StackExchange ▼

sign up   log in   tour   help ▼   stack overflow careers

Stack Overflow is a question and answer site for professional and enthusiast programmers. It's 100% free.   Take the 2-minute tour   ✕

Could not open a connection to your authentication agent

I am running into this error of:

```
$ git push heroku master
Warning: Permanently added the RSA host key for IP address '50.19.85.132' to the list
of known hosts.
!  Your key with fingerprint b7:fd:15:25:02:8e:5f:06:4f:1c:af:f3:f0:c3:c2:65 is not
authorized to access bitstarter.
```

I tried to add the keys and I get this error below:

```
$ ssh-add ~/.ssh/id_rsa.pub
Could not open a connection to your authentication agent.
```

ssh   ssh-agent

edited Apr 29 '14 at 5:02   asked Jul 24 '13 at 23:26
       Cupcake   Danny Dai Smith
    45.8k ● 14 ● 107 ● 129   2,564 ● 3 ● 5 ● 3

2 Please note that this question contains answers that were merged in from at least two other duplicate
   questions. – Cupcake Jul 24 '14 at 20:22

   Question: once you've gone through EVERY answer on this page, and none of them work. What can you do
   next? – Brandon Bertelsen May 7 at 2:08

   @BrandonBertelsen posta new question referring to this question and showing what you tried and what
   happened when you tried it – M.M May 12 at 4:10

1 I feel like it would automatically be marked as duplicate. Because it's literally just the title of this question
   over and over and over and over. Does anyone know if `ssh-agent.exe` relies on any windows services? –
   Brandon Bertelsen May 12 at 4:54

25 Answers

Did You Start `ssh-agent` ?

You might need to start `ssh-agent` before you run the `ssh-add` command:

```
eval `ssh-agent -s`
ssh-add
```

Note that this will start the agent for **msysgit Bash on Windows**. If you're using a different shell or
operating system, you might need to use a variant of the command, such as those listed in the
other answers.

See the following answers:

1. ssh-add complains: Could not open a connection to your authentication agent
2. Git push requires username and password (contains detailed instructions on how to use
   ssh-agent)
3. How to run (git/ssh) authentication agent?.
4. Could not open a connection to your authentication agent

Why do we need to use `eval` instead of just `ssh-agent` ?

To find out why, see Robin Green's answer.

Public vs Private Keys

Also, whenever I use `ssh-add` , I always add private keys to it. The file `~/.ssh/id_rsa.pub` looks
like a public key, I'm not sure if that will work. Do you have a `~/.ssh/id_rsa` file? If you open it in

a text editor, does it say it's a private key?

10 min to Spreed
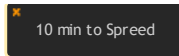
edited Jul 24 '14 at 20:22   answered Jul 25 '13 at 3:37

Cupcake
45.8k ● 14 ● 107 ● 129

---

12   @xtian I'm not sure that I understand the issue. I don't know the exact details, but I'm guessing that the private key is never sent over the network. I think `ssh-add` merely decrypts an encrypted private key on the host machine, so that it can be used locally...it's ***never sent to anyone***. I'm guessing that only the public keys are ever sent over a network. Is my understanding incorrect? – Cupcake Oct 5 '13 at 20:00 ✎

4   You're too kind Cupcake. You're absolutely right. My bad. ex here; ssh-add adds the private key for the user's ssh-agent (running process) can act on the client/host's behalf with the server accepting rsa-whatever keys. Geez. I don't know what made me so excited. – xtian Oct 6 '13 at 0:16

3   this works, but why? – Ali Jan 3 '14 at 17:59

2   I'm curious why `eval ssh-agent -s` works, but `ssh-agent` on it's own doesn't. – DanielM Mar 7 '14 at 15:30

4   @DanielM: SSH needs two things in order to use ssh-agent: an ssh-agent instance running in the background, and an environment variable set that tells SSH which socket it should use to connect to the agent (`SSH_AUTH_SOCK` IIRC). If you just run `ssh-agent` then the agent will start, but SSH will have no idea where to find it. – Matthew Phipps Apr 28 '14 at 16:44

I tried the other solutions to no avail. I made more research and found that the following command worked. I am using Windows 7 and Git Bash.

```
eval $(ssh-agent)
```

