# Modules

Modules are the main building blocks of Ansible playbooks. Although we do not generally speak of "module plugins", a module is a type of plugin. For a developer-focused description of the differences between modules and other plugins, see :ref:`modules_vs_plugins`.

> **System Message: ERROR/3** (`D:\onboarding-resources\sample-onboarding-resources\ansible-devel\docs\docsite\rst\plugins\(ansible-devel)(docs)(docsite)(rst)(plugins)module.rst, line 10); backlink`
>
> Unknown interpreted text role "ref".

## Enabling modules

You can enable a custom module by dropping it into one of these locations:

- any directory added to the `ANSIBLE_LIBRARY` environment variable (`$ANSIBLE_LIBRARY` takes a colon-separated list like `$PATH`)
- `~/.ansible/plugins/modules/`
- `/usr/share/ansible/plugins/modules/`

For more information on using local custom modules, see :ref:`local_modules`.

> **System Message: ERROR/3** (`D:\onboarding-resources\sample-onboarding-resources\ansible-devel\docs\docsite\rst\plugins\(ansible-devel)(docs)(docsite)(rst)(plugins)module.rst, line 23); backlink`
>
> Unknown interpreted text role "ref".

## Using modules

For information on using modules in ad hoc tasks, see :ref:`intro_adhoc`. For information on using modules in playbooks, see :ref:`playbooks_intro`.

> **System Message: ERROR/3** (`D:\onboarding-resources\sample-onboarding-resources\ansible-devel\docs\docsite\rst\plugins\(ansible-devel)(docs)(docsite)(rst)(plugins)module.rst, line 30); backlink`
>
> Unknown interpreted text role "ref".

> **System Message: ERROR/3** (`D:\onboarding-resources\sample-onboarding-resources\ansible-devel\docs\docsite\rst\plugins\(ansible-devel)(docs)(docsite)(rst)(plugins)module.rst, line 30); backlink`
>
> Unknown interpreted text role "ref".

> **System Message: ERROR/3** (`D:\onboarding-resources\sample-onboarding-resources\ansible-devel\docs\docsite\rst\plugins\(ansible-devel)(docs)(docsite)(rst)(plugins)module.rst, line 32)`
>
> Unknown directive type "seealso".
>
> ```
> .. seealso::
>
>    :ref:`about_playbooks`
>        An introduction to playbooks
>    :ref:`developing_modules_general`
>        An introduction to creating Ansible modules
>    :ref:`developing_collections`
>        An guide to creating Ansible collections
>    `User Mailing List <https://groups.google.com/group/ansible-devel>`_
>        Have a question?  Stop by the google group!
>    `irc.libera.chat <https://libera.chat/>`_
>        #ansible-devel IRC chat channel
> ```