Ansible Ref

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Some common words related to Ansible.

Service/Server − A process on the machine that provides the service.

Machine − A physical server, VM (virtual machine), or a container.

Target machine − A machine we are about to configure with Ansible.

Task − An action (run this, delete that), etc. managed by Ansible.

Playbook − The YML file where Ansible commands are written and YML is executed on a machine.

Ansible.cfg – ansible configuration file

Inventory File – a file that contains all the remote ansible nodes

Ansible - Ad hoc Commands

Ad hoc commands are commands which can be run individually to perform quick functions. These commands need not be performed later

Running AD HOC Commands With Ansible

• An ad hoc command is a way of executing a single Ansible task quickly. They are simple, online operations that can be run without writing a playbook.

• Ad hoc commands are useful for quick tests and changes. For example, one can use an ad hoc command to make sure that a certain line exists in the /etc/hosts file on a group of servers. One could use another ad hoc command to efficiently restart a service on many different machines, or to ensure that a particular software package is up-to-date.

• Use the ansible command to run ad hoc commands:
ansible host-pattern -m module [-a 'module arguments'] [-i invent

Ansible Playbooks

- Ad hoc commands can run a single, simple task against a set of targeted hosts as a one-time command.
- A play is an ordered set of tasks run against hosts selected from your inventory.
- A playbook is a text file that contains a list of one or more plays to run in order.
- Playbooks are one of the core features of Ansible and tell Ansible what to execute.
- Ansible Playbooks offer a repeatable, re-usable, simple configuration management and multi-machine deployment system, one that is well suited to deploying complex applications.

1) write code yaml
2) build model . 100
3) stop — dev — dev_inv . txt
4) up test 200 test_inventory .300
prod

Ansible Playbooks

- If user needs to execute a task with Ansible more than once, write a playbook and put it under source control. Then user can use the playbook to push out new configuration or confirm the configuration of remote systems