What are we going to see in this session?

- Variables
- Defining variables inside playbook [vars]
- Defining variables from command line [Extra-vars]
- Defining variables at run time [vars_prompt]
- Defining variables in external file [vars_files]

Variables

- Variable in playbooks are very similar to using variables in any programming language.

- It helps you to use and assign a value to a variable and use that anywhere in the playbook.

- Also one can put condition around the value of variable and accordingly use them in the playbook.

- In playbook we can give a variable in ['variable_name: variable_value'] format.

- We can use [variable_name] inside single braces['---'], double braces["---"] and also with equal(=) notation anywhere in playbook

- Module used for declaring variables inside your playbook is "vars"

Defining variables inside playbook [vars]

- Defining variables in playbook [General-Method]
  - GitHub_Code [Ansible/Code/E9_variables/0_vars.yml]

- Defining variables in playbook [Array-Method]
  - GitHub_Code [Ansible/Code/E9_variables/1_vars.yml]
  - GitHub_Code [Ansible/Code/E9_variables/2_vars.yml]

- Defining variable in playbook [Dictionary Method]
  - GitHub_Code [Ansible/Code/E9_variables/3_vars.yml]
  - GitHub_Code [Ansible/Code/E9_variables/4_vars.yml]

Extra-vars

- It is possible to set variables at the command line using the extra-vars (-e) argument.
- Variables can be defined inside quotes (containing one or more variables)
- **Execution :** ansible-playbook e_vars.yml --extra-vars="package=httpd service=httpd"
- GitHub_Code [Ansible/Code/E9_variables/5_vars.yml]

vars_prompt

- When running a playbook, you may wish to prompt the user for certain input, and can do so with the [vars_prompt] section.

- A common use for this might be for asking for sensitive data that you do not want to record.

- The user input is hidden by default but it can be made visible by setting private: no.

- GitHub_Code [Ansible/Code/E9_variables/6_vars.yml]

Defining variables in file

- It's a great idea to keep your playbooks under source control, but you may wish to make the playbook source public while keeping certain important variables private.

- Similarly, sometimes you may just want to keep certain information in different files, away from the main playbook.

- You can do this by using an external variables file, or files, just like this:

- This removes the risk of sharing sensitive data with others when sharing your playbook source with them.

- The contents of each variables file is a simple YAML dictionary, like below (below file is saved as vars.yml)

- We can use "vars_files" module to call this files.

vars_files

- Creating a file called vars.yml under ansible directory.
- Setting up variables Package & Services

GitHub_Code [Ansible/Code/E9_variables/7_vars.yml]

GitHub_Code [Ansible/Code/E9_variables/vars.yml]

End of this topic !

Any questions?