

**NAME**

openssl-rsautl, rsautl – RSA utility

**SYNOPSIS**

**openssl rsautl** [**-help**] [**-in file**] [**-out file**] [**-inkey file**] [**-keyform PEM|DER|ENGINE**] [**-pubin**]  
[**-certin**] [**-sign**] [**-verify**] [**-encrypt**] [**-decrypt**] [**-rand file...**] [**-writerand file**] [**-pkcs**] [**-ssl**] [**-raw**]  
[**-hexdump**] [**-asn1parse**]

**DESCRIPTION**

The **rsautl** command can be used to sign, verify, encrypt and decrypt data using the RSA algorithm.

**OPTIONS****-help**

Print out a usage message.

**-in filename**

This specifies the input filename to read data from or standard input if this option is not specified.

**-out filename**

Specifies the output filename to write to or standard output by default.

**-inkey file**

The input key file, by default it should be an RSA private key.

**-keyform PEM|DER|ENGINE**

The key format PEM, DER or ENGINE.

**-pubin**

The input file is an RSA public key.

**-certin**

The input is a certificate containing an RSA public key.

**-sign**

Sign the input data and output the signed result. This requires an RSA private key.

**-verify**

Verify the input data and output the recovered data.

**-encrypt**

Encrypt the input data using an RSA public key.

**-decrypt**

Decrypt the input data using an RSA private key.

**-rand file...**

A file or files containing random data used to seed the random number generator. Multiple files can be specified separated by an OS-dependent character. The separator is ; for MS-W indows, , for OpenVMS, and : for all others.

**[-writerand file]**

Writes random data to the specified *file* upon exit. This can be used with a subsequent **-rand** flag.

**-pkcs, -oaep, -ssl, -raw**

The padding to use: PKCS#1 v1.5 (the default), PKCS#1 OAEP, special padding used in SSL v2 backwards compatible handshakes, or no padding, respectively. For signatures, only **-pkcs** and **-raw** can be used.

**-hexdump**

Hex dump the output data.

**-asn1parse**

Parse the ASN.1 output data, this is useful when combined with the **-verify** option.

**NOTES**

**rsautl** because it uses the RSA algorithm directly can only be used to sign or verify small pieces of data.

**EXAMPLES**

Sign some data using a private key:

```
openssl rsautl -sign -in file -inkey key.pem -out sig
```

Recover the signed data

```
openssl rsautl -verify -in sig -inkey key.pem
```

Examine the raw signed data:

```
openssl rsautl -verify -in sig -inkey key.pem -raw -hexdump
```

```
0000 - 00 01 ff ff ff ff ff ff ff-ff ff ff ff ff ff ff .....
0010 - ff ff ff ff ff ff ff ff ff-ff ff ff ff ff ff ff .....
0020 - ff ff ff ff ff ff ff ff ff-ff ff ff ff ff ff ff .....
0030 - ff ff ff ff ff ff ff ff ff-ff ff ff ff ff ff ff .....
0040 - ff ff ff ff ff ff ff ff ff-ff ff ff ff ff ff ff .....
0050 - ff ff ff ff ff ff ff ff ff-ff ff ff ff ff ff ff .....
0060 - ff ff ff ff ff ff ff ff ff-ff ff ff ff ff ff ff .....
0070 - ff ff ff ff 00 68 65 6c-6c 6f 20 77 6f 72 6c 64 ....hello world
```

The PKCS#1 block formatting is evident from this. If this was done using encrypt and decrypt the block would have been of type 2 (the second byte) and random padding data visible instead of the 0xff bytes.

It is possible to analyse the signature of certificates using this utility in conjunction with **asn1parse**. Consider the self signed example in certs/pca-cert.pem . Running **asn1parse** as follows yields:

```
openssl asn1parse -in pca-cert.pem
```

```

    0:d=0  hl=4 l= 742 cons: SEQUENCE
    4:d=1  hl=4 l= 591 cons: SEQUENCE
    8:d=2  hl=2 l=   3 cons: cont [ 0 ]
   10:d=3  hl=2 l=   1 prim: INTEGER           :02
   13:d=2  hl=2 l=   1 prim: INTEGER           :00
   16:d=2  hl=2 l=  13 cons: SEQUENCE
   18:d=3  hl=2 l=   9 prim: OBJECT             :md5WithRSAEncryption
   29:d=3  hl=2 l=   0 prim: NULL
   31:d=2  hl=2 l=  92 cons: SEQUENCE
   33:d=3  hl=2 l=  11 cons: SET
   35:d=4  hl=2 l=   9 cons: SEQUENCE
   37:d=5  hl=2 l=   3 prim: OBJECT             :countryName
   42:d=5  hl=2 l=   2 prim: PRINTABLESTRING   :AU
    ....
  599:d=1  hl=2 l=  13 cons: SEQUENCE
  601:d=2  hl=2 l=   9 prim: OBJECT             :md5WithRSAEncryption
  612:d=2  hl=2 l=   0 prim: NULL
  614:d=1  hl=3 l= 129 prim: BIT STRING
```

The final BIT STRING contains the actual signature. It can be extracted with:

```
openssl asn1parse -in pca-cert.pem -out sig -noout -strparse 614
```

The certificate public key can be extracted with:

```
openssl x509 -in test/testx509.pem -pubkey -noout >pubkey.pem
```

The signature can be analysed with:

```
openssl rsautl -in sig -verify -asn1parse -inkey pubkey.pem -pubin
```

```

0:d=0  hl=2 l= 32 cons: SEQUENCE
2:d=1  hl=2 l= 12 cons: SEQUENCE
4:d=2  hl=2 l=  8 prim: OBJECT           :md5
14:d=2  hl=2 l=  0 prim: NULL
16:d=1  hl=2 l= 16 prim: OCTET STRING
      0000 - f3 46 9e aa 1a 4a 73 c9-37 ea 93 00 48 25 08 b5   .F...Js.7...H%..

```

This is the parsed version of an ASN1 DigestInfo structure. It can be seen that the digest used was md5. The actual part of the certificate that was signed can be extracted with:

```
openssl asn1parse -in pca-cert.pem -out tbs -noout -strparse 4
```

and its digest computed with:

```
openssl md5 -c tbs
MD5(tbs)= f3:46:9e:aa:1a:4a:73:c9:37:ea:93:00:48:25:08:b5
```

which it can be seen agrees with the recovered value above.

## SEE ALSO

**dgst**(1), **rsa**(1), **genrsa**(1)

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