More information in: https://coderwall.com/p/rdi_wq

edited May 9 '14 at 4:57   answered Feb 20 '14 at 13:34

Peter Mortensen   **cdap**
8,711 ● 10 ● 58 ● 95   **2,498** ● 1 ● 3 ● 6

---

13   Worked on Windows 8 too. – Andreas Rudolph Mar 17 '14 at 7:35

12   Works on Windows 8.1 too, thank you. :) – Yenthe Apr 16 '14 at 12:40

6   it worked on win 7, thanks – Hoto Aug 29 '14 at 10:25

4   Win 7 and Git Bash here... Cupcake's answer did NOT work for me but this one did. Thanks. – user34124 Sep 8 '14 at 19:02

2   Tried the @Cupcake answer with Git Bash on Win 7 and Win 8, both did NOT work. Had to use this answer. – Jeremy Lee Jan 9 at 8:44 ✎

The following command worked for me. I am using CentOS.

```
exec ssh-agent bash
```

edited Dec 9 '13 at 23:26   answered Dec 5 '13 at 15:10

Robin Kanters   **mianjee**
1,542 ● 7 ● 20   **1,481** ● 1 ● 3 ● 2

---

1   Thanks, this worked for me, I ran 'exec ssh-agent zsh' for my shell. – jasonmcclurg Feb 19 '14 at 9:49

10   Config this solution works for my for Ubuntu 12.04 LTS. – Paul L Mar 2 '14 at 8:13

     According to this deleted "answer", it works on Amazon Linux AMI too. I guess it's a Unix/Linux/*nix solution. – Cupcake Apr 19 '14 at 19:00

1   I ssh'ed into a docker container and `ssh-add my.id_rsa` would fail on me. But `exec ssh-agent zsh` gave a environment where I could `ssh-add` with no problem. And I'm inside my docker container :) – markuz-gj Jun 12 '14 at 2:33

     Worked for me on Windows 7. – Qing Jan 9 at 6:32

MsysGit or Cygwin

If you're using Msysgit or Cygwin you can find a good tutorial at SSH-Agent in msysgit and cygwin

and bash:

1. Add a file called `.bashrc` to your home folder.

2. Open the file and paste in:

```bash
#!/bin/bash
eval `ssh-agent -s`
ssh-add
```

3. This assumes that your key is in the conventional `~/.ssh/id_rsa` location. If it isn't, include a full path after the `ssh-add` command.

4. Add to or create file `~/.ssh/config` with the contents

```
ForwardAgent yes
```

In the original tutorial the `ForwardAgent` param is `Yes`, but it's a typo. Use all lowercase or you'll get errors.

5. Restart Msysgit. It will ask you to enter your passphrase once, and that's it (until you end the session, or your ssh-agent is killed.)

Mac/OS X

If you don't want to start a new ssh-agent every time you open a terminal, check out Keychain. I'm on a Mac now, so I used the tutorial *ssh-agent with zsh & keychain on Mac OS X* to set it up, but I'm sure a Google search will have plenty of info for Windows.

Update: A better solution on Mac is to add your key to the Mac OS Keychain:

```
ssh-add -K ~/.ssh/id_rsa
```

Simple as that.

edited May 25 '14 at 0:43	answered Apr 9 '12 at 17:43
Cupcake	RobW
45.8k ● 14 ● 107 ● 129	**3,274** ● 1 ● 20 ● 28

---

1 FYI: merged from stackoverflow.com/questions/4083079/… – Shog9 ♦ Jul 24 '14 at 19:02

When I do `eval `ssh-agent -s`` the process does not stop when I exit cygwin. – Kiril Aug 23 '14 at 18:16

Is there a way to setup the config for Windows / gitbash so you dont have to do it every time? – mix3d Jul 31 at 19:05

It should be `ps -u $(whoami) | grep ssh-agent &> /dev/null || eval $(ssh-agent)` - otherwise a new ssh-agent is started everytime. Killed my machine every now and then when user had cronjobs. – shredding Aug 13 at 7:46

@shredding, if that command is universal, feel free to edit my answer and add it in the appropriate place. – RobW Aug 19 at 15:25

I faced the same problem for Linux, and here is what I did:

Basically, the command ssh-agent starts the agent, but it doesn't really set the environment variables for it to run. It just outputs those variables to the shell.

