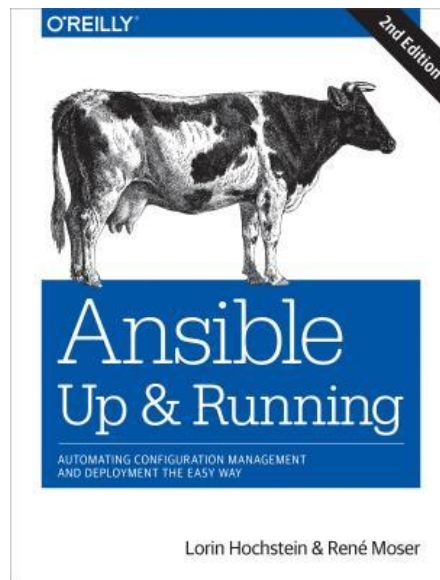




Ansible: Up and Running: Automating Configuration Management and Deployment the Easy Way

Lorin Hochstein , Rene Moser

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Among the many configuration management tools available, Ansible has some distinct advantages--it's minimal in nature, you don't need to install anything on your nodes, and it has an easy learning curve. With this updated second edition, you'll learn how to be productive with this tool quickly, whether you're a developer deploying code to production or a system administrator looking for a better automation solution.

Authors Lorin Hochstein and Rene Moser show you how to write playbooks (Ansible's configuration management scripts), manage remote servers, and explore the tool's real power: built-in declarative modules. You'll discover that Ansible has the functionality you need--and the simplicity you desire.

Manage Windows machines, and automate network device configuration

Manage your fleet from your web browser with Ansible Tower

Understand how Ansible differs from other configuration management systems

Use the YAML file format to write your own playbooks

Work with a complete example to deploy a non-trivial application

Deploy applications to Amazon EC2 and other cloud platforms

Create Docker images and deploy Docker containers with Ansible

This book is best read start to finish, with later chapters building on earlier ones. Because it's written in a tutorial style, you can follow along on your own machine. Most examples focus on web applications.

Ansible: Up and Running: Automating Configuration Management and Deployment the Easy Way Details

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From Reader Review Ansible: Up and Running: Automating Configuration Management and Deployment the Easy Way for online ebook

John Alan says

Superb - The Ansible bible

Ansible up and running is a really super addition to the O'Reilly up and running series.

Starting with the basics Lorin takes his readers through the little and large of Ansible.

The book starts with the very basics and builds all the way, you'll see how to scale your ansible deployments in terms of both complexity and capacity.

Topics include:

The basics, complex play books, scaling using Roles, multiple hosts etc

Writing custom modules - nice to know how

Intengration with - Vagrant, Amazon Web Service, Docker

Debugging

Ansible is a lot of fun to use, it's simple but powerful and Ansible up and Running provides the perfect text to let you learn and enjoy Ansible.

Pros:

I really like the idea of a common deployment theme (mezzanine) which runs throughout the book.

Nice appedix on SSH - very welcome since ansible uses this under the hood.

Cons:

Some of the examples I tried didn't work out of the box. Be sure you define versions when you install things via pip (Lorin actually shows you how in chapter 6)

I can see this book becoming the Ansible bible - if some one writes an Ansible cookbook to stand besides it we're all home and dry.

So would I recomend the book: Without doubt, no matter what your level of ansible use I can bet you'll gain from reading through this. If you're a beginner, just like me, it's absoluately SUPER

I'm a big fan of the O'Reilly up and running series and can only hope they continue to produce such informative and fun books (please give us more).

David says

Ansible is deceptively simple. In a few hours, you can have the main idea and be writing playbooks. There are a number of nuances though that will make your life much easier. Do yourself a favor and read this book.

Yamir Encarnacion says

This books covers all the basics well

This book is meant to be read from start to finish and in written in a tutorial style.

As a side note, I found Ansible to be easier to understand than Chef which I had already spent some time studying.

Jakub says

Very good, no-nonsense Ansible introduction. I'd probably rearrange the sections a bit - the debugging chapter tucked at the very end would be more useful to me with my hands-on approach if it'd appear somewhere past the initial concepts. I could probably also shave some of the additional explanations ("here's how to make script executable") - at few points they seemed really out of place, and unnecessary. This way or the other, it was a very informative book. Recommended to anyone who's considering using Ansible.

Ernestas Poskus says

To the point

Chris King says

A very concise introduction to Ansible.

Jarkko Tervonen says

300 pages of Ansible configuration files. Interesting...

Jaroslav says

Nice overview of the tool we're using at our company. Great chapters about using Ansible with AWS and Docker. I also learned about several arcane features of SSH. Some examples are too big and tedious for a book, I had to skim through them.

Mark says

This is not your typical O'Reilly guide to a language. Written idiosyncratically, and not presenting simple recipes to get you started with Ansible, it is perhaps, as the title suggests, better for one who is already 'Up and Running' with Ansible, or, at least, complements this book with extensive reading of the online documentation.

Luca says

Very good introduction. I liked the fact the author chose to deploy an app as a main drive of the examples

Sebastian Gebski says

4-4.5 stars :)

I had a short list of issues with this book & I remember that these were not really trivial ones, but ... I've lost it :) So all I do remember now is purely positive:

- * proper introduction to Ansible: CHECK!
- * practical examples: CHECK!
- * application in cloud scenarios: CHECK!
- * well shaped code samples: CHECK!
- * some 'beyond the basics' scenarios: CHECK!
- * Ansible + containers: CHECK!
- * day-to-day work (ops) with Ansible: CHECK!

Sometimes it was a bit dry, some topics were not interesting at all (Tower ...), but it's a decent start. If you decide to rely on web tutorials only it'd not be a big loss, but this book surely can't be called a waste of time & money.

Derek says

It will get you started with ansible pretty quickly, but after the first half of the book, you're probably going to switch back to the documentation unless you specifically need to use vagrant or docker.

Rrrrrron says

Great intro. Concise and to the point for someone who knows little about dev ops beyond basic scripting and setting up his own development environments on a unix/linux machine (mostly, python/flask, node, react/flux/webpack). Stopped after page 80-ish as we moved back to Heroku from Digital Ocean as we realized that there was just too much to do for a 2 person startup at this point.

Phúc Võ says

A good introduction for why using Ansible, and providing a good example of using Ansible with Vagrant, Docker, ... (things that an operator engineer would touch)

Dmitry says

good enough
