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<b>Course/Section:</b> CPE212 - CPE31S4	<b>Date Submitted:</b> 9/19/2025
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### **Activity 6: Targeting Specific Nodes and Managing Services**

#### **1. Objectives:**

- 1.1 Individualize hosts
- 1.2 Apply tags in selecting plays to run
- 1.3 Managing Services from remote servers using playbooks

#### **2. Discussion:**

In this activity, we try to individualize hosts. For example, we don't want apache on all our servers, or maybe only one of our servers is a web server, or maybe we have different servers like database or file servers running different things on different categories of servers and that is what we are going to take a look at in this activity.

We also try to manage services that do not automatically run using the automations in playbook. For example, when we install web servers or httpd for CentOS, we notice that the service did not start automatically.

#### **Requirement:**

In this activity, you will need to create another Ubuntu VM and name it Server 3. Likewise, you need to activate the second adapter to a host-only adapter after the installations. Take note of the IP address of the Server 3. Make sure to use the command ***ssh-copy-id*** to copy the public key to Server 3. Verify if you can successfully SSH to Server 3.

#### **Task 1: Targeting Specific Nodes**

1. Create a new playbook and named it site.yml. Follow the commands as shown in the image below. Make sure to save the file and exit.

```
---  
- hosts: all  
  become: true  
  tasks:  
  
    - name: install apache and php for Ubuntu servers  
      apt:  
        name:  
          - apache2  
          - libapache2-mod-php  
        state: latest  
        update_cache: yes  
      when: ansible_distribution == "Ubuntu"  
  
    - name: install apache and php for CentOS servers  
      dnf:  
        name:  
          - httpd  
          - php  
        state: latest  
      when: ansible_distribution == "CentOS"
```

```
---  
- hosts: all  
  become: true  
  tasks:  
  
    - name: Install apache and php for Ubuntu servers  
      apt:  
        name:  
          - apache2  
          - libapache2-mod-php  
        state: latest  
        update_cache: yes  
      when: ansible_distribution == "Ubuntu"  
  
    - name: Install apache and php for CentOS servers  
      dnf:  
        name:  
          - httpd  
          - php  
        state: latest  
      when: ansible_distribution == "CentOS"
```

```
0 upgraded, 0 newly installed, 0 to remove and 0 not upgraded.  
cidee@workstation:~$ sudo add-apt-repository --yes --update ppa:ansible/ansible  
Hit:1 http://us.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu bionic InRelease  
Hit:2 http://security.ubuntu.com/ubuntu bionic-security InRelease  
Hit:3 http://us.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu bionic-updates InRelease  
Get:4 http://ppa.launchpad.net/ansible/ansible/ubuntu bionic InRelease [15.9 kB]  
]  
Hit:5 http://us.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu bionic-backports InRelease  
Get:6 http://ppa.launchpad.net/ansible/ansible/ubuntu bionic/main i386 Packages  
[704 B]  
Get:7 http://ppa.launchpad.net/ansible/ansible/ubuntu bionic/main amd64 Packages  
[704 B]  
Get:8 http://ppa.launchpad.net/ansible/ansible/ubuntu bionic/main Translation-en [472 B]  
Fetched 17.8 kB in 2s (10.3 kB/s)  
Reading package lists... Done  
cidee@workstation:~$ sudo apt install --only-upgrade ansible  
Reading package lists... Done
```

```
All packages are up to date.
```

```
cidee@workstation:~$ sudo apt install software-properties-common  
Reading package lists... Done
```

2. Edit the inventory file. Remove the variables we put in our last activity and group according to the image shown below:

```
[web_servers]  
192.168.56.120
```

```
192.168.56.121
```

```
[db_servers]
```

```
192.168.56.122
```

```
[file_servers]
```

```
192.168.56.123
```

```
[db_servers]
```

```
192.168.56.110
```

```
[web_servers]
```

```
192.168.56.105
```

```
192.168.56.106
```

```
[file_servers]
```

```
192.168.56.112
```

Make sure to save the file and exit.