You need to:

```
eval `ssh-agent`
```

and then do ssh-add. See *Could not open a connection to your authentication agent*.

edited Feb 2 at 22:04	answered Jul 19 '13 at 6:12
Peter Mortensen	n3o
8,711 ● 10 ● 58 ● 95	**1,028** ● 11 ● 22

---

1 FYI: merged from stackoverflow.com/questions/4083079/… – Shog9 ♦ Jul 24 '14 at 19:02

1 This answer should be accepted, solved my problem. Thanks – reformed Feb 23 at 14:10

Didn't solve mine, the problem still persists – Brovoker Mar 27 at 7:55

Worked for me too while having problem using boot2docker on Windows. – Veve May 9 at 12:00

This was what it took for me. – Tom Jul 27 at 10:43

Try to the following steps:

1) Open Git Bash and run: `cd ~/.ssh`

2) Try to run agent : `eval $(ssh-agent)`

3) Right now, you can run the following command : `ssh-add -l`

edited Nov 10 '14 at 8:54	answered Nov 26 '13 at 13:47
Joetjah	ChechoroArtem
3,861 ● 3 ● 30 ● 64	731 ● 3 ● 5

---

6   This is the only solution here that worked for me (on windows 7). First I used the `ps aux | grep ssh` and the `kill` command in Rick's answer to kill the agents. After that `ssh-add` worked without the -l switch (Using -l gave an error). `eval 'ssh-agent'` as in Rick's answer did not work, I had to use `eval $(ssh-agent)` like in Chechoro's answer here. – Frug Jan 9 '14 at 19:39 ✎

5   +1 I had the exact same problem as OP (Windows 7) and this is the only solution that worked for me. – Weblurk May 30 '14 at 16:16

1   FYI: merged from stackoverflow.com/questions/4083079/... – Shog9 ♦ Jul 24 '14 at 19:02

Tried all the others and this worked for me! – honeycomb Nov 19 '14 at 19:22

1   @Frug It is backticks, not apostrophes; in shell script that means to execute what's contained inside. `$(ssh-agent)` is equivalent to `` `ssh-agent` `` but more readable. – M.M May 12 at 4:09 ✎

Could not open a connection to your authentication agent

To resolve this error:

bash:

```
$ eval `ssh-agent -s`
```

tcsh:

```
$ eval `ssh-agent -c`
```

Then use `ssh-add` as you normally would.

I was always forgetting what to type for the above ssh-agent commands, so I created an alias in my `.bashrc` file like this:

```
alias ssh-agent-cyg='eval `ssh-agent -s`'
```

Now instead of using `ssh-agent` , I can use `ssh-agent-cyg`

E.g.

```
$ ssh-agent-cyg
SSH_AUTH_SOCK=/tmp/ssh-n16KsxjuTMiM/agent.32394; export SSH_AUTH_SOCK;
SSH_AGENT_PID=32395; export SSH_AGENT_PID;
echo Agent pid 32395;
$ ssh-add ~/.ssh/my_pk
```

Original Source of fix:

http://cygwin.com/ml/cygwin/2011-10/msg00313.html

edited Aug 29 at 18:21	answered Jul 17 '13 at 8:54
	Chris Snow
	4,168 ● 5 ● 22 ● 64

Is that permanent? – CMCDragonkai Nov 13 '13 at 2:18

you will need to run the `eval` command every time you would have previously ran `ssh-agent` . I use an alias now, see the updated answer for how I do this. — Chris Snow Nov 13 '13 at 7:48

1   FYI: merged from stackoverflow.com/questions/4083079/… — Shog9 ♦ Jul 24 '14 at 19:02

---

ssh-add and ssh (assuming you are using the openssh implementations) require an environment variable to know how to talk to the ssh agent. If you started the agent in a different command prompt window to the one you're using now, or if you started it incorrectly, neither ssh-add nor ssh will see that environment variable set (because the environment variable is set *locally* to the command prompt it's set in).

