



## Connect

# Windows Automation with Ansible

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```
---  
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  eMail: jung@redhat.com  
  facts:  
    - nerd: everything Linux, Open Source, Software, ...  
    - redhatter: since 2006  
    - ansible: started 2016, full time since 2019  
    - fun_fact: spent two years living in Malta  
    - organizer: www.ansible-anwender.de  
    - demo_project: www.ansible-labs.de
```





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---  
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  eMail: kevin.blase@computacenter.com  
  facts:  
    - nerd: OpenShift, Ansible, Windows, ...  
    - it: since 2017  
    - ansible: started 2019  
    - fun_fact: knows how deers sound  
    - hobbies: climbing and nature
```

# Windows Automation



[windows](#)

Provided by Ansible

Ansible collection for core  
Windows plugins.

40 0 5 0  
Modules Roles Plugins Dependencies



Certified



[azcollection](#)

Provided by Microsoft

The Azure collection.

283 0 8 0  
Modules Roles Plugins Dependencies

**100+**  
Windows Modules

**1,300+**  
Powershell DSC  
resources

# What can I do using Ansible for Windows

Native Windows support uses PowerShell remoting to manage Windows in the same Ansible agentless way.



- Gather facts on Windows hosts
- Install and uninstall MSIs
- Enable and disable Windows Features
- Start, stop, and manage Windows services
- Create and manage local users and groups
- Manage and install Windows updates
- Fetch files from remote sites
- Push and execute any PowerShell scripts you write

# Windows WinRM: Auth Methods

WinRM is a management protocol used by Windows to remotely communicate with another server. It is a SOAP-based protocol that communicates over HTTP/HTTPS.

