Running a task only once

At times, a specific task in a role may need to be executed only once during a playbook execution, even though the role is applied to many hosts. This could be achieved with the run\_once conditional:

* name: execute a shell script

script: initialize\_wp\_database.sh

run\_once: true

Since we are using the run\_once option, the preceding task would run on the first host in the inventory that the role is being applied to. All consequent hosts would skip this task.

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- name: install apache webserver

when: ansible\_os\_family == 'Debian'

apt: name=apache2 state=installed

- name: ensure webserver is started

when: ansible\_os\_family == 'Debian'

service: name=apache2 state=started

- name: install apache webserver

when: ansible\_os\_family == 'RedHat'

yum: name=httpd state=installed

- name: ensure webserver is started

when: ansible\_os\_family == 'RedHat'

service: name=httpd state=started

- name: deploy home page

template: src=index.j2 dest={{ doc\_root }}/index.html

notify:

- restart\_webserver

- include: user.yml

Also ‘when’ can be used as stated below.

- tasks

- name: some task

when:

- ny == 'ny'

- t == 'test'

- r == 'redhat'