promtool Prometheus CLI toolkit

CONCEPTS

promtool ships in the Prometheus release tarball and works offline on files; only query, push and debug talk to a server.

Write rules rules.yml
↓ `check rules`
Unit test tests.yml
↓ `test rules`
Check config prometheus.yml
↓ `reload`
Live server query to verify

Typical rule workflow

Exit code 0 means ok, 1 an error, and 3 a lint finding when --lint-fatal is set, so every check fits a CI step.

CHECK

`promtool check config <file>`
Validate config and referenced rule files

`promtool check rules <rules.yml>`
Validate rule files

`promtool check config --syntax-only <file>`
Skip referenced files

`promtool check rules --lint=all <rules.yml>`
Enable all lint checks

`promtool check config --lint-fatal <file>`
Exit 3 on lint findings

`promtool check web-config <file>`
Validate the web config (TLS/auth)

`promtool check service-discovery <file> <job>`
Show targets after relabeling

`promtool check metrics < <file>`
Lint metric names and types from stdin

`promtool check healthy --url=<url>`
Is the server healthy?

TEST RULES

`promtool test rules <tests.yml>`
Run rule unit tests

Test file keys

Key	Purpose
`rule_files`	Rule files under test
`evaluation_interval`	Rule eval step (default 1m)
`tests[].interval`	Sample step for input_series
`input_series`	series + values pairs
`alert_rule_test`	eval_time, alertname, exp_alerts
`promql_expr_test`	expr, eval_time, exp_samples

Series value notation

Value	Means
`1+2x3`	1 3 5 7 (start, step, count)
`5x3`	5 5 5 5
`_`	missing sample
`stale`	stale marker
`_x3`	three gaps

QUERY A SERVER

`promtool query instant <url> '<expr>'`
Run an instant query

`promtool query range <url> '<expr>' --start=<t> --end=<t> --step=1m`
Run a range query

TSDB

`promtool tsdb list <dir>`
List blocks in a data dir

`promtool tsdb analyze <dir>`
Cardinality and churn report

PUSH, DEBUG, PROMQL

`promtool --version`
Print the version

`promtool --help`
List all commands