

Red Hat Ansible Automation

Scale IT automation, manage complex deployments, and speed productivity

“Our automated processes are enabled in Ansible Tower. Now, even individuals who don’t have knowledge about a different operating system or network device are enabled to manage and fix things that are completely outside of their comfort zone. They don’t have to enter things manually or follow a guide. It’s already written and automated for them.”

Lead architect
Managed service provider

Product overview

Red Hat® Ansible® Automation, is a powerful tool for the orchestration of enterprise environments. Ansible Automation manages the Ansible technology used by thousands of organizations globally to help them automate IT tasks such as configuration management, provisioning, workflow orchestration, application deployment, and life-cycle management.

One of Ansible’s hallmarks is its low barrier to entry. Ansible is agentless, meaning that no changes to your servers or network equipment are necessary to start using it. It is simple enough that you can install it and get started within minutes. When you are ready, Red Hat Ansible Tower adds to the simplicity of Ansible with improved security, scale, and scope.

Ansible allows you to use workflows to streamline jobs, and it provides simple tools for sharing solutions with your team. You can centralize and control your IT infrastructure with a visual dashboard, role-based access control (RBAC), job scheduling, integrated notifications, and graphical inventory management. Additionally, it is easy to embed Ansible Tower into existing tools and processes via its RESTful application programming interface (API).

Scale with confidence

Red Hat Ansible Tower features automation, scheduling, and clustering that helps organizations scale more securely without adding staff or expensive appliances.

- **Manage multiple environments.** Simultaneously manage multiple geographically (or otherwise) diverse environments from the Ansible Tower dashboard. One person can manage multiple systems or deploy applications to various environments.
- **Maintain security and permissions.** Red Hat Ansible Tower’s RBAC creates necessary separation and isolation of users and resources. The operations team and a team of developers working on a subset of services can both safely use Ansible Tower to work only on the systems in the environments to which they have access.
- **Empower teams.** Red Hat Ansible Tower gives disparate teams a centralized environment for automation. Groups can share the playbooks and workflows among numerous teams, all while maintaining a clear separation as they share institutional knowledge about application deployments and infrastructure management across an organization.

Ansible Tower scales operations to meet the needs of administrators, developers, network engineers, and other IT teams, as well as line of business teams.



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¹Forrester, “The Total Economic Impact of Red Hat Ansible Tower.” June 2018.

Orchestration of enterprise environments

It is rare that one vendor can keep up with an organization's needs, let alone provide all the best infrastructure and systems. Red Hat Ansible Tower is a single tool to manage multivendor environments, multicloud, hybrid clouds, and more. It can orchestrate the following:

- Operating systems: Red Hat Enterprise Linux®, Windows, Ubuntu, and more.
- Servers: HP, Dell, Cisco, and more.
- Cloud: Amazon Web Services, Microsoft Azure, Google Cloud Platform, DigitalOcean, CloudStack, OpenStack®, Rackspace, Packet, and more.
- Infrastructure: Red Hat OpenShift®, VMware, NetApp, Kubernetes, Jenkins, JBoss®, Docker, and more.
- Networks: Arista, Cisco, Juniper, F5, Palo Alto, and more.

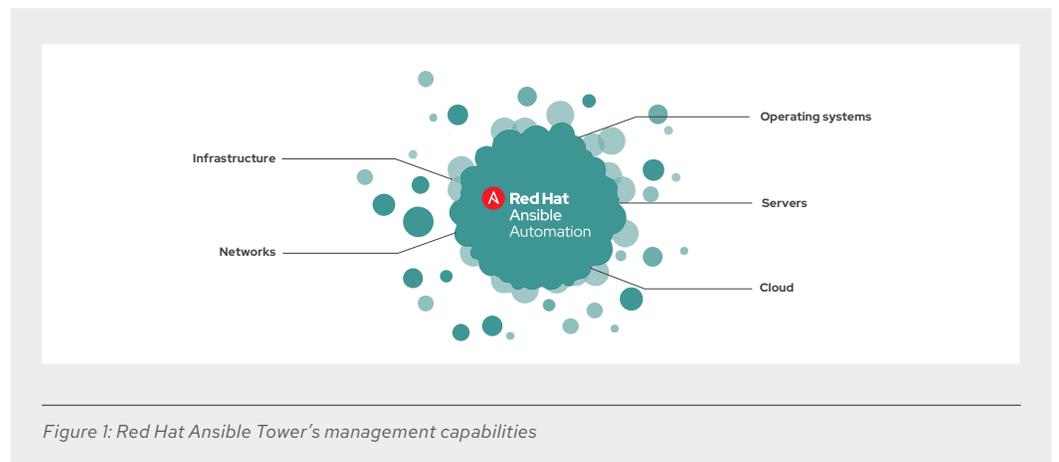


Figure 1: Red Hat Ansible Tower's management capabilities

Application management and deployment is a complex process that can have enormous impact on day-to-day operations. Red Hat Ansible Automation can help with management of the entire life cycle, including the following:

- Code deployments.
- Build automation.
- Artifact management.
- Certificate management.
- Service restarts.
- Decommissioning resources.

