30.7. Managing time synchronization using RHEL System Roles

You can manage time synchronization on multiple target machines using the timesync role. The timesync role installs and configures an NTP or PTP implementation to operate as an NTP or PTP client to synchronize the system clock.

Note that using the timesync role also facilitates [migration to chrony](https://access.redhat.com/documentation/en-us/red_hat_enterprise_linux/8/html/configuring_basic_system_settings/using-chrony-to-configure-ntp_configuring-basic-system-settings#proc_migrating-to-chrony_using-chrony-to-configure-ntp), because you can use the same playbook on all versions of Red Hat Enterprise Linux starting with RHEL 6 regardless of whether the system uses **ntp** or **chrony** to implement the NTP protocol.

**Warning**

The timesync role replaces the configuration of the given or detected provider service on the managed host. Previous settings are lost, even if they are not specified in the role variables. The only preserved setting is the choice of provider if the timesync\_ntp\_provider variable is not defined.

The following example shows how to apply the timesync role in a situation with just one pool of servers.

**Example 30.1. An example playbook applying the timesync role for a single pool of servers**

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- hosts: timesync-test

vars:

timesync\_ntp\_servers:

- hostname: 2.rhel.pool.ntp.org

pool: yes

iburst: yes

roles:

- rhel-system-roles.timesync

For a detailed reference on timesync role variables, install the rhel-system-roles package, and see the README.md or README.html files in the /usr/share/doc/rhel-system-roles/timesync directory.