Setting up a welcome page

A welcome page is a default dashboard within a default app tailored to a specific role or user group that presents users with all the resources they need to get Splunking. A welcome page is a good way to focus users' attention on workflows that are relevant to them. You can create your own welcome pages from scratch, or use the Welcome Page Creator app on Splunkbase to help you quickly implement welcome pages that accelerate your users' time to effectiveness.

Audience

- Program manager
- Engineer

For more about these roles, see Roles best practices.

Guidelines for creating welcome pages

Use the Welcome Page Creator app from Splunkbase

The Welcome Page Creator provides example dashboards, template workspaces, and more than 20 prebuilt panels to get your welcome page started. To download the Welcome Page Creator app, go to Welcome Page Creator for Splunk on Splunkbase.

Keep it simple

Keep content minimal and focused on relevant tasks and information. Less content makes it easier for users to focus on what is important so they can use the platform more effectively.

Consider the audience

The focus and communication style of your developers is dramatically different than that of your business users. Keep this in mind when selecting what panels to include on a welcome page. Use materials and language that is effective for the reader. In fact, that is why some of the panels in the Welcome Page Creator have similar content, but presented differently.

Tailor welcome pages to different roles

Assign a unique role to each work group so you can segregate their workspaces and provide the most effective welcome page for each team. You can also change the permissions on other team's apps so users only see the workspace (app) for them – not apps that belong to other groups. For more about assigning access to apps for specific roles, see Restricting access to specific apps in the Securing Splunk Enterprise manual.
Listen to questions from your users

After implementing welcome pages, users will still have questions. Put answers to repeated questions in a new panel on your welcome page so you can get back to the fun stuff. When necessary, edit any shared prebuilt panel or convert any panel to an inline panel so you can further customize it for that audience. For more about working with dashboard panels, see Add panels to dashboards in the Splunk Enterprise Dashboards and Visualizations manual.

Not a welcome app, but a welcome page within the team workspace app

The Welcome Page Creator app is deliberately focused on creating welcome pages, and is not intended as a place to start a Splunk experience. The Welcome Page Creator's panels are shared globally so your end users can continue to work within their workspace (app). For more about setting up an app as a team workspace, see Workspace best practices.

Reuse content with prebuilt panels and cloning knowledge objects

Prebuilt panels enable you to share content across dashboards. The Welcome Page Creator comes with many prebuilt panels. You can make your own prebuilt panels to create welcome pages for different teams. For more about using prebuilt panels, see Add prebuilt panels to a dashboard in the Splunk Enterprise Dashboards and Visualizations manual.

Cloning knowledge objects is another way to share content with different teams and audiences. For more about cloning knowledge objects, see Moving or cloning a knowledge object in the Splunk Enterprise Knowledge Manager Manual.

Guidelines for creating a welcome page from scratch

Here are the high-level steps to create a welcome page from scratch. As an alternative, you can use the instructions on the Welcome Page Creator's Splunkbase page to accelerate this process.

1. Identify a role or group that is the target audience for the welcome page
   ◦ Identify the needs and objectives of that role or group, and design content that will meet those needs and answer their questions.

2. Create a welcome page
   ◦ Populate the dashboard with content that answers those common questions from the users. For more about creating a dashboard, see Create dashboards and panels in the Splunk Enterprise Search Tutorial.

3. Set the role or group's default app
   ◦ Ideally, this would be an app tailored for that role or team. For more about default apps and how to provision them for certain user roles, see Configure Splunk Web to open directly to an app in the Splunk Enterprise Admin Manual. For more about apps as team workspaces, see Workspace best practices.

4. Set the default app's default dashboard to your welcome page
   ◦ For more about default dashboards, see Add navigation to a Splunk app in Splunk Dev.

5. Validate your welcome page
- Ask a member of the target team or role to log in and discover features using your welcome dashboard.