

Important Ansible Playbook Modules



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Ansible is an open-source automation tool

Ansible automates tasks and commands to manage multiple nodes (servers, PCs)

commands, tasks, codes turn into the **infrastructure as code (IaC)**

savable, versionable, repeatable and testable codes with IaC

agentless: on the worker node, any agent app is not required to run

documentation: <https://docs.ansible.com>



two types of nodes (servers)

1. control node (master)

2. worker nodes

control node communicates

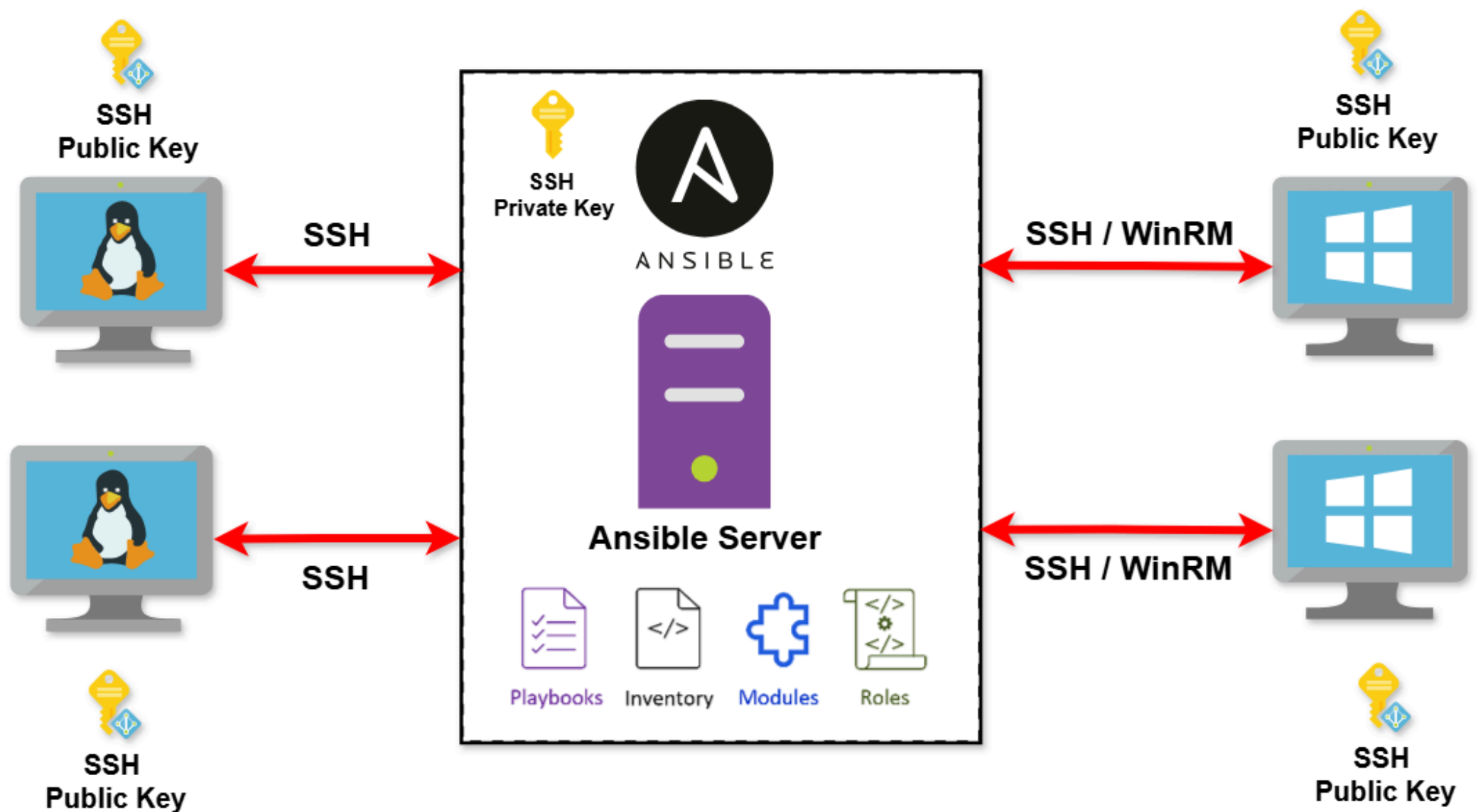
with remote nodes

via SSH (for Linux and Windows)

or WinRM (for Windows)



