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## Rocky Enterprise Linux 9.2 Manual Pages on command 'ssh-add.1'

**$ man ssh-add.1**

SSH-ADD(1)              BSD General Commands Manual              SSH-ADD(1)

NAME

   ssh-add ? adds private key identities to the OpenSSH authentication agent

SYNOPSIS

   ssh-add [-cDdKkLlqvXx] [-E fingerprint_hash] [-S provider] [-t life]

      [file ...]

   ssh-add -s pkcs11

   ssh-add -e pkcs11

   ssh-add -T pubkey ...

DESCRIPTION

   ssh-add adds private key identities to the authentication agent,

   ssh-agent(1).  When run without arguments, it adds the files

   ~/.ssh/id_rsa, ~/.ssh/id_dsa, ~/.ssh/id_ecdsa, ~/.ssh/id_ecdsa_sk,

   ~/.ssh/id_ed25519, and ~/.ssh/id_ed25519_sk.  After loading a private

   key, ssh-add will try to load corresponding certificate information from

   the filename obtained by appending -cert.pub to the name of the private

   key file.  Alternative file names can be given on the command line.

   If any file requires a passphrase, ssh-add asks for the passphrase from

the user.  The passphrase is read from the user's tty.  ssh-add retries
the last passphrase if multiple identity files are given.

The authentication agent must be running and the SSH_AUTH_SOCK environ?
ment variable must contain the name of its socket for ssh-add to work.

The options are as follows:

-c      Indicates that added identities should be subject to confirmation
        before being used for authentication.  Confirmation is performed
        by ssh-askpass(1).  Successful confirmation is signaled by a zero
        exit status from ssh-askpass(1), rather than text entered into
        the requester.

-D      Deletes all identities from the agent.

-d      Instead of adding identities, removes identities from the agent.
        If ssh-add has been run without arguments, the keys for the de?
        fault identities and their corresponding certificates will be re?
        moved.  Otherwise, the argument list will be interpreted as a
        list of paths to public key files to specify keys and certifi?
        cates to be removed from the agent.  If no public key is found at
        a given path, ssh-add will append .pub and retry.  If the argu?
        ment list consists of ?-? then ssh-add will read public keys to
        be removed from standard input.

-E fingerprint_hash
        Specifies the hash algorithm used when displaying key finger?
        prints.  Valid options are: ?md5? and ?sha256?.  The default is
        ?sha256?.

-e pkcs11
        Remove keys provided by the PKCS#11 shared library pkcs11.

-K      Load resident keys from a FIDO authenticator.

-k      When loading keys into or deleting keys from the agent, process
        plain private keys only and skip certificates.

-L      Lists public key parameters of all identities currently repre?
        sented by the agent.

-l      Lists fingerprints of all identities currently represented by the
        agent.

-q    Be quiet after a successful operation.

-S provider

    Specifies a path to a library that will be used when adding FIDO

    authenticator-hosted keys, overriding the default of using the

    internal USB HID support.

-s pkcs11

    Add keys provided by the PKCS#11 shared library pkcs11.

-T pubkey ...

    Tests whether the private keys that correspond to the specified

    pubkey files are usable by performing sign and verify operations

    on each.

-t life

    Set a maximum lifetime when adding identities to an agent.  The

    lifetime may be specified in seconds or in a time format speci?

    fied in sshd_config(5).

-v    Verbose mode.  Causes ssh-add to print debugging messages about

    its progress.  This is helpful in debugging problems.  Multiple

    -v options increase the verbosity.  The maximum is 3.

-X    Unlock the agent.

-x    Lock the agent with a password.

ENVIRONMENT

    DISPLAY, SSH_ASKPASS and SSH_ASKPASS_REQUIRE

        If ssh-add needs a passphrase, it will read the passphrase from

        the current terminal if it was run from a terminal.  If ssh-add

        does not have a terminal associated with it but DISPLAY and

        SSH_ASKPASS are set, it will execute the program specified by

        SSH_ASKPASS (by default ?ssh-askpass?) and open an X11 window to

        read the passphrase.  This is particularly useful when calling

        ssh-add from a .xsession or related script.

        SSH_ASKPASS_REQUIRE allows further control over the use of an

        askpass program.  If this variable is set to ?never? then ssh-add

        will never attempt to use one.  If it is set to ?prefer?, then

        ssh-add will prefer to use the askpass program instead of the TTY

when requesting passwords.  Finally, if the variable is set to

?force?, then the askpass program will be used for all passphrase

input regardless of whether DISPLAY is set.

SSH_AUTH_SOCK

Identifies the path of a UNIX-domain socket used to communicate

with the agent.

SSH_SK_PROVIDER

Specifies a path to a library that will be used when loading any

FIDO authenticator-hosted keys, overriding the default of using

the built-in USB HID support.

FILES

~/.ssh/id_dsa

~/.ssh/id_ecdsa

~/.ssh/id_ecdsa_sk

~/.ssh/id_ed25519

~/.ssh/id_ed25519_sk

~/.ssh/id_rsa

Contains the DSA, ECDSA, authenticator-hosted ECDSA, Ed25519, au?

thenticator-hosted Ed25519 or RSA authentication identity of the

user.

Identity files should not be readable by anyone but the user.  Note that

ssh-add ignores identity files if they are accessible by others.

EXIT STATUS

Exit status is 0 on success, 1 if the specified command fails, and 2 if

ssh-add is unable to contact the authentication agent.

SEE ALSO

ssh(1), ssh-agent(1), ssh-askpass(1), ssh-keygen(1), sshd(8)

AUTHORS

OpenSSH is a derivative of the original and free ssh 1.2.12 release by

Tatu Ylonen.  Aaron Campbell, Bob Beck, Markus Friedl, Niels Provos, Theo

de Raadt and Dug Song removed many bugs, re-added newer features and cre?

ated OpenSSH.  Markus Friedl contributed the support for SSH protocol

versions 1.5 and 2.0.