Right now, we have created groups in our inventory file and put each server in its own group. In other cases, you can have a server be a member of multiple groups, for example you have a test server that is also a web server.

```
cidee@workstation:~/CPE212_elcid$ ansible-playbook site.yml -K
BECOME password:

PLAY [all] ****
TASK [Gathering Facts] ****
[WARNING]: Platform linux on host 192.168.56.103 is using the discovered Python
interpreter at /usr/bin/python3.13, but future installation of another Python
interpreter could change the meaning of that path. See
https://docs.ansible.com/ansible-core/2.18/reference\_appendices/interpreter\_discovery.html for more information.
ok: [192.168.56.103]
[WARNING]: Platform linux on host 192.168.56.104 is using the discovered Python
interpreter at /usr/bin/python3.9, but future installation of another Python
interpreter could change the meaning of that path. See
https://docs.ansible.com/ansible-core/2.18/reference\_appendices/interpreter\_discovery.html for more information.
ok: [192.168.56.104]

TASK [install apache and php for Ubuntu servers] ****
skipping: [192.168.56.104]
ok: [192.168.56.103]

TASK [install apache and php for CentOS servers] ****
skipping: [192.168.56.103]
ok: [192.168.56.104]

PLAY RECAP ****
192.168.56.103 : ok=2    changed=0    unreachable=0    failed=0    skipped=1
                  rescued=0   ignored=0
192.168.56.104 : ok=2    changed=0    unreachable=0    failed=0    skipped=1
                  rescued=0   ignored=0
```

3. Edit the *site.yml* by following the image below:

```
---
```

```
- hosts: all
  become: true
  pre_tasks:
    - name: install updates (CentOS)
      dnf:
        update_only: yes
        update_cache: yes
      when: ansible_distribution == "CentOS"

    - name: install updates (Ubuntu)
      apt:
        upgrade: dist
        update_cache: yes
      when: ansible_distribution == "Ubuntu"
```

```
- hosts: web_servers
  become: true
  tasks:
    - name: install apache and php for Ubuntu servers
      apt:
        name:
          - apache2
          - libapache2-mod-php
        state: latest
      when: ansible_distribution == "Ubuntu"

    - name: install apache and php for CentOS servers
      dnf:
        name:
          - httpd
          - php
        state: latest
      when: ansible_distribution == "CentOS"
```

Make sure to save the file and exit.

```
GNU nano 8.3                                     site.yml
---  
- hosts: all  
become: true  
pre_tasks:  
  
- name: install updates (CentOS)  
dnf:  
    update_only: yes  
    update_cache: yes  
when: ansible_distribution == "CentOS"  
  
- name: install updates (Ubuntu)  
apt:  
    upgrade: dist  
    update_cache: yes  
when: ansible_distribution == "Ubuntu"  
  
- hosts: web_servers  
become: true  
tasks:  
  
- name: install apache and php for Ubuntu servers  
apt:  
    name:  
        - apache2  
        - libapache2-mod-php  
    state: latest  
    update_cache: yes  
when: ansible_distribution == "Ubuntu"  
  
- name: install apache and php for CentOS servers
```

The **pre-tasks** command tells the ansible to run it before any other thing. In the **pre-tasks**, CentOS will install updates while Ubuntu will upgrade its distribution package. This will run before running the second play, which is targeted at **web\_servers**. In the second play, apache and php will be installed on both Ubuntu servers and CentOS servers.

Run the *site.yml* file and describe the result.

```
cidee@workstation:~/CPE212_elcid$ ansible-playbook site.yml -K
BECOME password:

PLAY [all] ****
TASK [Gathering Facts] ****
[WARNING]: Platform linux on host 192.168.56.103 is using the discovered Python
interpreter at /usr/bin/python3.13, but future installation of another Python
interpreter could change the meaning of that path. See
https://docs.ansible.com/ansible-
core/2.18/reference_appendices/interpreter_discovery.html for more information.
ok: [192.168.56.103]
[WARNING]: Platform linux on host 192.168.56.104 is using the discovered Python
interpreter at /usr/bin/python3.9, but future installation of another Python
interpreter could change the meaning of that path. See
https://docs.ansible.com/ansible-
core/2.18/reference_appendices/interpreter_discovery.html for more information.
ok: [192.168.56.104]

TASK [install updates (CentOS)] ****
skipping: [192.168.56.103]
ok: [192.168.56.104]

TASK [install updates (Ubuntu)] ****
skipping: [192.168.56.104]
ok: [192.168.56.103]

PLAY [web_servers] ****
TASK [Gathering Facts] ****
ok: [192.168.56.103]

TASK [install apache and php for Ubuntu servers] ****
ok: [192.168.56.103]

TASK [install apache and php for CentOS servers] ****
skipping: [192.168.56.103]

PLAY RECAP ****
192.168.56.103 : ok=4    changed=0    unreachable=0    failed=0    skipped=2    rescued=0    ignored=0
192.168.56.104 : ok=2    changed=0    unreachable=0    failed=0    skipped=1    rescued=0    ignored=0
```