You don't say which version of ssh you're using, but if you're using cygwin's, you can use this recipe from *SSH Agent on Cygwin*:

```
# Add to your Bash config file
SSHAGENT=/usr/bin/ssh-agent
SSHAGENTARGS="-s"
if [ -z "$SSH_AUTH_SOCK" -a -x "$SSHAGENT" ]; then
    eval `$SSHAGENT $SSHAGENTARGS`
    trap "kill $SSH_AGENT_PID" 0
fi
```

This will start an agent automatically for each new command prompt window that you open (which is suboptimal if you open multiple command prompts in one session, but at least it should work).

edited May 25 '14 at 0:32   answered Nov 3 '10 at 11:53

Cupcake   Robin Green
45.8k ● 14 ● 107 ● 129   15.5k ● 3 ● 35 ● 92

1   FYI: merged from stackoverflow.com/questions/4083079/… — Shog9 ♦ Jul 24 '14 at 19:02

I was linked here from another SO question. Can I ask why it's necessary to add this to the Bash config file? On my machine all I need to do is run `eval $(ssh-agent)` and I can use password-less ssh for every new terminal window. — Andy J Dec 9 '14 at 6:11

That shouldn't be possible, unless you're launching new terminals from that terminal. — Robin Green Dec 9 '14 at 8:00

To amplify on n3o's answer for Windows 7...

My problem was indeed that some required environment variables weren't set, and n3o is correct that ssh-agent tells you how to set those environment variables, but doesn't actually set them.

Since Windows doesn't let you do "eval," here's what to do instead:

Redirect the output of ssh-agent to a batch file with

```
ssh-agent > temp.bat
```

Now use a text editor such as Notepad to edit temp.bat. For each of the first two lines: - Insert the word "set" and a space at the beginning of the line. - Delete the first semicolon and everything that follows.

Now delete the third line. Your temp.bat should look something like this:

```
set SSH_AUTH_SOCK=/tmp/ssh-EorQv10636/agent.10636
set SSH_AGENT_PID=8608
```

Run temp.bat. This will set the environment variables that are needed for ssh-add to work.

answered Dec 19 '13 at 14:57

Steve Saporta
650 ● 4 ● 11

FYI: merged from stackoverflow.com/questions/4083079/… — Shog9 ♦ Jul 24 '14 at 19:02

One thing I came across was that `eval` did not work for me using Cygwin, what worked for me was `ssh-agent ssh-add id_rsa` .

After that I came across an issue that my private key was too open, the solution I managed to find for that (from here):

```
chgrp Users id_rsa
```

as well as

```
chmod 600 id_rsa
```

finally I was able to use:

```
ssh-agent ssh-add id_rsa
```

edited Jun 5 '14 at 14:46   answered May 28 '14 at 4:17

Cupcake   Vnge
45.8k ● 14 ● 107 ● 129   **725** ● 11 ● 32

Did you use `eval `ssh-agent`` , with the backticks `` ` `` around `ssh-agent` , as shown in my answer? That worked just fine for me in Cygwin. You seem to be right that `ssh-agent ssh-add` also works though, at least in the msysgit Bash. However, note that `id_rsa` is the default key that's used, so you don't need to specify it with `ssh-agent ssh-add id_rsa` . – Cupcake Jun 5 '14 at 14:58 ✎

I believe I had used the backticks, but for me still no dice – Vnge Jun 5 '14 at 20:23

OMG YOU SOLVED MY FEW HOURS FRUSTATION. Thanks! – Chee Loong Soon Aug 17 at 4:47

I just got this working. Open your `~/.ssh/config` file.

Append the following-

```
Host github.com
 IdentityFile ~/.ssh/github_rsa
```

The page that gave me the hint Set up SSH for Git said that the single space indentation is important... though I had a configuration in here from Heroku that did not have that space and works properly.

edited Feb 25 '14 at 4:45   answered Feb 25 '14 at 3:42

Cupcake   Paul Becotte
45.8k ● 14 ● 107 ● 129   **1,498** ● 4 ● 15

---

1   This does not help with entering the passphrase for the SSH key. – alesch Apr 23 '14 at 9:38

1   If you don't want to enter the passphrase, create a key without one. There is no point in having a passphrase if you're just going to store it in your script anyway. – Paul Becotte Apr 23 '14 at 16:15

That is the whole point of using ssh-agent. The password to your keys is stored in a secure keychain, handled by ssh-agent. – alesch Apr 24 '14 at 7:07

This is the best answer for me here. Had lots of problems with ssh-agent starting thousands of times in Windows 7 and that kill trap didn't do the trick. I don't mind having no passphrase on my personal computer at home. – Fleshgrinder Apr 7 at 19:05

Let me offer another solution. If you have just installed Git 1.8.2.2 or thereabouts, and you want to enable SSH, follow the well-writen directions.