## Basic

Unencrypted

## NTLM

Usually enabled by Default

Strong One Way Hash

Less Secure

## Certificate

Most difficult to setup

Requires valid certs and CAs

Certificate is mapped to single account

## CredSSP

Multi-hop Support

Delegates the credentials to remote machine

Uses TLS Tunnel and NTLM / Kerberos

## Kerberos

Must be on Domain

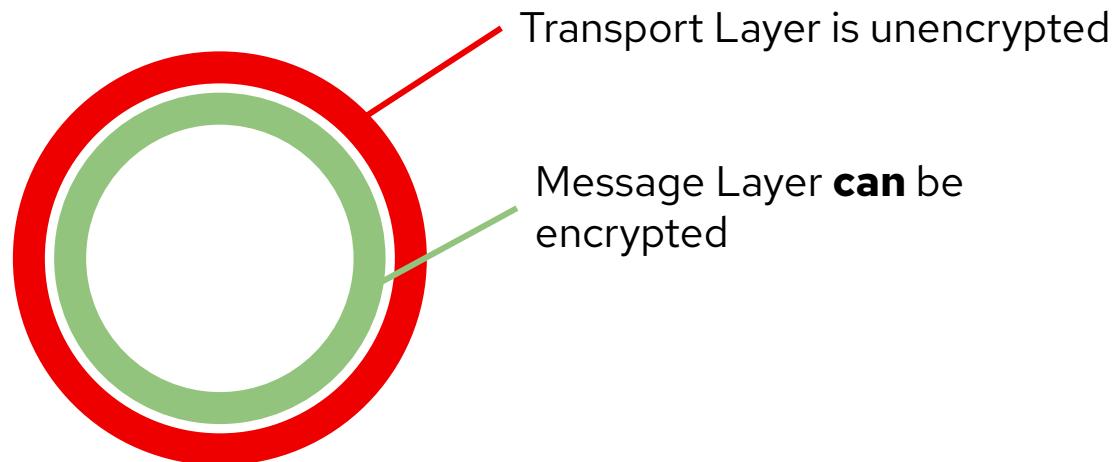
Uses a Kerberos Token to Authenticate

Multi-hop Support if using delegation

# Windows WinRM: Transport

## HTTP

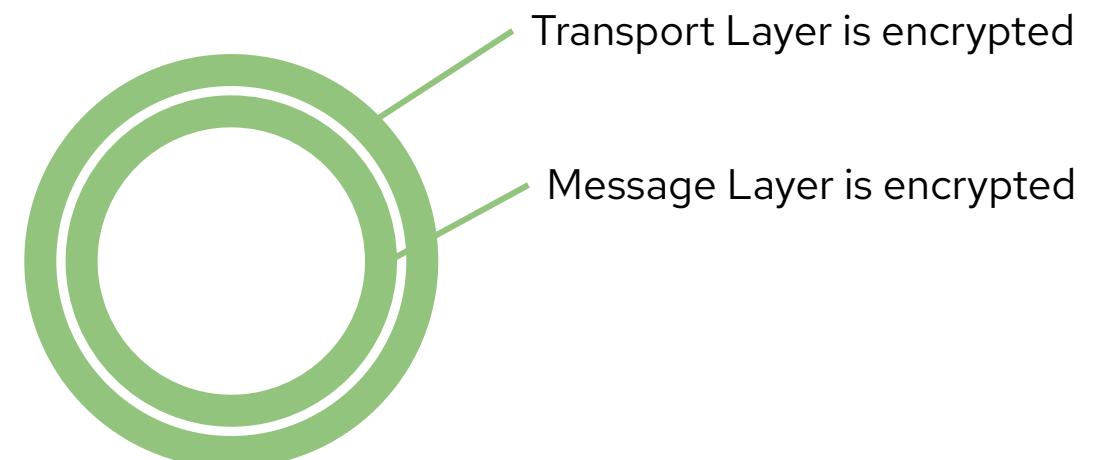
This is the default and most common implementation. Even though HTTP itself does not provide transport level encryption it can be used in junction with CredSSP or Kerberos which provide message level encryption. Typically works on TCP port 5985.



## HTTPS

Used with self-signed (not recommended for production) or CA signed certificate. It provides additional layer of encryption.

Typically works on TCP port 5986.



# Windows Basic: Software Installation

## .MSI file

Installer package file (kind of like .rpm)  
Contains installation files, registry configuration, etc  
Only one MSI can be installed at a time, hence the need for...

## .EXE file

Windows Executable file Often used to orchestrate installation of .MSI files and related installation tasks

Disadvantage: Lack of idempotency



Chocolatey is a software packaging format that enables Linux-like software management and installation. Public repos exist, Artifactory and Sonatype nexus support private repos. Custom chocolatey content is not hard to produce.

Disadvantage: Doesn't support everything  
Advantage: Simple, idempotent

# Reuse Powershell scripts on Windows

Powershell Scripts can be reused with [ansible.windows.win\\_powershell](#)

Task in Playbook:

```
- name: Use a local Script
  ansible.windows.win_powershell:
    script: "{{ lookup('ansible.builtin.file', 'script.ps1') }}"
```

- Easy first steps
- Ansible internal Variables can be implemented  
    \$Ansible.Result, \$Ansible.Changed, \$Ansible.Failed, \$Ansible.Diff

Output:

```
TASK [Use a local Script]
*****
changed: [win-server]
```

- Checkmode Capabilities
- Idempotency and other Ansible features have to be implemented in the Script

# DEMO

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# Action Items

- Self paced labs <https://www.redhat.com/en/interactive-labs/ansible>
- Windows Guide [https://docs.ansible.com/ansible/latest/os\\_guide/windows\\_usage.html](https://docs.ansible.com/ansible/latest/os_guide/windows_usage.html)



[red.ht/rhsc-de-s8](http://red.ht/rhsc-de-s8)

Session 8: 17:15 - 17:45

Jetzt Session bewerten!

Einfach QR-Code scannen, Session wählen und bewerten.  
**Vielen Dank!**



## Connect

# Thank you



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