

HANDLING TASKS

- In Ansible, handlers are typically used to start, reload, restart, and stop services.
- Sometimes you want a task to run only when a change is made on a machine.
E.g.: you may want to restart a service if a task updates the configuration of that service, but not if the configuration is unchanged. Ansible uses handlers to address this use case.
- Handlers are tasks that only run **when notified**.
- By default, handlers are executed **last regardless** of their location in the playbook.

A single task and a handler:

```
---  
  
- hosts: webservers  
  become: true  
  become_user: root  
  tasks:  
    - name: Install the latest version of Apache  
      dnf:  
        name: httpd  
        state: latest  
  
      notify:  
        - Start Apache  
  
  handlers:  
    - name: Start Apache
```

service:

name: httpd

state: started

...

Multiple tasks and handlers:

- hosts: webservers

become: true

become_user: root

tasks:

- name: Install the latest version of Apache

yum:

name: httpd

state: latest

- name: Configure Apache

copy:

src: /home/raju/index.html

dest: /var/www/html

owner: apache

group: apache

mode: 0644

notify:

- Configure Firewall

- Start Apache

handlers:

- name: Start Apache

service:

name: httpd

state: started

- name: Configure Firewall

firewalld:

permanent: yes

immediate: yes

service: http

state: enabled

Handling Task Failure:

Ansible evaluates the return code of each task to determine whether the task succeeded or failed.

Normally, When a task fails Ansible immediately aborts the test of the play on that host, skipping all subsequent tasks.

Ignoring Task Failure:

By default a task fails, the play is aborted. However, this behavior can be overridden by ignoring failed tasks.

You can use the `ignore_error` keyword in a task to accomplish this.

Example:

```
---  
  
- hosts: server  
  become: true  
  become_user: root  
  tasks:  
    - name: Restart a service  
      service:  
        name: not a service  
        state: restart  
    - name: Copy a script  
      copy:  
        src: /tmp/script.sh  
        dest: /opt  
...  
  
$ansible-playbook --syntax-check task1.yml  
$ansible-playbook task1.yml -K  
  
---  
  
ignore_errors:  
  
$vi task2.sh  
  
- hosts: webservers  
  become: true  
  become_user: root
```

tasks:

- name: Restart a service

service:

name: not a service

state: restart

ignore_errors: yes

- name: Copy a script

copy:

src: /tmp/script.sh

dest: /opt

...

\$ansible-playbook --syntax-check task2.yml

\$ansible-playbook task1.yml -K

Register:

Ansible register is a way to capture the output from task execution and store it in a variable.

Faild_when:

\$vi task3.yml

- hosts: webservers

become: true

become_user: root

tasks:

- name: Restart a service

```
service:
  name: not a service
  state: restart
  ignore_errors: yes
- name: Copy a script
  copy:
    src: /tmp/script.sh
    dest: /tmp
- name: Run the script
  shell: sh /tmp/script.sh
  register: command_result
- debug: msg="{{ command_result.stdout }}"
```

\$vi task4.sh

```
- hosts: webservers
  become: true
  become_user: root
  tasks:
    - name: Restart a service
      service:
        name: not a service
        state: restart
        ignore_errors: yes
    - name: Copy a script
```

copy:

src: /tmp/script.sh

dest: /tmp

- name: Run the script

shell: sh /tmp/script.sh

register: command_result

failed_when: "'raju' in command_result.stdout"

- debug: msg="{{ command_result.stdout }}"

- name: Restart the HTTPD

service:

name: httpd

state: restarted

changed_when:

The changed_when keyword can be used to control when a task reports that it has changed.

- hosts: webservers

become: true

become_user: root

tasks:

- name: Restart a service

service:

name: not a service

state: started

ignore_errors: yes

- name: Copy a script

copy:

src: /tmp/script.sh

dest: /tmp

- name: Run the script

shell: sh /tmp/script.sh

register: command_result

changed_when: "'success' in command_result.stdout"

notify:

- restart_apache

handlers:

- name: restart_apache

service:

name: httpd

state: restarted

...