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Ansible Summary

Patterns

- all (or *)
- hostname: foo.example.com
- groupname: webservers
- or: webservers:dbserver
- exclude: webserver:!phoenix
- intersection: webservers:&staging

```
: {{foo}}, wildcards: *.example.com,  
~(web|db).*\.\example\.com
```

Inventory files

'INI-file' structure, blocks define groups. Hosts allowed in more than one group. Non-standard SSH port can follow hostname separated by ':' (but see also `ansible_ssh_port` below).

Hostname ranges: `www[01:50].example.com`, `db-[a:f].example.com`

Per-host variables: `foo.example.com foo=bar baz=wibble`

Special sections:

- `[foo:children]`: new group foo containing all members if included groups
- `[foo:vars]`: variable definitions for all members of group foo

Variable files:

YAML; given inventory file at `.../hosts`:

- `...group_vars/foo`: variable definitions for all members of group foo
- `...host_vars/foo.example.com`: variable definitions for `foo.example.com`

Behavioral inventory parameters:

- `ansible_ssh_host`
- `ansible_ssh_port`
- `ansible_ssh_user`
- `ansible_ssh_pass`
- `ansible_sudo_pass`
- `ansible_connection`
- `ansible_ssh_private_key_file`

- ansible_python_interpreter
- ansible_*_interpreter

Playbook example structure

Playbooks are a YAML list of one or more plays. Plays look like this - most (all?) keys are optional:

```
---
- include: playbook.yml
- name: example
  hosts: webservers
  gather_facts: no
  vars:
    http_port: 80
  vars_file:
    - "vars.yml"
    - [ "try-first.yml", "try-second-.yml" ]
  vars_prompt:
    - name: "my_password2"
      prompt: "Enter password2"
      default: "secret"
      private: yes
      encrypt: "md5_crypt"
      confirm: yes
      salt_size: 7
  remote_user: root
  sudo: yes
  sudo_user: postgres
  pre_tasks:
    - shell: echo 'pre'
    - <more tasks>
  roles:
    - common
    - { role: foo, dir: '/opt/a', port: 5000, when: "bar == 'Baz'" }
    - <more roles>
  tasks:
    - include: tasks.yml foo=bar baz=wibble
    - include: other-tasks.yml
    - name: example task
      vars:
        foo: bar
        baz:
          - one
          - two
      template: src=template.j2 dest=/etc/foo.conf
      when: ansible_os_family == "Debian"
      register: var
      notify:
```

```
      - restart apache
  remote_user: apache
  sudo: yes
  ignore_errors: True
  - <more tasks>
post_tasks:
  - shell: echo 'post'
  - <more tasks>
handlers:
  - include: handlers.yml
  - name: restart apache
    service: name=httpd state=restarted
  - <more handlers>
- <more plays>
```

Modules

List all installed modules with

```
ansible-doc --list
```

Document a particular module with

```
ansible-doc <module>
```

Show playbook snippet for specified module

```
ansible-doc -i <module>
```

Variables

Names: letters, digits, underscores; starting with a letter.

Substitution examples:

- {{ var }}
- {{ var["key1"]["key2"] }}
- {{ var.key1.key2 }}
- {{ list[0] }}

Souces:

- Highest priority:
 - --extra-vars on the command line
- General:
 - vars component of a playbook
 - From files referenced by vars_file in a playbook
 - From included files (incl. roles)
 - Parameters passed to includes
 - Facts (see below)
 - Any /etc/ansible/facts.d/filename.fact on managed machines (sets variables with `ansible_local.filename.prefix`)
 - register: in tasks
- Lower priority:
 - Inventory (set on host or group)
- Lowest priority
 - Role defaults (from defaults/main.yml)

Built-in:

- hostvars (e.g. hostvars[other.example.com][...])
- group_names (groups containing current host)
- groups (all groups and hosts in the inventory)
- inventory_hostname (current host as in inventory)
- inventory_hostname_short (first component of inventory_hostname)
- play_hosts (hostnames in scope for current play)
- inventory_dir (location of the inventory)
- inventory_file (name of the inventory)

Facts:

Run `ansible hostname -m setup`, but in particular:

- ansible_distribution
- ansible_distribution_release
- ansible_distribution_version
- ansible_fqdn
- ansible_hostname
- ansible_os_family
- ansible_pkg_mgr
- ansible_default_ipv4.address
- ansible_default_ipv6.address

Content of 'registered' variables:

- .rc
- .stdout

- .stdout_lines
- .changed
- .msg
- .results (when used in a loop)

Additionally available in templates:

- ansible_managed: string containing the information below
- template_host: node name of the templateâx128x153s machine
- template_uid: the owner
- template_path: absolute path of the template
- template_fullpath: the absolute path of the template
- template_run_date: the date that the template was rendered

Filters

- {{ var | to_nice_json }}
- {{ var | to_json }}
- {{ var | from_json }}
- {{ var | to_nice_yml }}
- {{ var | to_yml }}
- {{ var | from_yml }}
- {{ result | failed }}
- {{ result | changed }}
- {{ result | success }}
- {{ result | skipped }}
- {{ var | mandatory }}
- {{ var | default(5) }}
- {{ list1 | unique }}
- {{ list1 | union(list2) }}
- {{ list1 | intersect(list2) }}
- {{ list1 | difference(list2) }}
- {{ list1 | symmetric_difference(list2) }}
- {{ path | basename }}
- {{ path | dirname }}
- {{ path | expanduser }}
- {{ path | realpath }}
- {{ var | b64decode }}
- {{ var | b64encode }}
- {{ filename | md5 }}
- {{ var | bool }}
- {{ var | int }}
- {{ var | quote }}
- {{ var | md5 }}
- {{ var | fileglob }}
- {{ var | match }}
- {{ var | search }}
- {{ var | regex }}

See also [default jinja2 filters](#). In YAML, values starting { must be quoted.

Lookups

- {{ lookup('file', '/etc/foo.txt') }}
- {{ lookup('password', '/tmp/passwordfile chars=ascii') }}
- {{ lookup('env','HOME') }}
- {{ lookup('pipe','date') }}
- {{ lookup('redis_kv', 'redis://localhost:6379,somekey') }}
- {{ lookup('dnstxt', 'example.com') }}
- {{ lookup('template', './some_template.j2') }}

Conditions

when:

- var == "Value", var >= 5, etc.
- var, where var coreces to boolean (yes, true, True, TRUE)
- var is defined, var is not defined
- <condition1> and <condition2> (also or?)

Combined with `with_items`, the when statement is processed for each item. when can also be applied to includes and roles.

Loops

Standard:

```
- user: name={{ item }} state=present groups=wheel
  with_items:
    - testuser1
    - testuser2
  with_items:
    - { name: 'testuser1', groups: 'wheel' }
    - { name: 'testuser2', groups: 'root' }

  with_items: somelist
```

Nested:

```
- mysql_user: name={{ item[0] }} priv={{ item[1] }}.*:ALL
  append_privs=yes password=foo
  with_nested:
```

```
- [ 'alice', 'bob', 'eve' ]
- [ 'clientdb', 'employeedb', 'providerdb' ]
```

Over hashes:

Given

```
---
users:
  alice:
    name: Alice Appleworth
    telephone: 123-456-7890
  bob:
    name: Bob Bananarama
    telephone: 987-654-3210
tasks:
  - name: Print phone records
    debug: msg="User {{ item.key }} is {{ item.value.name }}  

           ({{ item.value.telephone }})"
    with_dict: users
```

Fileglob:

```
- copy: src={{ item }} dest=/etc/fooapp/ owner=root mode=600
  with_fileglob:
    - /playbooks/files/fooapp/*
```

With content of file:

(see example for authorized_key module)

```
- authorized_key: user=deploy key="{{ item }}"
  with_file:
    - public_keys/doe-jane
    - public_keys/doe-john
```

Parallel states of data:

Given

```
---
alpha: [ 'a', 'b', 'c', 'd' ]
numbers: [ 1, 2, 3, 4 ]
```

```
- debug: msg="{{ item.0 }} and {{ item.1 }}"
  with_together:
    - alpha
    - numbers
```

Subelements:

Given

```
---
users:
  - name: alice
    authorized:
      - /tmp/alice/onekey.pub
      - /tmp/alice/twokey.pub
  - name: bob
    authorized:
      - /tmp/bob/id_rsa.pub

- authorized_key: "user={{ item.0.name }}
                      key='{{ lookup('file', item.1) }}'"
  with_subelements:
    - users
    - authorized
```

Integer sequence:

Decimal, hexadecimal (0x3f8) or octal (0600)

```
- user: name={{ item }} state=present groups=evens
  with_sequence: start=0 end=32 format=testuser%02x
  with_sequence: start=4 end=16 stride=2
  with_sequence: count=4
```

Random choice:

```
- debug: msg={{ item }}
  with_random_choice:
    - "go through the door"
    - "drink from the goblet"
    - "press the red button"
    - "do nothing"
```

Do-Until:

```
- action: shell /usr/bin/foo
  register: result
  until: result.stdout.find("all systems go") != -1
  retries: 5
  delay: 10
```

Results of a local program:

```
- name: Example of looping over a command result
  shell: /usr/bin/frobnicate {{ item }}
  with_lines: /usr/bin/frobnicate_per_host
    --param {{ inventory_hostname }}
```

Indexed list:

```
- name: indexed loop demo
  debug: msg="at array position {{ item.0 }} there is
          a value {{ item.1 }}"
  with_indexed_items: some_list
```

Flattened list:

```
---
# file: roles/foo/vars/main.yml
packages_base:
  - [ 'foo-package', 'bar-package' ]
packages_apps:
  - [ ['one-package', 'two-package'] ]
  - [ ['red-package'], ['blue-package'] ]
- name: flattened loop demo
  yum: name={{ item }} state=installed
  with_flattened:
    - packages_base
    - packages_apps
```

First found:

```
- name: template a file
  template: src={{ item }} dest=/etc/myapp/foo.conf
  with_first_found:
    - files:
        - {{ ansible_distribution }}.conf
```

```

    - default.conf
paths:
    - search_location_one/somedir/
    - /opt/other_location/somedir/

```

Roles

Directory structure:

```

playbook.yml
roles/
  common/
    tasks/
      main.yml
    handlers/
      main.yml
    vars/
      main.yml
  meta/
    main.yml
  defaults/
    main.yml
  files/
  templates/

```

See documentation for role dependancies.

Tags

Both plays and tasks support a `tags` attribute.

```

- template: src=templates/src.j2 dest=/etc/foo.conf
  tags:
    - configuration

```

Tags can be applied to roles and includes (effectivly taggaing all included tasks)

```

roles:
  - { role: webserver, port: 5000, tags: [ 'web', 'foo' ] }

- include: foo.yml tags=web,foo

```

To select by tag:

```
ansible-playbook example.yml --tags "configuration,packages"
ansible-playbook example.yml --skip-tags "notification"
```

Command lines

ansible

```
Usage: ansible <host-pattern> [options]
```

Options:

```
-a MODULE_ARGS, --args=MODULE_ARGS
                           module arguments
-k, --ask-pass          ask for SSH password
--ask-su-pass           ask for su password
-K, --ask-sudo-pass     ask for sudo password
--ask-vault-pass        ask for vault password
-B SECONDS, --background=SECONDS
                           run asynchronously, failing after X seconds
                           (default=N/A)
-C, --check              don't make any changes; instead, try to predict some
                           of the changes that may occur
-c CONNECTION, --connection=CONNECTION
                           connection type to use (default=smart)
-f FORKS, --forks=FORKS
                           specify number of parallel processes to use
                           (default=5)
-h, --help                show this help message and exit
-i INVENTORY, --inventory-file=INVENTORY
                           specify inventory host file
                           (default=/etc/ansible/hosts)
-l SUBSET, --limit=SUBSET
                           further limit selected hosts to an additional
pattern
--list-hosts             outputs a list of matching hosts; does not execute
                           anything else
-m MODULE_NAME, --module-name=MODULE_NAME
                           module name to execute (default=command)
-M MODULE_PATH, --module-path=MODULE_PATH
                           specify path(s) to module library
                           (default=/usr/share/ansible)
-o, --one-line            condense output
-P POLL_INTERVAL, --poll=POLL_INTERVAL
                           set the poll interval if using -B (default=15)
--private-key=PRIVATE_KEY_FILE
                           use this file to authenticate the connection
-S, --su                  run operations with su
-R SU_USER, --su-user=SU_USER
```

```

run operations with su as this user (default=root)
-s, --sudo          run operations with sudo (nopasswd)
-U SUDO_USER, --sudo-user=SUDO_USER      desired sudo user (default=root)
-T TIMEOUT, --timeout=TIMEOUT           override the SSH timeout in seconds (default=10)
-t TREE, --tree=TREE    log output to this directory
-u REMOTE_USER, --user=REMOTE_USER      connect as this user (default=jw35)
--vault-password-file=VAULT_PASSWORD_FILE      vault password file
-v, --verbose        verbose mode (-vvv for more, -vvvv to enable
                     connection debugging)
--version           show program's version number and exit

