Generating SSH Key in Windows 7/8/10

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Symptom (public)

I am unable to ssh into Linux hosts that are Managed by Lightspeed from my
Windows 7/8/10 laptop/desktop.

Problem (public)

For enhanced security, all Lightspeed hosts both in On-Demand and On-Premise
do not support passwords. In order to be granted ssh access, you need to have
an up-to-date ssh public key installed into the host you are connecting to
that is paired with the ssh private key you have installed in the device you
are connecting from (laptop/tablet/phone)

Solution (public)

PuTTY

[1]PuTTY is an SSH client for Windows. You can use PuTTY to generate SSH keys.
PuTTY is a free open-source terminal emulator that functions much like the
Terminal application in macOS in a Windows environment. This section shows you
how to manually generate and upload an SSH key when working with PuTTY in the
Windows environment.

When you install the PuTTY client, you also install the PuTTYgen utility.
PuTTYgen is what you will use to generate your SSH key for a Windows VM.

This page gives you basic information about using PuTTY and PuTTYgen to log in
to your provisioned machine. For more information on PuTTY, see the [2]PuTTY
documentation

Generating an SSH key

To generate an SSH key with PuTTYgen, follow these steps:

- Open the PuTTYgen program.
- For Type of key to generate, select SSH-2 RSA.
- Click the Generate button.
- Move your mouse in the area below the progress bar. When the progress bar
is full, PuTTYgen generates your key pair.
- Type a passphrase in the Key passphrase field. Type the same passphrase in
the Confirm passphrase field. You can use a key without a passphrase, but this
is not recommended.
- Click the Save private key button to save the private key. You must save
the private key. You will need it to connect to your machine.
- Right-click in the text field labeled Public key for pasting into OpenSSH
authorized_keys file and choose Select All.
- Right-click again in the same text field and choose Copy.

 Importing your SSH key

Now you must import the copied SSH key to the portal.

- After you copy the SSH key to the clipboard, return to your account page.
- Choose to Import Public Key and paste your SSH key into the Public Key
field.
- In the Key Name field, provide a name for the key. Note: although providing
a key name is optional, it is a best practice for ease of managing multiple
SSH keys.
- Add the key. It will now appear in your table of keys under SSH.

PuTTY and OpenSSH use different formats of public SSH keys. If the text you
pasted in the SSH Key starts with —— BEGIN SSH2 PUBLIC KEY, it is in the wrong
format. Be sure to follow the instructions carefully. Your key should start
with ssh-rsa AAAA….

Once you upload your SSH key to the portal, you can connect to your virtual
machine from Windows through a PuTTY session.

[1] http://www.chiark.greenend.org.uk/~sgtatham/putty/
[2] http://www.chiark.greenend.org.uk/~sgtatham/putty/docs.html