default is 8. • Threads per VM: Value must be greater than 1. The default is 32. **Data Set** • **Deduplication** (%): Valid range is 0-99%. The default is 50%. • Compression (%): Valid range is 0-99%. The default is 50%. • Dataset per VM (GB): Value must be greater than 1. The default is 100. • Working Set (% of Dataset): Valid range is 0-100%. The default is 100%. Loadpoint and Run Time • Select the Loadpoint: Fixed Load (only 100% loadpoint) or Stepwise Load (Initial calibration, 10%, 50%, 75% 90%, 100% load point) • **Run Time (min)**: Length of time of the test: Value must be greater than 1.
- a) Select the desired **Profile Type** for the named test from the following options:

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| Profile Type | Description |
|--------------|---|
| Upload File | Click the Browse button to navigate to upload Vdbench test parameters from a file. |

b) Click Next to continue to the VM Group.

Step 3 On the VM Group page, provide the infrastructure details of the virtual machines you want to test.

a) Select the infrastructure to run the tests.

| Infrastructure Type | Description |
|-----------------------|--|
| Use Existing VM Group | To use the existing infrastructure to run the tests, select the VM from the Select VM Group list. |
| Create New VMs | To create a new infrastructure, select Create New VMs and complete the following fields: |
| | • VM Name: Name of the VM. |
| | • Node: Name of the node. |
| | • Data Store list: List of data stores in the vCenter that are queried at runtime. |
| | • Total VMs across All Nodes: Total count of VMs across all nodes. Value needs to be greater than 1. |
| | • MTU Size: (Optional) MTU size for the test VMs and controller. |
| | • HX Connect IP: HX Connect IP address. |
| | • HX Connect Username: HX Connect Username. |
| | • HX Connect Password: HX Connect Password. |
| Target Server Details | Enable CHAP: Select either Yes or No. If yes is selected, the CHAP Username and Password fields is visible and mutual authentication between target and user is configured. Complete the required fields. |
| | • IP Address: CHAP IP address |
| | • CHAP Username: CHAP username |
| | CHAP Password: CHAP password |
| Network Configuration | • Static/DHCP: Select Static or DHCP for IPs to assign to the test VMs. |
| Details | • IP Range Start: Starting IP address for test VMs. Successive unused IPs after this IP are used for test VMs. This option is only available if you select Static . |
| | • Netmask: NetmaskIP of the network used for test VMs. This option is only available if you select Static. |
| | • Gateway: GatewayIP of the network used for test VMs. This option is only available if you select Static. |

| Infrastructure Type | Description |
|---------------------|--|
| Data Priming | Priming involves performing an initial write to the entire VM. This is required for all new VMs to ensure performance results are valid. Existing VMs should be re-primed when using a storage efficiency ration other than the one used for initial creation. |
| | Use the radio buttons to include or skip priming and specify when to run the priming test in the field provided. |

b) Click Next.

c) Upon successful selection of Define Test and Define Infra, click **Start Test** to start the test. As the test progresses, it will automatically transition through the following work flow progress pages.

| Work flow Page | Description |
|-----------------|---|
| Create Infra | View the Test VMs created with the given specifications. Use the Log Details tab to view the progress. |
| Validate Infra | VM infrastructure is validated for its availability and reachability. |
| Create Data Set | Data disk priming is carried out to run the test. The VM infrastructure is ready upon the completion of data disk priming. Now, the Vdbench tool is triggered to run the storage performance test using the provided test inputs on the VM infrastructure. |
| Run Tests | Performance metrics are captured and updated as the test progresses. |
| Completed | When the test is successfully Completed , the status turns green. The fields under Aggregate Test Results are updated. |

When the test is successfully Completed, the status turns green and the fields under **Loadpoint Averages and VM Average Comparison** are updated.

• You can view the Test VMs created with the given specifications. You can view the progress in the Status column.

View the progress in the **Status column**. View the Test VMs created with the given specifications.

- Data disk priming is carried out to run the test.
- The VM infrastructure is ready upon the completion of data disk priming. The vdbench tool is now triggered to run the storage performance test using the provided test inputs on the VM infrastructure.
- Performance metrics are updated as the test progresses on theRun Tests page.
- When the test is in progress the **Create VM Group** button is disabled. The button is enabled after test completes, fails or terminates.

Testing iSCSI Storage: Non-HyperFlex Clusters

To test storage performance (non-HyperFlex platform) in HxBench, proceed as follows:

Step 1 On the **Bench Tests** tab, click **Create Test**. The **Create** page appears. This is the first of three pages that guide you through creating a bench test.