Everything through to Step 5.6 where you might encounter a slight snag. If an SSH agent is already be running you could get the following error message when you restart bash

```
Could not open a connection to your authentication agent
```

If you do, use the following command to see if more than one ssh-agent process is running

```
ps aux | grep ssh
```

If you see more than one ssh-agent service, you will need to kill all of these processes. Use the kill command as follows (the PID will be unique on your computer)

```
kill <PID>
```

Example:

```
kill 1074
```

After you have removed all of the ssh-agent processes, run the *px aux | grep ssh* command again to be sure they are gone, then restart Bash.

Voila, you should now get something like this:

```
Initializing new SSH agent...
succeeded
Enter passphrase for /c/Users/username/.ssh/id_rsa:
```

Now you can continue on Step 5.7 and beyond.

answered May 2 '13 at 18:35

Rick
81 ● 6

---

i get a `sh.exe": kill: (5624) - Not owner` error... :\ – Jason May 26 '13 at 2:12

got me passed roadblock, tyvm – Jason Fingar Jun 29 '13 at 19:46

Just wanted to add that in my case one of the items listed is the grep process that we are doing the searching with, but it is already killed after its execution. No pun intended. – Unipartisandev Dec 9 '13 at 21:29

FYI: merged from stackoverflow.com/questions/4083079/… – Shog9 ♦ Jul 24 '14 at 19:03

If you follow these instructions, your problem would be solved.

If you're on a Mac or Linux machine, type:

```
eval "$(ssh-agent -s)"
```

If you're on a Windows machine, type:

```
ssh-agent -s
```

edited Nov 8 '14 at 13:40   answered Nov 8 '14 at 13:20

chipChocolate.py   **Fahim Boron**
15.3k ● 5 ● 17 ● 49   **51** ● 1 ● 3

> **Note:** *this is an answer to* this question, *which has been merged with this one. That question was for Windows 7, meaning my answer was for Cygwin/MSYS/MSYS2. This one seems for some unix, where I wouldn't expect the SSH agent needing to be managed like this.*

This will run the SSH agent and authenticate *only the first time you need it*, not every time you open your Bash terminal. It can be used for any program using SSH in general, including `ssh` itself and `scp`. Just add this to `/etc/profile.d/ssh-helper.sh`:

```
ssh-auth() {
    # Start the SSH agent only if not running
    [[ -z $(ps | grep ssh-agent) ]] && echo $(ssh-agent) > /tmp/ssh-agent-data.sh

    # Identify the running SSH agent
    [[ -z $SSH_AGENT_PID ]] && source /tmp/ssh-agent-data.sh > /dev/null

    # Authenticate (change key path or make a symlink if needed)
    [[ -z $(ssh-add -l | grep "/home/$(whoami)/.ssh/id_rsa") ]] && ssh-add
}

# You can repeat this for other commands using SSH
git() { ssh-auth; command git "$@"; }
```

edited Dec 10 '14 at 17:54   answered Jun 22 '14 at 1:22

Renato Silva
413 ● 4 ● 14

FYI: merged from stackoverflow.com/questions/4083079/… – Shog9 ♦ Jul 24 '14 at 19:03

this is awesome! thanks – GottZ Nov 7 '14 at 12:43

ssh-agent process do not seems to be associated with the same terminal used to run it. I guess `ps -A | grep ssh-agent` or `ps h -C ssh-agent` should be used instead of `ps | grep ssh-agent` – alexis

Mar 30 at 15:02

Using a hyphen in the function name might not be recommended. I don't know why, but read this. For instance, I found that `echo ssh-auth | bash` will fail. — alexis Mar 30 at 22:40 ✎

In Windows 10 I tried all answers listed here but none of them seemed to work. In fact they give a clue. To solve a problem simply you need 3 commands. **The idea of this problem is that ssh-add needs SSH_AUTH_SOCK and SSH_AGENT_PID environment variables to be set with current ssh-agent sock file path and pid number.**

```
ssh-agent -s > temp.txt
```

This will save output of ssh-agent in file. Text file content will be something like this:

```
SSH_AUTH_SOCK=/tmp/ssh-kjmxRb2764/agent.2764; export SSH_AUTH_SOCK;
SSH_AGENT_PID=3044; export SSH_AGENT_PID;
echo Agent pid 3044;
```

