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Warning: Remote Host Identification Has Changed error and solution

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When I run ssh command I get an error which read as follows:

```
@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@
@ WARNING: REMOTE HOST IDENTIFICATION HAS CHANGED! @
@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@
IT IS POSSIBLE THAT SOMEONE IS DOING SOMETHING NASTY!
Someone could be eavesdropping on you right now (man-in-the-middle attack)!
It is also possible that the RSA host key has just been changed.
The fingerprint for the RSA key sent by the remote host is
5c:9b:16:56:a6:cd:11:10:3a:cd:1b:a2:91:cd:e5:1c.
Please contact your system administrator.
Add correct host key in /home/user/.ssh/known_hosts to get rid of this message.
Offending key in /home/user/.ssh/known_hosts:1
RSA host key for ras.mydomain.com has changed and you have requested strict checking.
Host key verification failed.
```



How do I get rid of this message?

If you have reinstalled Linux or UNIX with OpenSSH, you will get the above error. To get rid of this problem:

Solution #1: Remove keys

Use the -R option to removes all keys belonging to hostname from a known_hosts file. This option is useful to delete hashed hosts. If your remote hostname is server.example.com, enter:

```
$ ssh-keygen -R {server.name.com}
$ ssh-keygen -R {ssh.server.ip.address}
$ ssh-keygen -R server.example.com
```

Sample output:

```
/home/vivek/.ssh/known_hosts updated.
Original contents retained as /home/vivek/.ssh/known_hosts.old
```

Now, you can connect to the host without a problem.

Solution #2: Add correct host key in /home/user/.ssh/known_hosts

It is not necessary to delete the entire known_hosts file, just the offending line in that file. For example if you have 3 server as follows.

```
myserver1.com,64.2.5.111 ssh-rsa
AAAAB3NzaC1yc2EAAAABIwAAAIEA11FV0EnGahT2EK8qElocjuHTsuljaCfxkyIgBT1xlrOIRchb2pw8IzJLOs2bcu
nGahT2EK8qElocjuHTsuljaCfxkyIgBT1xlrOIRchb2pw8IzJLOs2bcuYYfa8nSXGEcWyaFD1ifUjfHelj94H+uv30
myserver2.com,125.1.12.5 ssh-rsa
AAAAB3NzaC1yc2EAAAABIwAAAEAtDiERucsZzJGx/1kUNIOYhJbczbZHN2Z1gCnTjvO/0mO2R6KiQUP4hOdLppIUC
5+J7sa3o+rtmOuiFxCa690DXUJ8nX8yDHaJfzMUTKTGxQz4M/H2P8L2R//qLj5s3ofzNmgSM9lSEhZL/IyI4NxHhnp
myserver3.com,125.2.1.15 ssh-rsa
5+J7sa3o+rtmOuiFxCa690DXUJ8nX8yDHaJfzMUTKTGx01VkpVsvYD5hJzm0eKHv+oUXRT9v+QMIL+um/IyI4NxHh
as3533dka//sd33433///44632Z6MGnAazIviHBldxtGrFwvEnk82/Qz4M/H2P8L2R//qLj5s3ofzNmgSM9lSEhZL
```

To delete 2nd server (myserver.com), open file:

```
# vi +2 .ssh/known_hosts
```

And hit dd command to delete line. Save and close the file. Or use following

```
$ vi ~/.ssh/known_hosts
```

Now go to line # 2, type the following command

```
:2
```

Now delete line with dd and exit:

```
dd  
:wq
```

Solution 3: Just delete the known_hosts file If you have only used one ssh server

```
$ cd  
$ rm .ssh/known_hosts  
$ ssh ras.mydomain.com
```

Now you should be able to connect your server via ssh.

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