Step 2 On the **Test Profile** page, complete the following fields:

| Field Name | Description |
|-----------------|---|
| Test Name field | Type a unique name into the field. The test name is used to associate test parameters and test results into user-defined reports. |
| Test Type list | Select iSCSI Block Storage Workload – Non-HX from the list. |

a) Select the desired **Profile Type** for the named test from the following options:

| Profile Type | Description |
|-----------------|---|
| Select Existing | Use an existing profile from the list of available Test Profiles. |
| Create New | Create a new test. Complete the Vdbench test parameter values to define a new custom test: |
| | Test Parameters |
| | • Read Mix (%): Valid range is 1-100%. The default is 60%. |
| | • IO Type list: Valid values are Random and Sequential. The default is Random. |
| | • IO Block Size (KB): Valid range is 0-99. The default is 8. |
| | • Threads per VM: Value must be greater than 1. The default is 32. |
| | Data Set |
| | • Deduplication (%): Valid range is 0-99%. The default is 50%. |
| | • Compression (%) : Valid range is 0-99%. The default is 50%. |
| | • Dataset per VM (GB): Value must be greater than 1. The default is 100. |
| | • Working Set (% of Dataset): Valid range is 0-100%. The default is 100%. |
| | Loadpoint and Run Time |
| | • Select the Loadpoint: Fixed Load (only 100% loadpoint) or Stepwise Load (Initial calibration, 10%, 50%, 75% 90%, 100% load point) |
| | • Run Time (min): Length of time of the test: Value must be greater than 1. |
| Upload File | Click the Browse button to navigate to upload Vdbench test parameters from a file. |

- b) Click Next to continue to the VM Group.
- **Step 3** On the **VM Group** page, configure details of the infrastructure where you want to deploy the test virtual machines to run the test. You must use an existing infrastructure.
 - a) Select Use Existing VM Group to run the tests.
 - b) Click Next.

c) Click Start Test to start the test.

When the test is successfully Completed, the status turns green and the fields under Loadpoint Averages and VM Average Comparison are updated.

• You can view the Test VMs created with the given specifications. You can view the progress in the Status column.

View the progress in the **Status column.** View the Test VMs created with the given specifications.

- Data disk priming is carried out to run the test.
- The VM infrastructure is ready upon the completion of data disk priming. The vdbench tool is now triggered to run the storage performance test using the provided test inputs on the VM infrastructure.
- Performance metrics are updated as the test progresses on theRun Tests page.
- When the test is in progress the **Create VM Group** button is disabled. The button is enabled after test completes, fails or terminates.

Terminate a Test

You can terminate a running test using the **Terminate** option in the Run test wizard. The test will be marked as **Terminated by user**.

Test Details

The various operations you can perform on completed tests, test profiles, and VM infrastructure are listed in this section.

Bench Tests

You can view the list of tests run on the controller under the **BENCH TESTS** tab. You can select any test from this list and visualize the test summary, performance metrics and compare across multiple tests. If there is a test running, the Test History view lists it as *In-Progress Test* and updates the view details periodically. You can delete a test and associated data from HxBench.

Comparisons

You can select and compare test results on the **COMPARISONS** tab. You can select any test from this list, the Run Definition and Loadpoint and compare across multiple tests.

- Use the toggle to auto select similar tests.
- Use the check boxes to select specific metrics.
- Click the + to add additional tests.

Test Profiles

You can view the list of available profiles in the controller under the **TEST PROFILES** tab. You can select a profile and view the details. You can download a profile from here. You can also upload a profile and use

it for testing. However, when a profile file is uploaded, the content must be in the correct format as defined by Vdbench. If there is any wrong format or unrecognized keys, the test will fail. You can delete a profile from HxBench.

VM Groups

You can view the available VM infrastructure and its status from the VM GROUPS page. If an infrastructure is not required for any further testing, you can delete it.

You can create a VM infrastructure to run a test using the Run Test wizard.

Application Logs

Application logs are stored in the following location:

/home/appadmin/hxbench/hxbench/hxbench.log

The following screenshot shows how to download the application logs.

| Bench Tests | | | | | V 2.0 | <u>©</u> 0 | |
|--------------------------------------|--|---|---|----------------------|-------------------------------------|------------|---|
| C Search | | | 4 items found | Sor | vCenter Detail Download Log File | Create Tes | t |
| core_perf_custom | | | | | | | |
| Status Completed Duration 11h 13s | Test Profile VM Group Test Details | core_perf_1gb_disk dev4 Composite Run Definition (11 R_ | IOPS ⊙ Latency (ms) ⊙ Throughput (MBps) ⊙ | 9986 9.6 624.1 | | | |
| dev_10hrs_curvetest_nonhx | | | | | | | , |

Test Results

Test Results Logs

Click on Test Details > View Logs > View Run Logs.

You can view the complete test logs.

• Click on Test Details > View Logs > View Vdbench Status.

You can view the parsable information about the current status of Vdbench.

| Bench Tests > core_perf_custom | v20 😳 🔿 🕰 |
|--|---|
| | Actions v |
| core_perf_custom | Clone |
| Completed Duration: 11h 13a Test Profile core_perf_1gb Test Type ISCSI Block St Start Time Oct 25, 2020 06 VM Group dev4 Test Details Composite Ru End Time Oct 26, 2020 05 Juration: 11h 13a aVM 4 Duration: 11h 13a Duration: 11h 13a | View Run Logs View Vdbench Status D Download Summary report (PDF) Download Vdbench raw data (CSV) |
| Loadpoint Averages VM Average Comparision Test Defi | inition 32 Delete |
| Metrics : Max | |
| Throughput (MBps) 219.1 | |
| Read % 0 | |