Copy something like "/tmp/ssh-kjmxRb2764/agent.2764" from text file and run following command directly in console:

```
set SSH_AUTH_SOCK=/tmp/ssh-kjmxRb2764/agent.2764
```

Copy something like "3044" from text file and run following command directly in console:

```
set SSH_AGENT_PID=3044
```

Now when environment variables (SSH_AUTH_SOCK and SSH_AGENT_PID) are set for current console session run your ssh-add command and it will not fail again to connect ssh agent.

edited Jun 21 at 16:44   answered Jun 12 at 13:58

BioHazard
451 ● 4 ● 13

Thank you! This was exactly what I needed. — Isochronous Jul 9 at 17:36

I had this problem, when I started ssh-agent, when it was already running. Gets confused. To see if this is the case, use

```
eval $(ssh-agent)
```

to see if this is the same as what you thought it should be. In my case, it was different than the one I just started.

To further verify if you have more than one ssh-agent running, you can review:

```
ps -ef | grep ssh
```

edited Jul 4 '14 at 21:40   answered Jul 4 '14 at 8:48

Cupcake
45.8k ● 14 ● 107 ● 129

Jahmic
2,891 ● 3 ● 22 ● 44

I think running `eval $(ssh-agent)` is supposed to create a new agent with a different PID every time, though I could be wrong. — Cupcake Jul 4 '14 at 21:44

Try the following:

```
ssh-agent sh -c 'ssh-add && git push heroku master'
```

answered Mar 26 at 21:13

kenorb
7,374 ● 6 ● 56 ● 54

Read @cupcake's answer for explanations. Here I only try to automate the fix.

If you using Cygwin terminal with BASH, add the following to $HOME/.bashrc file. This only starts ssh-agent once in the first Bash terminal and adds the keys to ssh-agent. (Not sure if this is required on Linux)

```
############################
# start ssh-agent for
# ssh authentication with github.com
############################
SSH_AUTH_SOCK_FILE=/tmp/SSH_AUTH_SOCK.sh
if [ ! -e $SSH_AUTH_SOCK_FILE ]; then
    # need to find SSH_AUTH_SOCK again.
    # restarting is an easy option
    pkill ssh-agent
fi
# check if already running
SSH_AGENT_PID=`pgrep ssh-agent`
if [ "x$SSH_AGENT_PID" == "x" ]; then
#   echo "not running. starting"
    eval $(ssh-agent -s) > /dev/null
    rm -f $SSH_AUTH_SOCK_FILE
    echo "export SSH_AUTH_SOCK=$SSH_AUTH_SOCK" > $SSH_AUTH_SOCK_FILE
    ssh-add $HOME/.ssh/github.com_id_rsa 2>&1 > /dev/null
#else
#   echo "already running"
fi
source $SSH_AUTH_SOCK_FILE
```

DONT FORGET to add your correct keys in "ssh-add" command.

edited Jul 9 at 6:06

answered Jul 9 at 5:48

Kiran Mohan
607 ● 9 ● 27

Using Git Bash on Win8.1E, my resolution was as follows:

```
eval $(ssh-agent) > /dev/null
ssh-add ~/.ssh/id_rsa
```

edited Jul 4 '14 at 21:41

Cupcake
45.8k ● 14 ● 107 ● 129

answered Jun 25 '14 at 18:47

SrBlanco
49 ● 3

Why is it necessary to output to `/dev/null`? Your answer basically does the exact same thing as this one. – Cupcake Jul 4 '14 at 21:12

Also, I'd like to point out that `~/.ssh/id_rsa` is the default key, so you shouldn't have to specify `ssh-add ~/.ssh/id_rsa`, just `ssh-add` should work. – Cupcake Jul 4 '14 at 21:41 ✎

I tried your solution in this same environment @Cupcake, it doesn't work. I don't get why this is the answer either, but unless I did it this way it never worked. – nighliber Jul 20 at 17:10

I had a similar problem when I was trying to get this to work on Windows to connect to stash via ssh

Here is the solution that worked for me.

1. Turns out I was running Pageant ssh agent on my Windows box - I would check what you are running. I suspect it is Pageant as it comes as default with Putty and winScp

2. The ssh-add does not work from command line with this type of agent

3. You need to add the private key via pageant UI window which you can get by doublicking the Pageant icon in the taskbar (once it is started).

