## Generic secret storage

The simplest way to use Barbican is to create and retrieve a securely stored, generic secret.

## How to store a generic secret

It is possible to store any secret data with Barbican. The command below will create a secret of the type passphrase, named mysecret, which contains the passphrase my very secret passphrase.

```
openstack secret store \
--secret-type passphrase \
-p "my very secret passphrase" \
-n mysecret
```

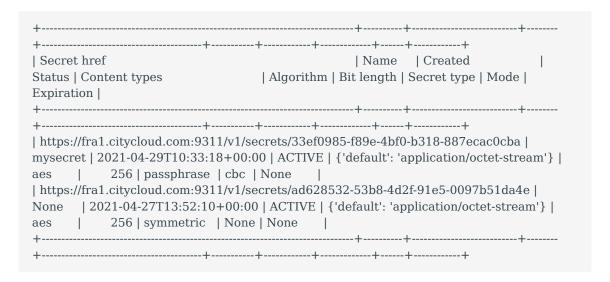
The example output below uses Cleura's Fra1 region. In other regions, the secret URIs will differ.

Note that passphrase type secrets are symmetrically encrypted, using the AES encryption algorithm with a 256-bit key length. You can select other bit lengths and algorithms with the -b and -a command line options, if desired.

## How to retrieve secrets

Secrets are stored in Barbican in an encrypted format. You can see a list of secrets created for your user with the following command:

## openstack secret list



You can retrieve the decrypted secret with the openstack secret get command, adding the -p (or --payload) option:

```
\ open
stack secret get -p \ https://fra1.citycloud.com:9311/v1/secrets/33ef0985-f89e-4bf0-b318-887ecac0cba
```

```
+-----+
| Field | Value |
+-----+
| Payload | my very secret passphrase |
+-----+
```

Unlike many other OpenStack services, which allow you to retrieve object references by name or UUID, Barbican only lets you retrieve secrets by their full URI. That URI must include the https://<region>.citycloud.com:9311/v1/secrets/prefix.

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