

Strategy plugins

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Strategy plugins control the flow of play execution by handling task and host scheduling. For more information on using strategy plugins and other ways to control execution order, see [ref:playbooks_strategies](#).

System Message: ERROR/3 (D:\onboarding-resources\sample-onboarding-resources\ansible-devel\docs\docsite\rst\plugins\[ansible-devel] [docs] [docsite] [rst] [plugins] strategy.rst, line 10); [backlink](#)

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Enabling strategy plugins

All strategy plugins shipped with Ansible are enabled by default. You can enable a custom strategy plugin by putting it in one of the lookup directory sources configured in [ref:ansible.cfg <ansible_configuration_settings>](#).

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Using strategy plugins

Only one strategy plugin can be used in a play, but you can use different ones for each play in a playbook or ansible run. By default Ansible uses the [ref:linear <linear_strategy>](#) plugin. You can change this default in Ansible [ref:configuration <ansible_configuration_settings>](#) using an environment variable:

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```
export ANSIBLE_STRATEGY=free
```

or in the *ansible.cfg* file:

```
[defaults]
strategy=linear
```

You can also specify the strategy plugin in the play via the [ref:strategy keyword <playbook_keywords>](#) in a play:

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```
- hosts: all
  strategy: debug
  tasks:
    - copy: src=myhosts dest=/etc/hosts
      notify: restart_tomcat

    - package: name=tomcat state=present
```

```
handlers:
  - name: restart_tomcat
    service: name=tomcat state=restarted
```

Plugin list

You can use `ansible-doc -t strategy -l` to see the list of available plugins. Use `ansible-doc -t strategy <plugin name>` to see plugin-specific documentation and examples.

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.. seealso::

```
:ref:`about_playbooks`
    An introduction to playbooks
:ref:`inventory_plugins`
    Inventory plugins
:ref:`callback_plugins`
    Callback plugins
:ref:`filter_plugins`
    Filter plugins
:ref:`test_plugins`
    Test plugins
:ref:`lookup_plugins`
    Lookup plugins
`User Mailing List <https://groups.google.com/group/ansible-devel>`_
    Have a question? Stop by the google group!
:ref:`communication_irc`
    How to join Ansible chat channels
```