*The playbook executed smoothly. All tasks for web\_servers completed without errors.*

4. Let's try to edit again the *site.yml* file. This time, we are going to add plays targeting the other servers. This time we target the *db\_servers* by adding it on the current *site.yml*. Below is an example: (Note add this at the end of the playbooks from task 1.3.

```
- hosts: db_servers
become: true
tasks:

- name: install mariadb package (Centos)
  yum:
    name: mariadb-server
    state: latest
  when: ansible_distribution == "Centos"

- name: "Mariadb- Restarting/Enabling"
  service:
    name: mariadb
    state: restarted
    enabled: true

- name: install mariadb packege (Ubuntu)
  apt:
    name: mariadb-server
    state: latest
  when: ansible_distribution == "Ubuntu"
```

Make sure to save the file and exit.

```
- hosts: db_servers
  become: true
  tasks:

    - name: install mariadb package (CentOS)
      yum:
        name: mariadb-server
        state: latest
        when: ansible_distribution == "CentOS"

    - name: "Mariadb- Restarting/Enabling"
      service:
        name: mariadb
        state: restarted
        enabled: true

    - name: install mariadb package (Ubuntu)
      apt:
        name: mariadb-server
        state: latest
        when: ansible_distribution == "Ubuntu"
```

Run the *site.yml* file and describe the result.

```
PLAY [db_servers] ****
TASK [Gathering Facts] ****
ok: [192.168.56.103]
ok: [192.168.56.104]

TASK [install mariadb package (CentOS)] ****
skipping: [192.168.56.103]
ok: [192.168.56.104]

TASK [Mariadb- Restarting/Enabling] ****
changed: [192.168.56.104]
changed: [192.168.56.103]

TASK [install mariadb package (Ubuntu)] ****
skipping: [192.168.56.104]
ok: [192.168.56.103]
```

*MariaDB was installed properly on both Ubuntu and CentOS database servers.*

5. Go to the remote server (Ubuntu) terminal that belongs to the db\_servers group and check the status for mariadb installation using the command: ***systemctl status mariadb***. Do this on the CentOS server also.

```
[cidee@centos ~]$ sudo systemctl status mariadb
[sudo] password for cidee:
● mariadb.service - MariaDB 10.5 database server
  Loaded: loaded (/usr/lib/systemd/system/mariadb.service; enabled; preset: -->
  Active: active (running) since Fri 2025-09-19 22:07:42 PST; 2min 58s ago
    Docs: man:mariadb(8)
           https://mariadb.com/kb/en/library/systemd/
   Process: 93482 ExecStartPre=/usr/libexec/mariadb-check-socket (code=exited, -->
   Process: 93504 ExecStartPre=/usr/libexec/mariadb-prepare-db-dir mariadb.ser...
   Process: 93598 ExecStartPost=/usr/libexec/mariadb-check-upgrade (code=exite...
 Main PID: 93586 (mariadbd)
   Status: "Taking your SQL requests now..."
      Tasks: 8 (limit: 2494)
     Memory: 18.1M (peak: 117.1M)
        CPU: 597ms
      CGroup: /system.slice/mariadb.service
              └─93586 /usr/libexec/mariadb --basedir=/usr

Sep 19 22:07:42 centos mariadb-prepare-db-dir[93543]: The second is mysql@local...
Sep 19 22:07:42 centos mariadb-prepare-db-dir[93543]: you need to be the system...
Sep 19 22:07:42 centos mariadb-prepare-db-dir[93543]: After connecting you can ...
Sep 19 22:07:42 centos mariadb-prepare-db-dir[93543]: able to connect as any of ...
Sep 19 22:07:42 centos mariadb-prepare-db-dir[93543]: See the MariaDB Knowledge...
Sep 19 22:07:42 centos mariadb-prepare-db-dir[93543]: Please report any problem...
Sep 19 22:07:42 centos mariadb-prepare-db-dir[93543]: The latest information ab...
lines 1-23...skipping...
● mariadb.service - MariaDB 10.5 database server
```

```
cidee@server1:~$ sudo systemctl status mariadb
● mariadb.service - MariaDB 11.4.7 database server
  Loaded: loaded (/usr/lib/systemd/system/mariadb.service; enabled; v>
  Active: active (running) since Fri 2025-09-19 14:27:40 UTC; 1m>
    Invocation: f091873ede5e4700b4c3c0d1f0e24a3a
      Docs: man:mariadb(8)
             https://mariadb.com/kb/en/library/systemd/
  Main PID: 17729 (mariadb)
    Status: "Taking your SQL requests now..."
      Tasks: 10 (limit: 10623)
     Memory: 85.4M (peak: 98.2M)
        CPU: 1.019s
       CGroup: /system.slice/mariadb.service
                  └─17729 /usr/sbin/mariadb

Sep 19 14:27:40 server1 mariadb[17729]: 2025-09-19 14:27:40 0 [Not>
Sep 19 14:27:40 server1 mariadb[17729]: 2025-09-19 14:27:40 0 [Not>
Sep 19 14:27:40 server1 mariadb[17729]: 2025-09-19 14:27:40 0 [Not>
Sep 19 14:27:40 server1 mariadb[17729]: 2025-09-19 14:27:40 0 [Not>
lines 1-18...skipping...
● mariadb.service - MariaDB 11.4.7 database server
```

