Ansible-core 2.12

Release Schedule

Expected

PRs must be raised well in advance of the dates below to have a chance of being included in this ansible-core release.

> **Note**
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> There is no Alpha phase in 2.12.

> **Note**
>
> Dates subject to change.

- 2021-09-24 Feature Freeze (and `stable-2.12` branching from `devel`) No new functionality (including modules/plugins) to any code
- 2021-09-27 Beta 1
- 2021-10-04 Beta 2 (if necessary)
- 2021-10-18 Release Candidate 1
- 2021-10-25 Release Candidate 2 (if necessary)
- 2021-11-08 Release

Release Manager

Ansible Core Team

Planned work

- Bump the minimum Python version requirement for the controller to Python 3.8. This will be a hard requirement.
- Deprecate Python 2.6 support for managed/target hosts. The release of `ansible-core==2.13` will remove Python 2.6 support.
- Introduce split-controller testing in `ansible-test` to separate dependencies for the controller from dependencies on the target.
- Extend the functionality of `module_defaults action_groups` to be created and presented by collections.

Delayed work

The following work has been delayed and retargeted for a future release

- Implement object proxies, to expose restricted interfaces between parts of the code, and enable deprecations of attributes and variables.