

# Filter plugins

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Filter plugins manipulate data. With the right filter you can extract a particular value, transform data types and formats, perform mathematical calculations, split and concatenate strings, insert dates and times, and do much more. Ansible uses the [ref`standard filters <jinja2.builtin-filters>`](#) shipped with Jinja2 and adds some specialized filter plugins. You can [ref`create custom Ansible filters as plugins <developing\\_filter\\_plugins>`](#).

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

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

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## Enabling filter plugins

You can add a custom filter plugin by dropping it into a `filter_plugins` directory adjacent to your play, inside a role, or by putting it in one of the filter plugin directory sources configured in [ref`ansible.cfg <ansible\\_configuration\\_settings>`](#).

**System Message: ERROR/3 (D:\onboarding-resources\sample-onboarding-resources\ansible-devel\docs\docsite\rst\plugins\ (ansible-devel) (docs) (docsite) (rst) (plugins) filter.rst, line 17); [backlink](#)**

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## Using filter plugins

For information on using filter plugins, see [ref`playbooks\\_filters`](#).

**System Message: ERROR/3 (D:\onboarding-resources\sample-onboarding-resources\ansible-devel\docs\docsite\rst\plugins\ (ansible-devel) (docs) (docsite) (rst) (plugins) filter.rst, line 24); [backlink](#)**

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Unknown directive type "seealso".

```
.. seealso::

    :ref:`about_playbooks`
        An introduction to playbooks
    :ref:`inventory_plugins`
        Inventory plugins
    :ref:`callback_plugins`
        Callback 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
```