Describe the output.

*I was able to see that mariadb is enabled and starting on remote servers*

6. Edit the `site.yml` again. This time we will append the code to configure installation on the `file_servers` group. We can add the following on our file.

```
- hosts: file_servers
  become: true
  tasks:
    - name: install samba package
      package:
        name: samba
        state: latest
```

Make sure to save the file and exit.

```
- hosts: file_servers
  become: true
  tasks:

    - name: install samba package
      package:
        name: samba
        state: latest
```

Run the *site.yml* file and describe the result.

```
PLAY [file_servers] ****
TASK [Gathering Facts] ****
ok: [192.168.56.103]

TASK [install samba package] ****
changed: [192.168.56.103]

PLAY RECAP ****
192.168.56.103 : ok=9    changed=2    unreachable=0    failed=0    skipped=3
                  rescued=0   ignored=0
192.168.56.104 : ok=7    changed=1    unreachable=0    failed=0    skipped=3
                  rescued=0   ignored=0
```

The testing of the *file\_servers* is beyond the scope of this activity, and as well as our topics and objectives. However, in this activity we were able to show that we can target hosts or servers using grouping in ansible playbooks.

## Task 2: Using Tags in running playbooks

In this task, our goal is to add metadata to our plays so that we can only run the plays that we want to run, and not all the plays in our playbook.

1. Edit the *site.yml* file. Add tags to the playbook. After the name, we can place the tags: *name\_of\_tag*. This is an arbitrary command, which means you can use any name for a tag.

```
---  
- hosts: all  
  become: true  
  pre_tasks:  
  
    - name: install updates (CentOS)  
      tags: always  
      dnf:  
        update_only: yes  
        update_cache: yes  
      when: ansible_distribution == "CentOS"  
  
    - name: install updates (Ubuntu)  
      tags: always  
      apt:  
        upgrade: dist  
        update_cache: yes  
      when: ansible_distribution == "Ubuntu"
```

```
- hosts: web_servers  
  become: true  
  tasks:  
  
    - name: install apache and php for Ubuntu servers  
      tags: apache,apache2,ubuntu  
      apt:  
        name:  
          - apache2  
          - libapache2-mod-php  
        state: latest  
      when: ansible_distribution == "Ubuntu"  
  
    - name: install apache and php for CentOS servers  
      tags: apache,centos,httpd  
      dnf:  
        name:  
          - httpd  
          - php  
        state: latest  
      when: ansible_distribution == "CentOS"
```

```
- hosts: db_servers
become: true
tasks:

- name: install mariadb package (Centos)
  tags: centos, db,mariadb
  dnf:
    name: mariadb-server
    state: latest
    when: ansible_distribution == "CentOS"

- name: "Mariadb- Restarting/Enabling"
  service:
    name: mariadb
    state: restarted
    enabled: true

- name: install mariadb packege (Ubuntu)
  tags: db, mariadb,ubuntu
  apt:
    name: mariadb-server
    state: latest
    when: ansible_distribution == "Ubuntu"

- hosts: file_servers
become: true
tasks:

- name: install samba package
  tags: samba
  package:
    name: samba
    state: latest
```