Using a workflow that can touch multiple facets of environments and beyond can enable unfamiliar staff to safely make changes without involving engineers from various disciplines. Red Hat Ansible Tower connects the tools and processes each team prefers to use into a coherent, orchestrated process with security.

Window into your infrastructure

Empowering staff to consume resources on demand speeds development and significantly lightens the load on infrastructure and operations. With Red Hat Ansible Automation, you can build a customized set of self-service capabilities to enable developers to self-fulfill authorized responsibilities.

Ansible Automation gives you the ability to codify your organizational processes and convert them into automated and governed workflows, helping you better manage your resources. It allows resources to be tagged in a manner that can identify when and how they were created—and by whom—and what runs on or has been deployed to those resources.

With Red Hat Ansible Tower, you can:

- **Optimize costs.** Templating common resources used within an organization to optimize utilization of on-premise resources or public cloud providers allows organizations to put workloads and data where they are most cost-effective. Spinning down at night the resources that are marked Dev or decommissioning resources tagged as proof of concept can drastically reduce the sprawl of enterprise environments.
- **Divide responsibilities.** RBAC allows the right people to have the right level of access to the right resources. Red Hat Ansible Tower lets organizations easily control who can run what tasks on what inventories. Sarbanes-Oxley Act (SOX) compliance and General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) compliance are easier with Ansible Tower.
- **Audit.** Use Red Hat Ansible Tower as a centralized point to manage and orchestrate environments. Activity streams on every page in Ansible Tower show who did what—and when. Activity can also be forwarded to log aggregators, security tools, and other endpoints.
- **Maintain security.** Use Red Hat Ansible Automation to create standard, reusable configurations that meet your organization's security and access needs. Ansible Tower allows staff to create secured infrastructure that complies with various regulatory, compliance, or authorization frameworks (PCI, DSS, NIST, CIS, FISMA, HIPAA).

DevOps visualized

Creating a stable, safe, and well-functioning software delivery pipeline is an important component of the software development life cycle. Being able to provide transparency into that pipeline is imperative to building trust in it. Red Hat Ansible Tower fulfills many of the roles historically performed by operations, helping developers gain access to the capabilities they require. Ansible Tower is the window into software delivery to ensure that development and operations are running safely in your organization.

- **Everything in a pipeline.** There are many benefits of gluing together all the tooling into a software delivery pipeline orchestrated by Red Hat Ansible Tower. Code can safely and reliably move from check-in, to testing, to security scanning, through environments, and off to production.
- **Continuous improvement.** Organizations that iteratively improve upon and add capabilities to their stacks can continuously learn from their infrastructure and systems. When the entire software delivery pipeline is presented to you in Red Hat Ansible Tower, you can more accurately measure what is providing value—and what is not. Metrics matter, and Ansible Tower can illuminate multiple facets of an IT organization.

- **Single command, playbooks, workflows.** Some problems are fixed by a single command, and others are fixed by a series of steps. Software deployments are a series of processes. Red Hat Ansible Automation can cover all those tasks across entire organizations.
 - Want to run one command on every Windows Server 2016 system? Ansible Tower enables that through an intuitive user interface (UI).
 - Want to run commands to mitigate a zero-day vulnerability across all systems? Ansible Automation can do that simultaneously on multiple operating systems across the globe.
 - Need a group of systems to be updated as part of a release? An Ansible Tower workflow tracks a full set of independent jobs as a single unit.

The business value of an Ansible Tower subscription

Red Hat's approach to software goes against the traditional licensing model and vendor lock-in, giving you freedom and choice for your organization's needs. With a Red Hat subscription, you get the latest technology with the assurance you need to keep your organization up and running. You also benefit from the expertise of engineers making software the open source way.

Customers should contact Red Hat—but not just when a problem arises. Whether you are planning, testing, deploying, maintaining, or upgrading your infrastructure, when you engage with Red Hat Support, you are often working with the people who write and test the software. It is a truly collaborative and consultative relationship.

Open source software has shown that the world can benefit from groups of people solving problems collaboratively. The collective knowledge-sharing power of a Red Hat Ansible Automation subscription helps your organization move faster and safer, allowing it to benefit from decades of lessons learned. A subscription also provides tailored solutions unique to the needs of your organization.

Real-world results

Thousands of customers around the world use Red Hat Ansible Automation to automate IT tasks across servers, clouds, networks, and more. A 2018 study by research firm Forrester found the following results for Red Hat Ansible Tower:²

- Return on investment of 146% over 3 years.
- Payback in less than 3 months.

Visit www.ansible.com/resources for more information on Red Hat Ansible Automation and to watch customer success story videos.

² Forrester, "The Total Economic Impact of Red Hat Ansible Tower." June 2018.

About Red Hat



Red Hat is the world's leading provider of enterprise open source software solutions, using a community-powered approach to deliver reliable and high-performing Linux, hybrid cloud, container, and Kubernetes technologies. Red Hat helps customers integrate new and existing IT applications, develop cloud-native applications, standardize on our industry-leading operating system, and automate, secure, and manage complex environments. Award-winning support, training, and consulting services make Red Hat a trusted adviser to the Fortune 500. As a strategic partner to cloud providers, system integrators, application vendors, customers, and open source communities, Red Hat can help organizations prepare for the digital future.



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