Download Test Results Report

- To download the detailed results in PDF, click on Download icon under Test Details and select PDF.
- To download the detailed results in CSV, click on Download icon under Test Details and select CSV.

| Bench Tests > core_perf_custom | v20 🛇 🔿 🕰 |
|---|--|
| | Actions ~ |
| core_perf_custom | Clone |
| Completed Duration: 11h 13e Test Profile core_perf_1gb Test Type iSCSI Block St Start Time Oct 25, 2020 06 VM Group dev4 Test Details Composite Ru End Time Oct 25, 2020 05 Duration: 11h 13e #VM 4 Duration: 11h 13e Duration 11h 13e | View Run Logs IC W View Vdbench Status D Download Summary report (PDF) Download Vdbench raw data (CSV) |
| Loadpoint Averages VM Average Comparision Test Definition 3 Metrics C Max | 2 Delete |
| Throughput (M8ps) 219.1 | |
| Read % 0 | |

Comparing Test Results

You can perform various comparisons on completed tests by selecting the required test from the list. You can select a minimum of two and a maximum of five tests at a time. To compare completed test proceed as follows:

Step 1 Click on the **Comparisons** tab.

| ≡ | cisco HX Bench | COMPARISONS | V21 | 0 | 0 4 | 2 |
|---|------------------|---|-----|---|--------|---|
| 6 | BENCH TESTS | Collapse Test View | | | | |
| 긬 | COMPARISONS | Compare similar tests 🐵 | | | | |
| ۵ | TEST PROFILES | Test Name Test Name test-new v test-01 v | | | | |
| ₽ | CONTAINER GROUPS | Run Definition Run Definition | | | | |
| | | Loadpoint Loadpoint | | | | |
| | | Max v 90% v Through and (100 a) Date (100 b) Make (100 b) Date (100 b) Make (100 b) | | | unload | |

Step 2 Select the tests to be compared from the completed **Test Name** list. You can select a minimum of two and a maximum of five tests.

| = | diali: HX Bench | COMPARISONS | V21 | o | 0 | ۹ |
|-------------|------------------|---|-----|---|----------|-----|
| ß | BENCH TESTS | Collapse Test View | | | | ľ |
| <u>00</u> 0 | COMPARISONS | Compare similar tests 💿 | | | | - 1 |
| ۵ | TEST PROFILES | Test Name Test Name Test Name test-new v test-01 v test-00 v | | | | - 1 |
| Dł | CONTAINER GROUPS | Run Definition Run Definition Run Definition Industry Industry Industry Loadpoint Loadpoint Loadpoint Max 90% Max Image: Throughput (MBps) Read % INPS 450 Image: Throughput (MBps) | - | | Download | |

Step 3 Use the check boxes to select the test parameters that you want to compare.

| = | disce HX Bench | COMPARISONS | V21 | ٥ | 0 | ٩ |
|---|------------------|---|-----|-----|---------|---|
| ផ | BENCH TESTS | Collapse Test View | | | | |
| ŵ | COMPARISONS | ○ Compare similar tests ↔ | | | | |
| ۵ | TEST PROFILES | Test Name Test Name Test Name test-new v test-01 v test-00 v | | | | |
| | CONTAINER GROUPS | Run Definition Run Definition Run Definition _rd_vsL_ramp _rd_vsL_ramp _rd_vsL_ramp double double double Loadpoint double double Max 90% dax Townshot (Max) double double | | | wardowd | |
| | | Throughput (MBps) | Max | Min | Ang | |

Step 4 Turn on the **Compare similar tests** switch to compare tests with the same test profile. The first test selected is considered the base test, all of the other tests to be compared will have the same run definition and loadpoint as the first test.

| ≡ | cisco HX Bench | COMPARISONS | V21 | 0 | 0 | ۵ |
|----|------------------|--|-----|---|---------|---|
| ß | BENCH TESTS | Collapse Test View | | | | |
| 86 | COMPARISONS | Compare similar tests O | | | | |
| ۵ | TEST PROFILES | Test Name v Run Definition v Loadpoint | | | ~ | |
| ₽ | CONTAINER GROUPS | · | | | | |
| | | Test Name + | | | | |
| | | 🛛 Throughput (MBps) 📄 Read % 💟 IOPS 📄 Read IOPS 📄 Write IOPS 🔽 Latency (ms) 📄 Read Latency (ms) 🔅 Write Latency (ms) |) | | Downloa | d |

The comparison results appear with an illustrative graph.



What to do next

To download the detailed test comparisons result in PDF, click on the **Download** button under the **Comparisons** tab.

| ≡ | cisco HX Bench | COMPARISONS | V21 | 0 | Θ | ۹ |
|----|------------------|---|------|------|-----------|-----|
| ß | BENCH TESTS | Collapse Test View | | | | |
| 20 | COMPARISONS | Compare similar tests 💿 | | | | |
| ۵ | TEST PROFILES | Test Name Test Name test-00 v test-01 v | | | | - 1 |
| | CONTIANER GROUPS | Run Definition Run Definition -rd.vdl.remp -rd.vdl.remp Losdpoint Max Max | 60.8 | 58.4 | Synthesis | |