Setting roles and responsibilities

Learn common roles in a Splunk implementation, the recommended minimum level of Splunk education required for that role, and links to recommended courses.

A Splunk implementation team is made up of roles with different strengths and skills with Splunk software and within your general business. These roles reflect the business skills needed to fulfill the role’s duties, and do not necessarily map directly to the Splunk platform default user roles - for example, one person on your Splunk team can fulfill more than one role.

Roles and responsibilities are a good way to manage an incentive-based access model to encourage your user community to build and grow their Splunk software skills.

Splunk roles and responsibilities

Here are common roles in a Splunk implementation, their general focus, and the recommended minimum level of Splunk education required for that role.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Splunk role and responsibilities</th>
<th>Required skills</th>
<th>Recommended education requirements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Architect</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Designs and optimizes Splunk platform architecture for large-scale and distributed deployments</td>
<td>Learning Path: <a href="#">Courses for Splunk Architects</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Establishes best practices and development standards, and ensures that the team adopts them</td>
<td>Certification: <a href="#">Splunk Enterprise Certified Architect</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Maintains a close partnership with Splunk on feature requests, upgrade planning, and product roadmap alignment</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Experience with interconnected, heterogeneous systems</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Strong understanding of industry standards and technologies</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Developer
### Engineer

- Develops and customizes Splunk apps and dashboards
- Implements integration with external systems
- Builds advanced visualizations
- Basic web design
- Scripting (such as Python or other)

**Learning Path:**
- Courses for App Developers

**Certification:**
- Splunk Certified Developer

### Engineer

- Implements and maintains Splunk platform infrastructure and configuration
- Undertakes day-to-day operational and user support
- Executes new projects as well as data and user onboarding
- Staffs help desk for Splunk platform system-related assistance
- WIN or *nix systems administration
- Networking background
- Familiarity with common infrastructure technologies

**Learning Path:**
- Courses for Splunk Administrators

**Certification:**
- Splunk Certified Admin

### Executive sponsor

- Endorses and provides resources for the Splunk software investment
- Brokers political alignment at the executive level
- Strong business acumen
- Management experience
- Considered an ‘influencer’ at the organization
- Actively engaged in promoting Splunk software as a solution, service, or strategy

**Learning Path:**
- Courses for Splunk Users

**Certification:**
- Splunk Core Certified Power User
# Search expert

- Customizes queries
- Promotes advanced searching, forensics, analytics
- Effects creative solutions to complex problems
- Staffs help desk for search-related assistance

Learning Path:
- Courses for Search Experts

Certification:
- Splunk Core Certified Advanced Power User

---

# Knowledge manager

- Manages data onboarding and defining configurations
- Performs data interpretation, classification, and enrichment
- Builds data models
- Manages knowledge objects (fields, extractions, tags, event types, lookups, workflow actions, aliases, macros, and so on)
- Configures summary-based reports and data model acceleration

Learning Path:
- Courses for Knowledge Managers

Certification:
- Splunk Core Certified Advanced Power User

---

# Program manager

- Manages the Splunk implementation team
- Ensures Splunk implementation meets business requirements
- Strong business acumen
- Management experience
- Some project management
- There should be only one

Learning Path:
- Courses for Splunk Users

Certification:
• Provides oversight on projects and cross-departmental initiatives
• Spearheads communication to stakeholders
• Facilitates maturity of the Splunk implementation team and user base through education programs

Program manager

• Scopes project requirements
• Manages project timelines
• Communicates progress and risks to stakeholders
• Bridges interactions between stakeholders and Splunk implementation team
• Chief cat herder

Project manager

• Project management expertise
• Excellent communication skills
• Detailed knowledge of organizational and business process

Learning Path:
Courses for Splunk Users
Certification:
Splunk Core Certified Power User

User community

• Appreciates the value returned from Splunk analytics and reports
• Consumes reports, dashboards, alerts, and other use case-related dashboards
• May also include users who are Splunk Certified Power Users

• Varying levels of technical competencies and experience with SPL
• Can consume dashboards and alerts or write searches if inclined
• Experience with web browsers

Learning Path:
Courses for Splunk Users
Certification:
Splunk Core Certified Power User
More resources

• For information about how to set up roles and capabilities in Splunk Enterprise, see Define roles on the Splunk platform with capabilities in the Securing Splunk Enterprise manual.

• For best practices about how to manage roles, access to data, and access to product features in a more modular and scalable way, see the topic Managing data based on role.

• For a staffing model template, see Staffing a Splunk deployment.

• For the responsibility assignment matrix, see Assigning Responsibilities.