

SSH

Luciano Sampaio
lsampaioweb@gmail.com

What Is ssh-keygen?

- ssh-keygen is a tool for creating new authentication key pairs for SSH. Such key pairs are used for automating logins, single sign-on, and for authenticating hosts.

Algorithm and Key Size

- **rsa** – an old algorithm based on the difficulty of factoring large numbers. A key size of at least 2048 bits is recommended for RSA; 4096 bits is better.
- **dsa** – an old US government Digital Signature Algorithm. It is based on the difficulty of computing discrete logarithms. A key size of 1024 would normally be used with it. DSA in its original form is no longer recommended.
- **ecdsa** – a new Digital Signature Algorithm standardized by the US government, using elliptic curves. This is probably a good algorithm for current applications. Only three key sizes are supported: 256, 384, and 521 (sic!) bits. We would recommend always using it with 521 bits, since the keys are still small and probably more secure than the smaller keys (even though they should be safe as well).
- **ed25519** – this is a new algorithm added in OpenSSH. Support for it in clients is not yet universal. Thus its use in general purpose applications may not yet be advisable.

Algorithm and Key Size

- `ssh-keygen -t rsa -b 2048 -f file`
- `ssh-keygen -t dsa`
- `ssh-keygen -t ecdsa -b 521 -f file`
- `ssh-keygen -t ed25519`

Generate your SSH key

• `ssh-keygen -t ed25519`

```
lsampaio@DUD-JumpServer:~$ ssh-keygen -t ed25519
Generating public/private ed25519 key pair.
Enter file in which to save the key (/home/lsampaio/.ssh/id_ed25519):
Enter passphrase (empty for no passphrase):
Enter same passphrase again:
Your identification has been saved in /home/lsampaio/.ssh/id_ed25519
Your public key has been saved in /home/lsampaio/.ssh/id_ed25519.pub
The key fingerprint is:
SHA256:ounx1rVkQZVZvy+g4nJDtS+biH59AHTSnro6GrCL+GY lsampaio@DUD-JumpServer
The key's randomart image is:
+--[ED25519 256]--+
|                . . . +. |
|                o + o  . |
|                . = .   . |
|                . =     . |
|      .      . S+ o.   . |
|      o o .o *. . . . |
|      . =  o.*.+   . . |
|..Eo ++o*o+.o   . |
|o+o o+=*o.o+   |
+-----[SHA256]-----+
```


Sharing your key

- Only copy the public key:

- `ssh-copy-id -i ~/.ssh/key.pub user@host`

```
lsampaio@DUD-JumpServer:~$ ssh-copy-id -i /home/lsampaio/.ssh/id_ed25519.pub lsampaio@192.168.0.136
/usr/bin/ssh-copy-id: INFO: Source of key(s) to be installed: "/home/lsampaio/.ssh/id_ed25519.pub"
/usr/bin/ssh-copy-id: INFO: attempting to log in with the new key(s), to filter out any that are already
installed
/usr/bin/ssh-copy-id: INFO: 1 key(s) remain to be installed -- if you are prompted now it is to install
the new keys
lsampaio@192.168.0.136's password:

Number of key(s) added: 1

Now try logging into the machine, with:  "ssh 'lsampaio@192.168.0.136'"
and check to make sure that only the key(s) you wanted were added.

lsampaio@DUD-JumpServer:~$ ssh lsampaio@192.168.0.136
Welcome to Ubuntu 22.04.1 LTS (GNU/Linux 5.15.0-48-generic x86_64)

 * Documentation:  https://help.ubuntu.com
 * Management:    https://landscape.canonical.com
 * Support:       https://ubuntu.com/advantage

0 updates can be applied immediately.

Last login: Sat Sep 24 00:11:30 2022 from 192.168.0.192
```


Connect using SSH

- Specify ssh key if not the default:

- `ssh -i ~/.ssh/key user@host`

```
lsampaio@DUD-JumpServer:~$ ls -la .ssh/authorized_keys
-rw----- 1 lsampaio lsampaio 105 set 24 00:12 .ssh/authorized_keys
lsampaio@DUD-JumpServer:~$ cat .ssh/authorized_keys
ssh-ed25519 AAAAC3NzaC1lZDI1NTE5AAAAIIIfqpJeJJ7tn27IkV6J9znwU6u0YTAVXR4ZlKV09Z4PI lsampaio@DUD-JumpServer
```


Specific config for a host

- `cat ~/.ssh/config`
- `Host DUD-Jump-Server`
 - `HostName DUD-Jump-Server`
 - `User lsampaio`
- `Host switch-01.homelab`
 - `HostName switch-01.homelab`
 - `HostKeyAlgorithms +ssh-dss`
 - `KexAlgorithms +diffie-hellman-group1-sha1`
 - `Ciphers aes128-ctr,aes192-ctr,aes256-ctr,aes128-cbc,3des-cbc`
 - `IdentityFile ~/.ssh/key`

References

- How to Use ssh-keygen to Generate a New SSH Key?
- <https://www.ssh.com/academy/ssh/keygen>

Questions ?



Thank you!

Luciano Sampaio
lsampaioweb@gmail.com