SSH keys can be used
SSH private key on control node
SSH public key on worker nodes



install Ansible

Ansible installed on a control node

the control node manages target
machines via SSH
without requiring any agents
on the worker nodes

```
user@ansible:$ sudo apt update && sudo apt install ansible -y
```

```
# On Debian/Ubuntu
```

```
[user@ansible ~]:# sudo yum install ansible -y
```

```
# On CentOS/RHEL
```



configuration (ansible.cfg)

defining global settings
like inventory location,
SSH connection details,
and plugin paths

ansible.cfg

[defaults]

inventory = ./inventory	# inventory file path
private_key_file = ~/.ssh/id_rsa	# private SSH key path
remote_user = ubuntu	# defines the default SSH user
host_key_checking = False	# SSH host key verification required?
retry_files_enabled = False	# retry files are disabled
log_path = /var/log/ansible.log	# to save logs of Ansible runs



inventory

an inventory file lists target
hosts with IP or DNS name
and their grouping for Ansible operations

```
inventories/inventory
```

```
[webservers]
```

```
web1 ansible_ssh_host=192.168.1.10 ansible_user=ubuntu
```

```
web2 ansible_ssh_host=192.168.1.11 ansible_user=ubuntu
```

```
[databases]
```

```
db1 ansible_ssh_host=192.168.1.20 ansible_user=root
```



playbook

a YAML file defining tasks, roles, or workflows
for managing hosts

playbooks are declarative and describe the
desired state of systems



playbook (yaml file)

deploy.yml

```
- name: Install and start Apache
hosts: webserver # select on which group of servers to run (inventory)
become: yes      # run tasks with elevated privileges (sudo)
tasks:
  - name: Install Apache
    apt:      # apt module
      name: apache2
      state: present # apt module parameter (to install)
  - name: Ensure Apache is running
    service:
      name: apache2
      state: started
```



playbook modules

many playbook listed in
Ansible documents

all modules:

[https://docs.ansible.com/ansible/2.8/
modules/modules_by_category.html](https://docs.ansible.com/ansible/2.8/modules/modules_by_category.html)



apt (debian-based)

installing a package, apt

```
! modules.yml
```

```
- name: install Apache
  apt:
    name: apache2
    state: present
    become: yes
```



yum (redhat-based)

installing a package, apt

```
! modules.yml
```

```
- name: install nginx
  yum:
    name: nginx
    state: present
  become: yes
```



file
(directory)

create a directory

! modules.yml

- name: create a directory

file:

path: /tmp/example_dir

state: directory

mode: '0755'

owner: root

group: root



file

create a file

! modules.yml

- name: create an empty file

file:

path: /tmp/example_file.txt

state: file

mode: '0644'

owner: root

group: root



lineinfile

modify a configuration file, add 1 line

```
! modules.yml
```

```
- name: ensure a line exists in a config file
```

```
  lineinfile:
```

```
    path: /etc/sysctl.conf
```

```
    line: "net.ipv4.ip_forward = 1"
```



copy

copy file to remote

! modules.yml

- name: copy configuration file

copy:

src: /path/to/source.conf

dest: /etc/app/config.conf

mode: '0644'



service

start and enable a service

```
! modules.yml
```

```
- name: ensure Apache is running and enabled
```

```
  service:
```

```
    name: apache2
```

```
    state: started
```

```
    enabled: true
```



shell

run a shell command

! modules.yml

```
- name: run a shell command  
  shell: "echo 'Hello World' > /tmp/hello.txt"
```



user

create a new user

! modules.yml

- name: create a user

user:

name: john

state: present

groups: sudo



cron

add a cron job

```
! modules.yml
```

```
- name: add a cron job
```

```
  cron:
```

```
    name: "backup database"
```

```
    minute: "0"
```

```
    hour: "2"
```

```
    job: "/usr/local/bin/backup.sh"
```



fetch

retrieve a log file

! modules.yml

- name: fetch log file from remote server

fetch:

src: /var/log/app.log

dest: /local/logs/

flat: yes



git

git clone

! modules.yml

- name: clone Git repository

git:

repo: https://github.com/example/repo.git

dest: /opt/repo

version: master



ping

test connection, ping

! modules.yml

- name: ping the target node
ping:



unarchive

extract a tarball, unarchive

```
! modules.yml
```

```
- name: extract tarball
```

```
  unarchive:
```

```
    src: /tmp/file.tar.gz
```

```
    dest: /opt/app
```

```
    remote_src: yes
```



reboot

reboot the system

```
! modules.yml
```

```
- name: reboot the server  
  reboot:  
    reboot_timeout: 300
```



mount

mount a disk

```
! modules.yml
```

```
- name: mount /dev/sdb1 to /mnt
```

```
  mount:
```

```
    path: /mnt
```

```
    src: /dev/sdb1
```

```
    fstype: ext4
```

```
    state: mounted
```



firewalld

open a port

! modules.yml

- name: open port 80

firewalld:

port: 80/tcp

permanent: true

state: enabled

become: true



package

generic module to manage packages

```
! modules.yml
```

```
- name: install curl  
  package:  
    name: curl  
    state: present
```



group

manage groups

! modules.yml

```
- name: create a group
  group:
    name: ansible_group
    state: present
```



command

run a command on the remote host

! modules.yml

```
- name: list directory contents  
  command: ls -l /tmp
```



stat, debug

get file or directory properties
and get output to debug

```
! modules.yml
```

- name: check if a file exists

stat:

path: /etc/myapp/config.conf

register: file_info

- name: print the entire registered variable

debug:

var: file_info



user@ansible:\$ #####

Follow for Tips on AWS, K8s, Docker,
Linux, Terraform, DevOps
Why? Cause; More will unfold over time



<https://linkedin.com/in/omerberatsezer>

<https://github.com/omerbsezer>

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to help more people see it

user@ansible:\$ #####