4. Before you add the key to Pageant you need to convert it to PPK format. Full instructions are available here How to convert SSH key to ppk format

5. That is it. Once I uploaded my key to stash I was able to use SourceTree to create a local repo and clone the remote.
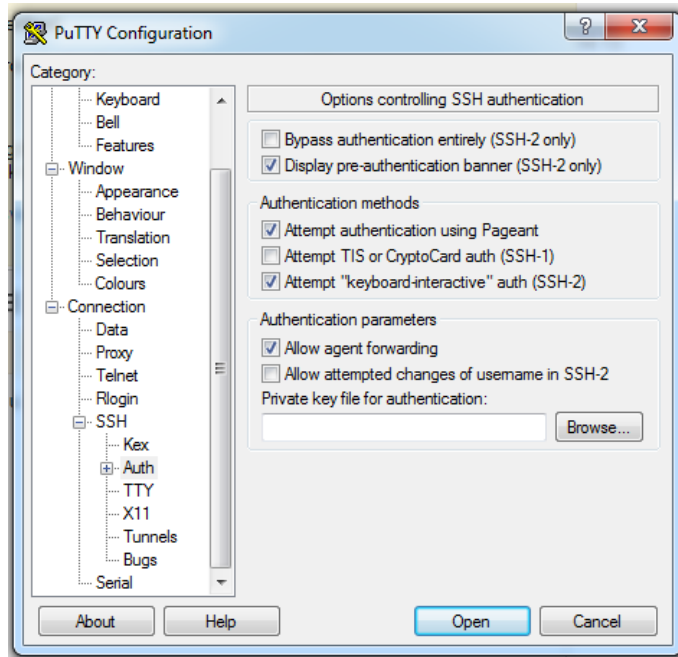
Hope this helps...

answered Nov 17 '14 at 14:14

Moonwalker
742 ● 1 ● 6 ● 16

If you are using Putty, perhaps you need to set the "Connection/SSH/Auth/Allow agent forwarding" option to "true".

answered Jan 20 at 21:34
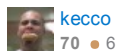
Vladius
166 ● 1 ● 7

This worked for me.

In the CMD window, type the following command:

```
cd path-to-Git/bin # (for example,cd C:\Program Files\Git\bin)
bash
exec ssh-agent bash
ssh-add path/to/.ssh/id_rsa
```

edited Mar 26 at 21:11   answered Feb 25 at 11:44
kenorb   kecco
7,374 ● 6 ● 56 ● 54   **70** ● 6

I resolved the error by force stopping (killed) git processes (ssh agent), then uninstalling Git, and then installing Git again.

edited Apr 19 '14 at 19:02   answered Apr 19 '14 at 10:18
Cupcake   Devendra Singh
45.8k ● 14 ● 107 ● 129   **13** ● 7

1   I suspect that all you needed to do was just kill any existing agent processes, then restart one, instead of
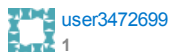   having to reinstall Git. – Cupcake Jul 4 '14 at 21:13

In my case, my Comodo firewall had sandboxed the ssh agent. Once I disabled sandboxing I was able to clone the repository.

FYI, I am using Comodo firewall on Windows 7.

edited May 9 '14 at 4:53   answered Apr 25 '14 at 14:13
Peter Mortensen   user3472699
8,711 ● 10 ● 58 ● 95   **1**

Even I was getting "Could not open a connection to your authentication agent." on running the command while generating and adding SSH key: `ssh-add ~/.ssh/id_rsa` . I resolved it by stopping the multiple `ssh-agent` instances running on my machine and then uninstalled the Git from control panel on my windows machine and then again installed Git and things were working now.

edited Jul 7 '14 at 2:46   answered Apr 19 '14 at 10:24

Cupcake   Devendra Singh
45.8k ● 14 ● 107 ● 129   **13** ● 7

FYI: merged from stackoverflow.com/questions/4083079/... – Shog9 ♦ Jul 24 '14 at 19:03

protected by durron597 Aug 5 at 19:47

Thank you for your interest in this question. Because it has attracted low-quality answers, posting an answer now requires 10 reputation on this site.

Would you like to answer one of these unanswered questions instead?