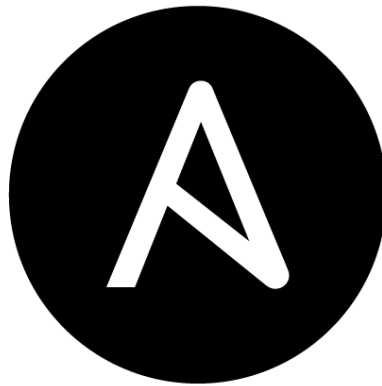


Industry Use Cases of Ansible



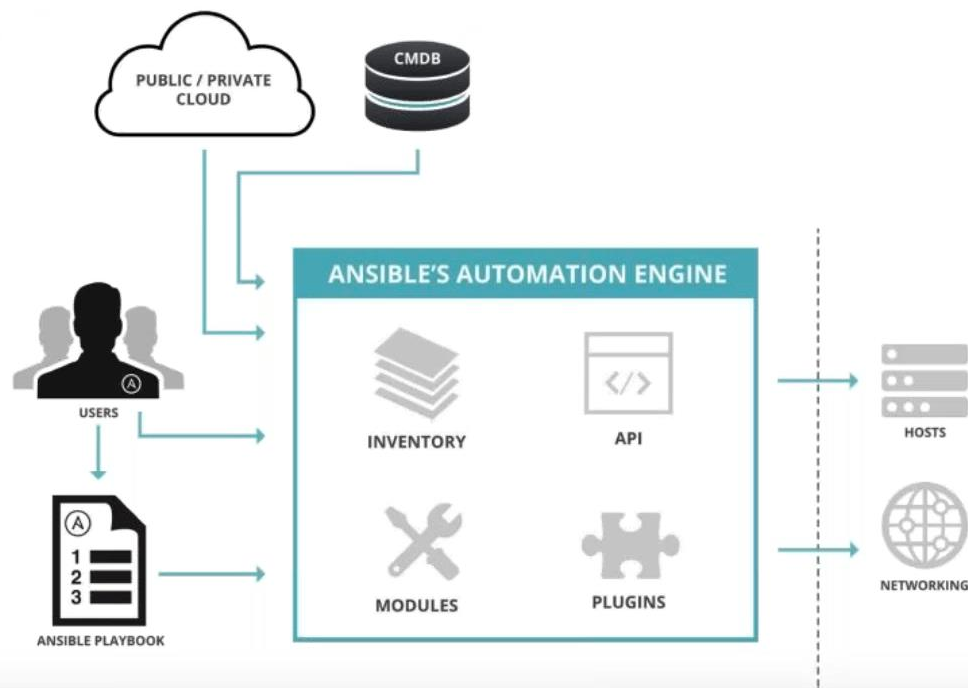
What is Ansible?

Ansible is an open-source automation tool, or platform, used for IT tasks such as configuration management, application deployment, intra service orchestration, and provisioning. Automation is crucial these days, with IT environments that are too complex and often need to scale too quickly for system administrators and developers to keep up if they had to do everything manually.

What is the playbook file?

Playbooks are the files where the Ansible code is written. Playbooks are written in YAML format. YAML stands for Yet Another Markup Language. Playbooks are one of the core features of Ansible and tell Ansible what to execute. They are like a to-do list for Ansible that contains a list of tasks.

How Ansible Works



Security Patching

Ansible is an incredibly powerful and robust configuration management system. My favorite feature? Its simplicity. This can be seen by how easy it is to patch vulnerable servers

Monitoring

One of the first projects I used Ansible for was to simultaneously deploy and remove a monitoring solution. The project was simple: remove Zabbix and replace it with [Server Density](#). This was incredibly easy with the help of Ansible. I ended up enjoying the project so much, [I open sourced it](#).

One of the things I love about Ansible is how easy it is to write playbooks, and yet always have room to improve upon them. The Server Density Ansible playbook, is the result of many revisions to my original code that I started a little over a year ago. I continually revisit and make updates using newfound knowledge and additional features that have been released in the latest versions of Ansible.

ANSIBLE AUTOMATES TECHNOLOGIES YOU USE OVER 1,200 INTEGRATIONS					
CLOUD	VIRT & CONTAINER	WINDOWS	NETWORK	CHAT	MONITORING
AWS	Atomic	ACLs	Arista	Email	Airbrake
Azure	CloudStack	Files	A10	HipChat	BigPanda
CenturyLink	OpenStack	Packages	Cumulus	IRC	Datadog
Digital Ocean	OpenShift	IIS	Bigswitch	Jabber	LogicMonitor
Google	RHEV	Regedits	Cisco	Rocketchat	Monit
OpenStack	VMware	Shares	Dell	Sendgrid	Nagios
Rackspace	+more	Services	F5	Slack	New Relic
+more		Configs	Juniper	Twilio	PagerDuty
		Users	Palo Alto	+more	Sensu
		Domains	OpenSwitch		StackDriver
		+more	+more		Zabbix
					+more

Use Cases for Modernizing and Automating

- **Weekly system reboot:** There's nothing worse than doing the same thing for 8 hours a day! Eliminate repetitive, manual processes with automation.
- **Enforce security guidelines:** Rules are rules. It's best to automate in an effort to achieve strict security standards.

- **Monitor configuration drift:** Use check mode with Ansible tasks to enforce desired settings and see if your configuration has drifted.
- **Disaster recovery:** Disaster recovery can involve a wide range of components. Act across different variables of the technology stack to identify problems and eliminate cross team dependencies.
- **Command blaster:** Remarkably easy to write, you can run commands across your environment for any number of servers.
- **Database binary patching:** Several databases use outdated binary sets. Patch the binaries in accordance with the release of the latest patch.
- **Instance provisioning:** Use modules for several cloud providers to create new instances and tailor their configuration.
- **Service license agreements:** Mistakes cost time and money. Eliminate errors that can crop up in detailed software contracts.