Make sure to save the file and exit.  
Run the *site.yml* file and describe the result.

```
cidee@workstation:~/CPE212_elcid$ ansible-playbook site.yml -K

BECOME password:

PLAY [all] ****
TASK [Gathering Facts] ****
[WARNING]: Platform linux on host 192.168.56.103 is using the discovered Python
interpreter at /usr/bin/python3.13, but future installation of another Python
interpreter could change the meaning of that path. See
https://docs.ansible.com/ansible-core/2.18/reference\_appendices/interpreter\_discovery.html for more information.
ok: [192.168.56.103]
[WARNING]: Platform linux on host 192.168.56.104 is using the discovered Python
interpreter at /usr/bin/python3.9, but future installation of another Python
interpreter could change the meaning of that path. See
https://docs.ansible.com/ansible-core/2.18/reference\_appendices/interpreter\_discovery.html for more information.
ok: [192.168.56.104]

TASK [install updates (CentOS)] ****
skipping: [192.168.56.103]
ok: [192.168.56.104]

TASK [install updates (Ubuntu)] ****
skipping: [192.168.56.104]
ok: [192.168.56.103]

PLAY [web_servers] ****
TASK [Gathering Facts] ****
ok: [192.168.56.103]
ok: [192.168.56.104]
```

```

TASK [install apache and php for Ubuntu servers] ****
skipping: [192.168.56.104]
ok: [192.168.56.103]

TASK [install apache and php for CentOS servers] ****
skipping: [192.168.56.103]
ok: [192.168.56.104]

PLAY [db_servers] ****

TASK [Gathering Facts] ****
ok: [192.168.56.103]
ok: [192.168.56.104]

TASK [install mariadb package (CentOS)] ****
skipping: [192.168.56.103]
ok: [192.168.56.104]

TASK [Mariadb- Restarting/Enabling] ****
changed: [192.168.56.104]
changed: [192.168.56.103]

TASK [install mariadb package (Ubuntu)] ****
skipping: [192.168.56.104]
ok: [192.168.56.103]

PLAY [file_servers] ****

TASK [Gathering Facts] ****
ok: [192.168.56.103]

TASK [install samba package] ****
ok: [192.168.56.103]

PLAY RECAP ****
192.168.56.103 : ok=9    changed=1    unreachable=0    failed=0    skipped=3    rescued=0    ignored=0
192.168.56.104 : ok=7    changed=1    unreachable=0    failed=0    skipped=3    rescued=0    ignored=0

```

*Tags worked, and plays can now be run selectively.*

2. On the local machine, try to issue the following commands and describe each result:
  - 2.1 **ansible-playbook --list-tags site.yml**

```
cidee@workstation:~/CPE212_elcid$ ansible-playbook --list-tags site.yml

playbook: site.yml

play #1 (all): all      TAGS: []
    TASK TAGS: [always]

play #2 (web_servers): web_servers      TAGS: []
    TASK TAGS: [apache, apache2, centos, httpd, ubuntu]

play #3 (db_servers): db_servers      TAGS: []
    TASK TAGS: [centos, db, mariadb, ubuntu]

play #4 (file_servers): file_servers  TAGS: []
    TASK TAGS: [samba]
```

*Displayed all available tags in the playbook.*

## 2.2 *ansible-playbook --tags centos --ask-become-pass site.yml*

```
cidee@workstation:~/CPE212_elcid$ ansible-playbook --tags centos --ask-become-pass site.yml
BECOME password:

PLAY [all] ****
TASK [Gathering Facts] ****
[WARNING]: Platform linux on host 192.168.56.103 is using the discovered Python
interpreter at /usr/bin/python3.13, but future installation of another Python
interpreter could change the meaning of that path. See
https://docs.ansible.com/ansible-core/2.18/reference\_appendices/interpreter\_discovery.html for more information.
ok: [192.168.56.103]
[WARNING]: Platform linux on host 192.168.56.104 is using the discovered Python
interpreter at /usr/bin/python3.9, but future installation of another Python
interpreter could change the meaning of that path. See
https://docs.ansible.com/ansible-core/2.18/reference\_appendices/interpreter\_discovery.html for more information.
ok: [192.168.56.104]

TASK [install updates (CentOS)] ****
skipping: [192.168.56.103]
ok: [192.168.56.104]

TASK [install updates (Ubuntu)] ****
skipping: [192.168.56.104]
ok: [192.168.56.103]

PLAY [web_servers] ****
TASK [Gathering Facts] ****
ok: [192.168.56.103]
ok: [192.168.56.104]
```

```

TASK [install updates (CentOS)] ****
skipping: [192.168.56.103]
ok: [192.168.56.104]

TASK [install updates (Ubuntu)] ****
skipping: [192.168.56.104]
ok: [192.168.56.103]

PLAY [web_servers] ****

TASK [Gathering Facts] ****
ok: [192.168.56.103]
ok: [192.168.56.104]

TASK [install apache and php for CentOS servers] ****
skipping: [192.168.56.103]
ok: [192.168.56.104]

PLAY [db_servers] ****

TASK [Gathering Facts] ****
ok: [192.168.56.103]
ok: [192.168.56.104]

TASK [install mariadb package (CentOS)] ****
skipping: [192.168.56.103]
ok: [192.168.56.104]

PLAY [file_servers] ****

TASK [Gathering Facts] ****
ok: [192.168.56.103]

PLAY RECAP ****
192.168.56.103 : ok=5    changed=0    unreachable=0    failed=0    skipped=3    rescued=0    ignored=0
192.168.56.104 : ok=6    changed=0    unreachable=0    failed=0    skipped=1    rescued=0    ignored=0

