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Manually generating your SSH key in Windows

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On Windows, you can create SSH keys in many ways. This document explains how to use two SSH applications, PuTTY and Git Bash.

Joyent recommends RSA keys because the node-manta CLI programs work with RSA keys both locally and with the ssh agent. DSA keys will work only if the private key is on the same system as the CLI, and not password-protected.

PuTTY

PuTTY is an SSH client for Windows. You can use PuTTY to generate SSH keys. PuTTY is a free open-source terminal emulator that functions much like the Terminal application in macOS in a Windows environment. This section shows you how to manually generate and upload an SSH key when working with PuTTY in the Windows environment.

About PuTTY

PuTTY is an SSH client for Windows that you will use to generate your SSH keys. You can download PuTTY from www.chiark.greenend.org.uk.

When you install the PuTTY client, you also install the PuTTYgen utility. PuTTYgen is what you will use to generate your SSH key for a Windows VM.

CloudAPI

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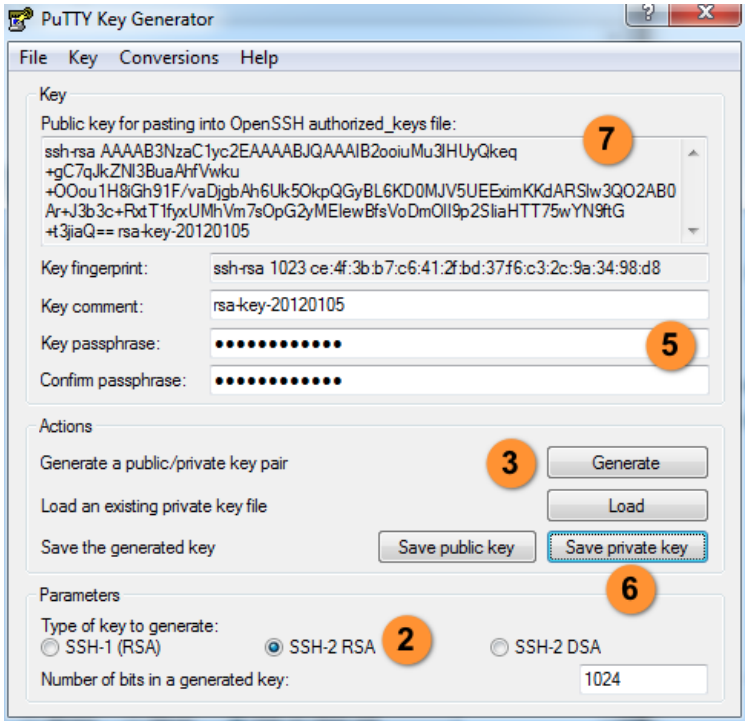
Questions & Feedback

This page gives you basic information about using PuTTY and PuTTYgen to log in to your provisioned machine. For more information on PuTTY, see the PuTTY documentation

Generating an SSH key

To generate an SSH key with PuTTYgen, follow these steps:

1. Open the PuTTYgen program.
2. For **Type of key to generate**, select **SSH-2 RSA**.
3. Click the **Generate** button.
4. Move your mouse in the area below the progress bar. When the progress bar is full, PuTTYgen generates your key pair.
5. Type a passphrase in the **Key passphrase** field. Type the same passphrase in the **Confirm passphrase** field. You can use a key without a passphrase, but this is not recommended.
6. Click the **Save private key** button to save the private key. ⚠ You **must** save the private key. You will need it to connect to your machine.
7. Right-click in the text field labeled **Public key for pasting into OpenSSH authorized_keys file** and choose **Select All**.
8. Right-click again in the same text field and choose **Copy**.



Importing your SSH key

Now you must import the copied SSH key to the portal.

1. After you copy the SSH key to the clipboard, return to your account page.
2. Choose to **Import Public Key** and paste your SSH key into the Public Key field.
3. In the **Key Name** field, provide a name for the key. **Note**: although providing a key name is optional, it is a best practice for ease of managing multiple SSH keys.
4. **Add** the key. It will now appear in your table of keys under SSH.

⚠ PuTTY and OpenSSH use different formats of public SSH keys. If the text you pasted in the **SSH Key** starts with `—— BEGIN SSH2 PUBLIC KEY`, it is in the wrong

format. Be sure to follow the instructions carefully. Your key should start with `ssh-rsa AAAA…`.

Once you upload your SSH key to the portal, you can connect to your virtual machine from Windows through a PuTTY session.

Git Bash

The Git installation package comes with SSH. Using Git Bash, which is the Git command line tool, you can generate SSH key pairs. Git Bash has an SSH client that enables you to connect to and interact with Triton containers on Windows.

To install Git:

1. (Download and initiate the Git installer](https://git-scm.com/download/win).
2. When prompted, accept the default components by clicking **Next**.
3. Choose the default text editor. If you have Notepad++ installed, select **Notepad++** and click **Next**.
4. Select to **Use Git from the Windows Command Prompt** and click **Next**.
5. Select to **Use OpenSSL library** and click **Next**.
6. Select to **Checkout Windows-style, commit Unix-style line endings** and click **Next**.
7. Select to **Use MinTTY (The default terminal of mYSYS2)** and click **Next**.
8. Accept the default extra option configuration by clicking **Install**.

When the installation completes, you may need to restart Windows.

Launching GitBash

To open Git Bash, we recommend launching the application from the Windows command prompt:

1. In Windows, press **Start+R** to launch the **Run** dialog.
2. Type `C:\Program Files\Git\bin\bash.exe` and press **Enter**.

Generating SSH keys

First, create the SSH directory and then generate the SSH key pair.

One assumption is that the Windows profile you are using is set up with administrative privileges. Given this, you will be creating the SSH directory at the root of your profile, for example:

```
C:\Users\joetest
```

1. At the Git Bash command line, change into your root directory and type.

```
mkdir .ssh
```

2. Change into the .ssh directory `C:\Users\joetest\.ssh`

3. To create the keys, type:

```
ssh-keygen.exe
```

4. When prompted for a password, type apassword to complete the process. When finished, the output looks similar to:

```
Ssh-keygen.exe
Generating public/private rsa key pair.
Enter file in which to save the key (/c/Us
Enter passphrase (empty for no passphrase)
Enter same passphrase again:
Your identification has been saved in /c/U
Your public key has been saved in /c/Users
The key fingerprint is:
SHA256:jieniOIn20935n0awtn04n002HqEIOnTIOn
The key's randomart image is:
```

```
 +---[RSA 2048]----+
 |*= =+.           |
 |O*=.B            |
 |+*o* +           |
 |o +o.  .         |
 | ooo  + S        |
 | .o.ooo* o       |
 |  .+o+*oo .      |
 |   .=+..         |
 |   Eo            |
 +----[SHA256]-----+

$ dir .ssh
id_rsa  id_rsa.pub
```

Uploading an SSH key

To upload the public SSH key to your Triton account:

1. Open Triton Service portal, select **Account** to open the **Account Summary** page.
2. From the **SSH** section, select **Import Public Key**.
3. Enter a **Key Name**. Although naming a key is optional, labels are a best practice for managing multiple SSH keys.
4. Add your public SSH key.

When Triton finishes the adding or uploading process, the public SSH key appears in the list of SSH keys.

What are my next steps?

- Adding SSH keys to agent.
- Set up the Triton CLI and CloudAPI on Windows.
- Set up the Triton CLI and CloudAPI.
- Create an instance in the Triton Service Portal.
- Set up the `triton-docker` command line tool.
- Visit PuTTYgen to learn more about the PuTTYgen and to see the complete installation and usage guide.