

Logging Ansible output

By default Ansible sends output about plays, tasks, and module arguments to your screen (STDOUT) on the control node. If you want to capture Ansible output in a log, you have three options:

- To save Ansible output in a single log on the control node, set the `log_path` [ref: configuration file setting <intro_configuration>](#). You may also want to set `display_args_to_stdout`, which helps to differentiate similar tasks by including variable values in the Ansible output.

```
System Message: ERROR/3 (D:\onboarding-resources\sample-onboarding-
resources\ansible-devel\docs\docsite\rst\reference_appendices\[ansible-devel]
[docs] [docsite] [rst] [reference_appendices]logging.rst, line 7); backlink

Unknown interpreted text role "ref".
```

- To save Ansible output in separate logs, one on each managed node, set the `no_target_syslog` and `syslog_facility` [ref: configuration file settings <intro_configuration>](#).

```
System Message: ERROR/3 (D:\onboarding-resources\sample-onboarding-
resources\ansible-devel\docs\docsite\rst\reference_appendices\[ansible-devel]
[docs] [docsite] [rst] [reference_appendices]logging.rst, line 8); backlink

Unknown interpreted text role "ref".
```

- To save Ansible output to a secure database, use AWX or [ref: Red Hat Ansible Automation Platform <ansible_platform>](#). You can then review history based on hosts, projects, and particular inventories over time, using graphs and/or a REST API.

```
System Message: ERROR/3 (D:\onboarding-resources\sample-onboarding-
resources\ansible-devel\docs\docsite\rst\reference_appendices\[ansible-devel]
[docs] [docsite] [rst] [reference_appendices]logging.rst, line 9); backlink

Unknown interpreted text role "ref".
```

Protecting sensitive data with `no_log`

If you save Ansible output to a log, you expose any secret data in your Ansible output, such as passwords and user names. To keep sensitive values out of your logs, mark tasks that expose them with the `no_log: True` attribute. However, the `no_log` attribute does not affect debugging output, so be careful not to debug playbooks in a production environment. See [ref: keep_secret_data](#) for an example.

```
System Message: ERROR/3 (D:\onboarding-resources\sample-onboarding-resources\ansible-
devel\docs\docsite\rst\reference_appendices\[ansible-devel] [docs] [docsite] [rst]
[reference_appendices]logging.rst, line 14); backlink

Unknown interpreted text role "ref".
```