```

Only ran tasks for CentOS servers.

2.3 `ansible-playbook --tags db --ask-become-pass site.yml`

```
cidee@workstation:~/CPE212_elcid$ ansible-playbook --tags db --ask-become-pass site.yml
BECOME password:

PLAY [all] ****
TASK [Gathering Facts] ****
[WARNING]: Platform linux on host 192.168.56.103 is using the discovered Python
interpreter at /usr/bin/python3.13, but future installation of another Python
interpreter could change the meaning of that path. See
https://docs.ansible.com/ansible-core/2.18/reference\_appendices/interpreter\_discovery.html for more information.
ok: [192.168.56.103]
[WARNING]: Platform linux on host 192.168.56.104 is using the discovered Python
interpreter at /usr/bin/python3.9, but future installation of another Python
interpreter could change the meaning of that path. See
https://docs.ansible.com/ansible-core/2.18/reference\_appendices/interpreter\_discovery.html for more information.
ok: [192.168.56.104]

TASK [install updates (CentOS)] ****
skipping: [192.168.56.103]
ok: [192.168.56.104]

TASK [install updates (Ubuntu)] ****
skipping: [192.168.56.104]
ok: [192.168.56.103]

PLAY [web_servers] ****
TASK [Gathering Facts] ****
ok: [192.168.56.103]
ok: [192.168.56.104]
```

```
PLAY [db_servers] *****

TASK [Gathering Facts] *****
ok: [192.168.56.103]
ok: [192.168.56.104]

TASK [install mariadb package (CentOS)] *****
skipping: [192.168.56.103]
ok: [192.168.56.104]

TASK [install mariadb package (Ubuntu)] *****
skipping: [192.168.56.104]
ok: [192.168.56.103]

PLAY [file_servers] *****

TASK [Gathering Facts] *****
ok: [192.168.56.103]

PLAY RECAP *****
192.168.56.103      : ok=6    changed=0    unreachable=0    failed=0    skipped=2    rescued=0    ignored=0
192.168.56.104      : ok=5    changed=0    unreachable=0    failed=0    skipped=2    rescued=0    ignored=0
```

Only executed database installation tasks.

2.4 `ansible-playbook --tags apache --ask-become-pass site.yml`

```
cidee@workstation:~/CPE212_elcid$ ansible-playbook --tags apache --ask-become-pass site.yml
BECOME password:

PLAY [all] ****
TASK [Gathering Facts] ****
[WARNING]: Platform linux on host 192.168.56.103 is using the discovered Python
interpreter at /usr/bin/python3.13, but future installation of another Python
interpreter could change the meaning of that path. See
https://docs.ansible.com/ansible-core/2.18/reference\_appendices/interpreter\_discovery.html for more information.
ok: [192.168.56.103]
[WARNING]: Platform linux on host 192.168.56.104 is using the discovered Python
interpreter at /usr/bin/python3.9, but future installation of another Python
interpreter could change the meaning of that path. See
https://docs.ansible.com/ansible-core/2.18/reference\_appendices/interpreter\_discovery.html for more information.
ok: [192.168.56.104]

TASK [install updates (CentOS)] ****
skipping: [192.168.56.103]
ok: [192.168.56.104]

TASK [install updates (Ubuntu)] ****
skipping: [192.168.56.104]
ok: [192.168.56.103]

PLAY [web_servers] ****
TASK [Gathering Facts] ****
ok: [192.168.56.103]
ok: [192.168.56.104]
```

```
TASK [install apache and php for Ubuntu servers] ****
skipping: [192.168.56.104]
ok: [192.168.56.103]

TASK [install apache and php for CentOS servers] ****
skipping: [192.168.56.103]
ok: [192.168.56.104]

PLAY [db_servers] ****

TASK [Gathering Facts] ****
ok: [192.168.56.103]
ok: [192.168.56.104]

PLAY [file_servers] ****

TASK [Gathering Facts] ****
ok: [192.168.56.103]

PLAY RECAP ****
192.168.56.103      : ok=6    changed=0    unreachable=0    failed=0    skipped=2
=2      rescued=0   ignored=0
192.168.56.104      : ok=5    changed=0    unreachable=0    failed=0    skipped=2
=2      rescued=0   ignored=0
```

