ansible-lint Ansible linter

START HERE

`ansible-lint`
Lint everything found

`ansible-lint <playbook.yml>`
Lint one file

`ansible-lint <dir>`
Lint a folder

`ansible-lint --fix`
Auto-fix what it can

`ansible-lint --profile <name>`
Pick a strictness

`ansible-lint -L`
List all rules

`ansible-lint -x <rule>`
Skip a rule

`ansible-lint -f json`
Machine output

min loads at all → **basic** style, syntax → **moderate** readability → **safety** deterministic → **shared** for Galaxy → **production** for AAP

Profiles are cumulative: each one includes the rules of the previous

CONCEPTS

Without paths it auto-detects the project from the git root and lints playbooks, roles and collections it finds.

Rules can have sub-ids such as fqcn[action-core]; skipping or noqa-ing the bare id covers all of them.

Exit code 2 means violations, and warn-list rules still show but do not fail the run (unless --strict).

RUN IT

`ansible-lint`
Lint the project (auto-detect)

`ansible-lint <file> <dir>`
Lint given files or folders

`ansible-lint --fix`
Apply all safe auto-fixes
Also reformats YAML. Commit first so you can review the diff.

`ansible-lint --fix=<rule>,<tag>`
Fix only chosen rules or tags

`ansible-lint --profile <name>`
Check a profile's rule set

`ansible-lint --exclude <path>`
Skip files or folders

`ansible-lint -c <file>`
Use a specific config file

`ansible-lint --offline`
No requirement installs or schema refresh

`ansible-lint -s`
Fail on warnings too

`ansible-lint -r <dir> -R`
Add custom rules, keep built-ins

`ansible-lint --version`
Show version and ansible-core

RULES AND PROFILES

`ansible-lint -L`
List all rules

`ansible-lint -L -f brief`
Rule ids with short text

`ansible-lint -T`
List tags and their rules

`ansible-lint -P`
Describe the profiles

RULES AND PROFILES (cont.)

`ansible-lint -x <rule>`
Skip rules or tags

`ansible-lint -w <rule>`
Only warn for these rules

`ansible-lint -t <rule>`
Check only these rules or tags

`ansible-lint --enable-list <tag>`
Turn on opt-in rules
Rules tagged opt-in (e.g. no-log-password) are off by default.

`ansible-lint --generate-ignore`
Write .ansible-lint-ignore baseline

`ansible-lint -i <file>`
Use a specific ignore file

OUTPUT

`ansible-lint -f <format>`
brief, full, md, pep8, quiet, json, sarif

`ansible-lint -f json`
Code Climate JSON on stdout

`ansible-lint -f pep8`
One line per finding

`ansible-lint -f sarif --sarif-file <out>`
SARIF file for code scanning

`ansible-lint -q`
Quieter output

`ansible-lint -v / -vv`
More verbose output

`ansible-lint --show-relpath`
Paths relative to CWD

`ansible-lint --nocolor`
Plain output (NO_COLOR=1)

`ansible-lint --force-color`
Colour even when piped

INLINE SKIPS

`# noqa: <rule>`
Skip a rule on this line

`# noqa: <rule1> <rule2>`
Skip several rules on a line

`tags: [skip_ansible_lint]`
Skip a whole task (legacy)

`ANSIBLE_LINT_NODEPS=1`
Skip installing dependencies

INLINE SKIPS (cont.)

Put the noqa comment on the line the violation is reported on; for a play or task name, that is the name line.

CONFIG FILE

`.ansible-lint`
Default config, YAML in project root

`profile: production`
Default profile

`exclude_paths: [<path>]`
Paths never linted

`skip_list: [<rule>]`
Rules never reported

`warn_list: [<rule>]`
Rules reported as warnings

`enable_list: [<tag>]`
Opt-in rules to activate

`offline: true`
Never fetch requirements or schemas

`strict: true`
Warnings fail the run

`var_naming_pattern: <regex>`
Pattern for variable names

`kinds:`
Map path globs to file kinds

`mock_modules: [<name>]`
Pretend a missing module exists

`mock_roles: [<name>]`
Pretend a missing role exists

`.ansible-lint-ignore`
Per-file rule ignores, one per line
Format: '<path> <rule>'. Created by --generate-ignore.

`write_list: [<rule>]`
Rules --fix may rewrite

COMMON RULES

`fqcn`
Use fully qualified module names

`name[missing]`
Tasks need a name

`name[casing]`
Names start uppercase

`yaml`
YAML style (via yamllint)

`no-changed-when`
command/shell need changed_when

COMMON RULES (cont.)

`risky-file-permissions`
Set mode on file-creating modules

`command-instead-of-module`
Use a module instead of curl or rm

`package-latest`
Avoid state: latest

`var-naming`
Variable naming conventions

`risky-shell-pipe`
Set pipefail when piping in shell

`key-order`
name first in a task

`jinja[spacing]`
Spaces inside {{ }}

`no-handler`
Use a handler for changed-based tasks

`ignore-errors`
Prefer failed_when over ignore_errors

`schema`
File structure fails its schema

`syntax-check`
ansible-playbook --syntax-check fails

RECIPES

Project config

```
# .ansible-lint
profile: safety
exclude_paths:
  - .cache/
  - molecule/
skip_list:
  - yaml[line-length]
warn_list:
  - experimental
```

Adopt in a legacy repo

```
ansible-lint --generate-ignore
# commit .ansible-lint-ignore, then only new
# violations fail the build
```

Pre-commit hook

```
# .pre-commit-config.yaml
repos:
  - repo: https://github.com/ansible/ansible-lint
    rev: <tag>
    hooks:
      - id: ansible-lint
```

GitHub Actions step

```
- uses: actions/checkout@v6
- uses: ansible/ansible-lint@<tag>
  with:
    args: --profile production
```