**Ansible Cheat Sheet**

Ansible provides simple but powerful automation for cross-platform computer support. Ansible playbooks are written in YAML and executed either locally or remotely.

**Command**

ansible-playbook file.yaml Run an Ansible playbook called file.yaml

**Authentication options**

--user, -u <username> Log in as username

--private-key, --key-file <key> Log in using SSH key (usually in ~/.ssh)

--ssh-extra-args Pass extra command options to SSH

--vault-id <id> Use vault identity ID

--vault-password-file <key> Use vault password file key

--ask-vault-pass Prompt for a vault password

--become Escalate privileges

--ask-become-pass Prompt for a password for become

--become-method Escalate privilege using a specific method

ansible-doc –-type foo -- list List choices for become, connection, and other Ansible options.

**Control options**

--syntax-check Verify the syntax of a playbook but do not run it

--list-hosts Show hosts listed in a playbook

--list-tasks Show tasks defined in a playbook

--start-at-task <task\_name> Run playbook starting at task name

--check Run the playbook but don’t make changes

--diff Show diffs for what changes are made

--module-path Prepend colon-separated path to default path

--connection <method> Connect over method

**Playbook and YAML**

Parameter: value A YAML mapping entry is a key and a value

- foo A YAML sequence entry is an itemized list

- bar

- baz

Distro: A mapping entry can contain a sequence

- Fedora

- RHEL

- Debian

- Slackware

OS: Sequence items can contain mappings

- Linux: Fedora

- BSD: NetBSD

**Playbook structure**

--- YAML files start with three dashes

- name: “My play” Use the name mapping to name your play

hosts: all Indent and define which hosts the play runs on. List target hosts in etc/ansible/hosts

tasks: Open a tasks mapping, which will contain a sequence

- name: “My task” Give the task a name with the name mapping

some\_module: Import a module as a new mapping containing a sequence of parameters. Find required and optional parameters in the module’s documentation.

path: ‘/example/’ Parameters are usually mappings using the command option as the key and an argument as the value.

- name: “My other task” A play may contain more than one task

other\_module: A task usually imports a module

foo: ‘bar’