

Ansible Patterns



What is Pattern I-2

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- An Ansible pattern can refer to a single host, an IP address, an inventory group, a set of groups, or all hosts in your inventory.
- Patterns are highly flexible - you can exclude or require subsets of hosts, use wildcards or regular expressions, and more.
- Ansible executes on all inventory hosts included in the pattern.

What is Pattern2-2

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- This can mean what hosts to communicate with, but in terms of Playbooks, it means what hosts to apply a particular configuration or IT process to.

syntax: `ansible <pattern> -m <module_name> -a "<arguments>"`

- A pattern usually refers to a set of groups (which are sets of hosts) – in the below case, machines in the “webservers” group.

such as: `ansible webservers -m service -a "name=httpd state=restarted"`

This table lists common patterns for targeting inventory hosts and groups.

Description	Pattern(s)	Targets
All hosts	all (or *)	
One host	host1	
Multiple hosts	host1:host2 (or host1,host2)	
One group	webserver	
Multiple groups	webserver:dbserver	all hosts in webserver plus all hosts in dbserver
Excluding groups	webserver:!atlanta	all hosts in webserver except those in atlanta
Intersection of groups	webserver:&staging	any hosts in webserver that are also in staging