Only executed Apache + PHP installation tasks.

2.5 *ansible-playbook --tags “apache,db” --ask-become-pass site.yml*

```
cidee@workstation:~/CPE212_elcid$ ansible-playbook --tags "apache,db" --ask-become-pass site.yml
BECOME password:

PLAY [all] ****
TASK [Gathering Facts] ****
[WARNING]: Platform linux on host 192.168.56.103 is using the discovered Python interpreter at /usr/bin/python3.13, but future installation of another Python interpreter could change the meaning of that path. See https://docs.ansible.com/ansible-core/2.18/reference\_appendices/interpreter\_discovery.html for more information.
ok: [192.168.56.103]
[WARNING]: Platform linux on host 192.168.56.104 is using the discovered Python interpreter at /usr/bin/python3.9, but future installation of another Python interpreter could change the meaning of that path. See https://docs.ansible.com/ansible-core/2.18/reference\_appendices/interpreter\_discovery.html for more information.
ok: [192.168.56.104]

TASK [install updates (CentOS)] ****
skipping: [192.168.56.103]
ok: [192.168.56.104]

TASK [install updates (Ubuntu)] ****
skipping: [192.168.56.104]
ok: [192.168.56.103]

PLAY [web_servers] ****
TASK [Gathering Facts] ****
ok: [192.168.56.104]
ok: [192.168.56.103]
```

```

TASK [install apache and php for Ubuntu servers] ****
skipping: [192.168.56.104]
ok: [192.168.56.103]

TASK [install apache and php for CentOS servers] ****
skipping: [192.168.56.103]
ok: [192.168.56.104]

PLAY [db_servers] ****

TASK [Gathering Facts] ****
ok: [192.168.56.103]
ok: [192.168.56.104]

TASK [install mariadb package (CentOS)] ****
skipping: [192.168.56.103]
ok: [192.168.56.104]

TASK [install mariadb package (Ubuntu)] ****
skipping: [192.168.56.104]
ok: [192.168.56.103]

PLAY [file_servers] ****

TASK [Gathering Facts] ****
ok: [192.168.56.103]

PLAY RECAP ****
192.168.56.103 : ok=7    changed=0    unreachable=0    failed=0    skipped=3    rescued=0    ignored=0
192.168.56.104 : ok=6    changed=0    unreachable=0    failed=0    skipped=3    rescued=0    ignored=0

```

*Ran both Apache and MariaDB plays, skipped others.*

### Task 3: Managing Services

1. Edit the file site.yml and add a play that will automatically start the httpd on CentOS server.

```
- name: install apache and php for CentOS servers
tags: apache,centos,httpd
dnf:
  name:
    - httpd
    - php
  state: latest
when: ansible_distribution == "CentOS"

- name: start httpd (CentOS)
tags: apache, centos,httpd
service:
  name: httpd
  state: started
when: ansible_distribution == "CentOS"
```

Figure 3.1.1

Make sure to save the file and exit.

You would also notice from our previous activity that we already created a module that runs a service.

```
- hosts: db_servers
become: true
tasks:

- name: install mariadb package (CentOS)
tags: centos, db,mariadb
dnf:
  name: mariadb-server
  state: latest
when: ansible_distribution == "CentOS"

- name: "Mariadb- Restarting/Enabling"
service:
  name: mariadb
  state: restarted
  enabled: true
```

Figure 3.1.2

This is because in CentOS, installed packages' services are not run automatically. Thus, we need to create the module to run it automatically.

