

Setup Linux ssh for key based login

We need to create a private/public key set to allow passwordless login via ssh. To do this run the ssh-keygen command:

```
$ ssh-keygen -t ecdsa
Generating public/private ecdsa key pair.
Enter file in which to save the key (/home/testuser1/.ssh/id_ecdsa):
Enter passphrase (empty for no passphrase):
Enter same passphrase again:
Your identification has been saved in /home/testuser1/.ssh/id_ecdsa
Your public key has been saved in /home/testuser1/.ssh/id_ecdsa.pub
The key fingerprint is:
SHA256:xb4Rs37UbXt3Wn5cHkdKWY2ZDBbor9F83IYNLhjsfIU
testuser1@bree.strw.leidenuniv.nl
The key's randomart image is:
+---[ECDSA 256]---+
|           ...      |
|          .. o       |
|         o=. + o.    |
|        o++E.O.+    |
|       So+*.=. @o    |
|      .+=* BoB      |
|      o+.o =0       |
|       ..  +B       |
|       . o         |
+-----[SHA256]-----+
```

For both question about passphrase, just hit enter (we will not be using passphrases). This will also have generated two files in your personal .ssh directory:

```
$ ls -ltr id_ecdsa*
-rw----- 1 testuser1 users 537 Mar 22 12:13 id_ecdsa
-rw-r--r-- 1 testuser1 users 195 Mar 22 12:13 id_ecdsa.pub
```

The file id_rsa.pub must be transferred to the remote host. For this we can use ssh-copy-id:

```
$ ssh-copy-id -i ~/.ssh/id_ecdsa.pub username@remote-host
```

This may produce the following message:

```
/usr/bin/ssh-copy-id: INFO: Source of key(s) to be installed:
"/home/username/.ssh/id_ecdsa.pub"
The authenticity of host 'remote-host (123.123.123.123)' can't be
established.
ECDSA key fingerprint is SHA256:tygMarTe3S0jTcY9HzldKThxQzsTeiYHg5JmjB2bxeg.
Are you sure you want to continue connecting (yes/no)? yes
```

Having confirmed the access key to remote-host, the copy operation will commence:

```
/usr/bin/ssh-copy-id: INFO: attempting to log in with the new key(s), to
filter out any that are already installed
/usr/bin/ssh-copy-id: INFO: 1 key(s) remain to be installed -- if you are
prompted now it is to install the new keys
username@remote-host's password:
```

Type your password to actually start the file copy.

Number of key(s) added: 1

Now try logging into the machine, with: `"ssh 'username@remote-host'"`
and check to make sure that only the key(s) you wanted were added.

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