```

ansible-playbook

Usage: ansible-playbook playbook.yml

Options:

```

-k, --ask-pass      ask for SSH password
--ask-su-pass      ask for su password
-K, --ask-sudo-pass      ask for sudo password
--ask-vault-pass      ask for vault password
-C, --check         don't make any changes; instead, try to predict some
                     of the changes that may occur
-c CONNECTION, --connection=CONNECTION      connection type to use (default=smart)
-D, --diff          when changing (small) files and templates, show the
                     differences in those files; works great with --check
-e EXTRA_VARS, --extra-vars=EXTRA_VARS      set additional variables as key=value or YAML/JSON
-f FORKS, --forks=FORKS          specify number of parallel processes to use
                     (default=5)
-h, --help           show this help message and exit
-i INVENTORY, --inventory-file=INVENTORY      specify inventory host file
                     (default=/etc/ansible/hosts)
-l SUBSET, --limit=SUBSET      further limit selected hosts to an additional
pattern
--list-hosts         outputs a list of matching hosts; does not execute
                     anything else
--list-tasks         list all tasks that would be executed
-M MODULE_PATH, --module-path=MODULE_PATH      specify path(s) to module library
                     (default=/usr/share/ansible)
--private-key=PRIVATE_KEY_FILE

```

```

use this file to authenticate the connection
--skip-tags=SKIP_TAGS
only run plays and tasks whose tags do not match
these
values
--start-at-task=START_AT
start the playbook at the task matching this name
--step
one-step-at-a-time: confirm each task before running
-S, --su
run operations with su
-R SU_USER, --su-user=SU_USER
run operations with su as this user (default=root)
-s, --sudo
run operations with sudo (nopasswd)
-U SUDO_USER, --sudo-user=SUDO_USER
desired sudo user (default=root)
--syntax-check
perform a syntax check on the playbook, but do not
execute it
-t TAGS, --tags=TAGS only run plays and tasks tagged with these values
-T TIMEOUT, --timeout=TIMEOUT
override the SSH timeout in seconds (default=10)
-u REMOTE_USER, --user=REMOTE_USER
connect as this user (default=jw35)
--vault-password-file=VAULT_PASSWORD_FILE
vault password file
-v, --verbose
verbose mode (-vv for more, -vvvv to enable
connection debugging)
--version
show program's version number and exit

```

ansible-vault

```
Usage: ansible-vault [create|decrypt|edit|encrypt|rekey] [--help] [options]
file_name
```

Options:

```
-h, --help show this help message and exit
```

```
See 'ansible-vault <command> --help' for more information on a specific
command.
```

ansible-doc

```
Usage: ansible-doc [options] [module...]
```

Show Ansible module documentation

Options:

```
--version
show program's version number and exit
-h, --help
show this help message and exit
-M MODULE_PATH, --module-path=MODULE_PATH
```

Ansible modules/ directory	
-l, --list	List available modules
-s, --snippet	Show playbook snippet for specified module(s)
-v	Show version number and exit

ansible-galaxy

```
Usage: ansible-galaxy [init|info|install|list|remove] [--help] [options] ...
```

Options:

```
-h, --help show this help message and exit
```

```
See 'ansible-galaxy <command> --help' for more information on a specific command
```

ansible-pull

```
Usage: ansible-pull [options] [playbook.yml]
```

```
ansible-pull: error: URL for repository not specified, use -h for help
```

- <https://gist.github.com/klen/ff85fe443735afb2410d>

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