2. To test it, before you run the saved playbook, go to the CentOS server and stop the currently running httpd using the command ***sudo systemctl stop httpd***.

When prompted, enter the sudo password. After that, open the browser and enter the CentOS server's IP address. You should not be getting a display because we stopped the httpd service already.



## Unable to connect

An error occurred during a connection to 192.168.56.104.

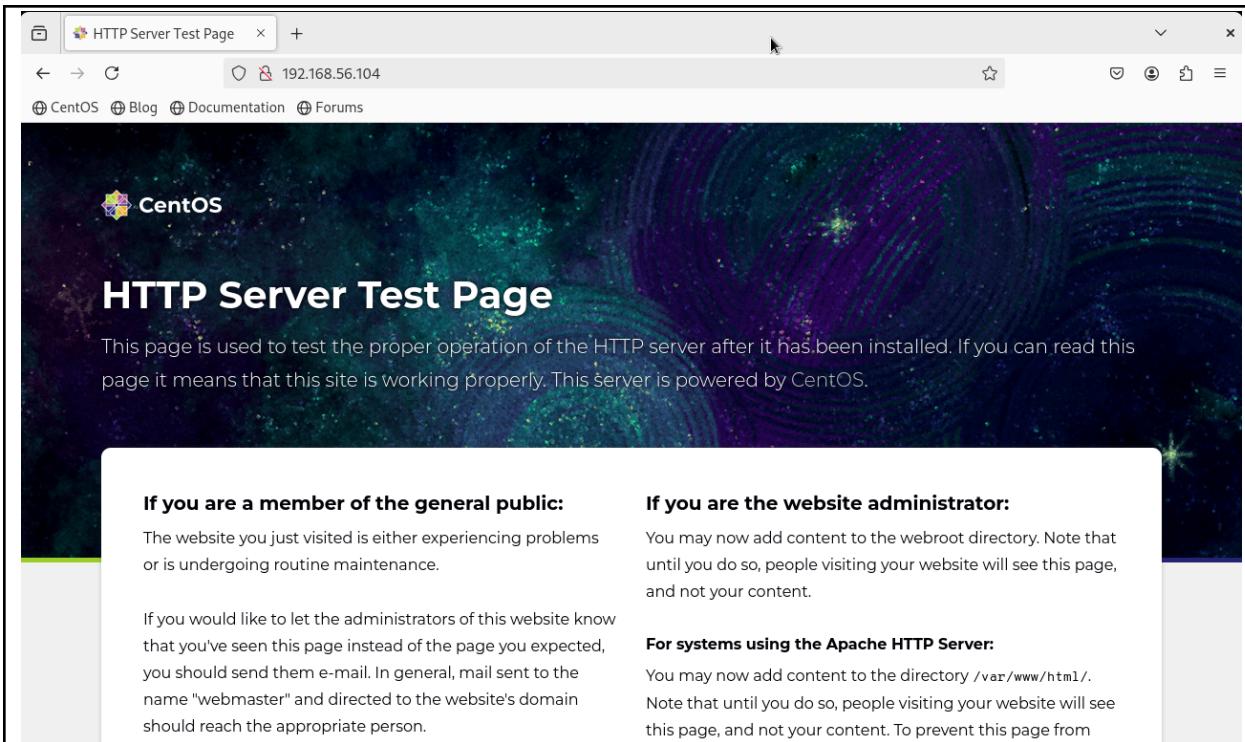
- The site could be temporarily unavailable or too busy. Try again in a few moments.
- If you are unable to load any pages, check your computer's network connection.
- If your computer or network is protected by a firewall or proxy, make sure that Firefox is permitted to access the web.

[Try Again](#)

After stopping httpd, the CentOS IP showed no page in the browser.

3. Go to the local machine and this time, run the `site.yml` file. Then after running the file, go again to the CentOS server and enter its IP address on the browser. Describe the result.

To automatically enable the service every time we run the playbook, use the command `enabled: true` similar to Figure 7.1.2 and save the playbook.



After re-running the playbook, httpd started again. The CentOS IP showed the Apache default page.

### Reflections:

Answer the following:

1. What is the importance of putting our remote servers into groups?  
It makes management easier since each group has a specific role, so we can target them properly.
2. What is the importance of tags in playbooks?  
Tags let us run only the parts of the playbook that we need, which saves time.
3. Why do think some services need to be managed automatically in playbooks?  
Because some services don't start after installation. Managing them automatically ensures they're always running.