Strategy plugins

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*
>
> Unknown interpreted text role "ref".

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>`.

> **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 17`); *backlink*
>
> Unknown interpreted text role "ref".

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:

> **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 25`); *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)strategy.rst, line 25`); *backlink*
>
> Unknown interpreted text role "ref".

```
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:

> **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 38`); *backlink*
>
> Unknown interpreted text role "ref".

```
- 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 specific documentation and examples.

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 61`)

Unknown directive type "seealso".

```
.. 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
```