

Error: Agent admitted failure to sign

In rare circumstances, connecting to GitHub Enterprise Server via SSH on Linux produces the error "Agent admitted failure to sign using the key". Follow these steps to resolve the problem.

When trying to SSH into your GitHub Enterprise Server instance on a Linux computer, you may see the following message in your terminal:

```
$ ssh -vT git@HOSTNAME
> ...
> Agent admitted failure to sign using the key.
> debug1: No more authentication methods to try.
> Permission denied (publickey).
```

For more details, see [this issue report](#) on Canonical Launchpad.

Resolution [↗](#)

You should be able to fix this error by loading your keys into your SSH agent with `ssh-add`:

```
# start the ssh-agent in the background
$ eval "$(ssh-agent -s)"
> Agent pid 59566
$ ssh-add
> Enter passphrase for /home/YOU/.ssh/id_rsa: [tippy tap]
> Identity added: /home/YOU/.ssh/id_rsa (/home/YOU/.ssh/id_rsa)
```

If your key does not have the default filename (`/.ssh/id_rsa`), you'll have to pass that path to `ssh-add`:

```
# start the ssh-agent in the background
$ eval "$(ssh-agent -s)"
> Agent pid 59566
$ ssh-add ~/.ssh/my_other_key
> Enter passphrase for /home/YOU/.ssh/my_other_key: [tappity tap tap]
> Identity added: /home/YOU/.ssh/my_other_key (/home/YOU/.ssh/my_other_key)
```

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