

Ansible 2.3 Porting Guide

This section discusses the behavioral changes between Ansible 2.2 and Ansible 2.3.

It is intended to assist in updating your playbooks, plugins and other parts of your Ansible infrastructure so they will work with this version of Ansible.

We suggest you read this page along with [Ansible Changelog for 2.3](#) to understand what updates you may need to make.

This document is part of a collection on porting. The complete list of porting guides can be found at [ref: porting guides <porting_guides>](#).

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Playbook

Restructured async to work with action plugins

In Ansible 2.2 (and possibly earlier) the *async*: keyword could not be used in conjunction with the action plugins such as *service*. This limitation has been removed in Ansible 2.3

NEW In Ansible 2.3:

```
- name: Install nginx asynchronously
  service:
    name: nginx
    state: restarted
  async: 45
```

OpenBSD version facts

The *ansible_distribution_release* and *ansible_distribution_version* facts on OpenBSD hosts were reversed in Ansible 2.2 and earlier. This has been changed so that version has the numeric portion and release has the name of the release.

OLD In Ansible 2.2 (and earlier)

```
"ansible_distribution": "OpenBSD"
"ansible_distribution_release": "6.0",
"ansible_distribution_version": "release",
```

NEW In Ansible 2.3:

```
"ansible_distribution": "OpenBSD",
"ansible_distribution_release": "release",
"ansible_distribution_version": "6.0",
```

Names Blocks

Blocks can now have names, this allows you to avoid the ugly *# this block is for...* comments.

NEW In Ansible 2.3:

```
- name: Block test case
  hosts: localhost
  tasks:
    - name: Attempt to setup foo
      block:
        - debug: msg='I execute normally'
        - command: /bin/false
        - debug: msg='I never execute, cause ERROR!'
      rescue:
        - debug: msg='I caught an error'
        - command: /bin/false
        - debug: msg='I also never execute :-( '
      always:
        - debug: msg="this always executes"
```

Use of multiple tags

Specifying `--tags` (or `--skip-tags`) multiple times on the command line currently leads to the last specified tag overriding all the other specified tags. This behaviour is deprecated. In the future, if you specify `--tags` multiple times the tags will be merged together. From now on, using `--tags` multiple times on one command line will emit a deprecation warning. Setting the `merge_multiple_cli_tags` option to `True` in the `ansible.cfg` file will enable the new behaviour.

In 2.4, the default will be to merge the tags. You can enable the old overwriting behavior via the config option. In 2.5, multiple `--tags` options will be merged with no way to go back to the old behaviour.

Other caveats

Here are some rare cases that might be encountered when updating. These are mostly caused by the more stringent parser validation and the capture of errors that were previously ignored.

- Made `any_errors_fatal` inheritable from play to task and all other objects in between.

Modules

No major changes in this version.

Modules removed

No major changes in this version.

Deprecation notices

The following modules will be removed in Ansible 2.5. Please update your playbooks accordingly.

- `ec2_vpc`
- `cl_bond`
- `cl_bridge`
- `cl_img_install`
- `cl_interface`
- `cl_interface_policy`
- `cl_license`
- `cl_ports`
- `nxos_mtu` use `ref:nxos_system<nxos_system_module>` instead

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Note

These modules may no longer have documentation in the current release. Please see the [Ansible 2.3 module](#)

Noteworthy module changes

AWS lambda

Previously ignored changes that only affected one parameter. Existing deployments may have outstanding changes that this bug fix will apply.

Mount

Mount: Some fixes so bind mounts are not mounted each time the playbook runs.

Plugins

No major changes in this version.

Porting custom scripts

No major changes in this version.

Networking

There have been a number of changes to number of changes to how Networking Modules operate.

Playbooks should still use `connection: local`.

The following changes apply to:

- dellos6
- dellos9
- dellos10
- eos
- ios
- iosxr
- junos
- sros
- vyos

Deprecation of top-level connection arguments

OLD In Ansible 2.2:

```
- name: example of using top-level options for connection properties
  ios_command:
    commands: show version
    host: "{{ inventory_hostname }}"
    username: cisco
    password: cisco
    authorize: yes
    auth_pass: cisco
```

Will result in:

```
[WARNING]: argument username has been deprecated and will be removed in a future version
[WARNING]: argument host has been deprecated and will be removed in a future version
[WARNING]: argument password has been deprecated and will be removed in a future version
```

NEW In Ansible 2.3:

```
- name: Gather facts
  eos_facts:
    gather_subset: all
    provider:
      username: myuser
      password: "{{ networkpassword }}"
      transport: cli
      host: "{{ ansible_host }}"
```

delegate_to vs ProxyCommand

The new connection framework for Network Modules in Ansible 2.3 that uses `cli` transport no longer supports the use of the `delegate_to` directive. In order to use a bastion or intermediate jump host to connect to network devices over `cli` transport,

network modules now support the use of `ProxyCommand`.

To use `ProxyCommand` configure the proxy settings in the Ansible inventory file to specify the proxy host via `ansible_ssh_common_args`.

For details on how to do this see the [:ref:`network proxy guide <network_delegate_to_vs_ProxyCommand>`](#).

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