

Unable to add server using putty private key key pair. How to convert PPK file OpenSSH format

74 admin November 22, 2024 [Common Errors & Troubleshooting](#) 11758

Issue with Adding Servers Using Putty Generated Private Key Pair (PPK)

Overview: This article describes how to convert Putty-generated private key pairs (.ppk) to OpenSSH format for compatibility with Ezeelogin and other systems.

The putty key is currently not supported in Ezeelogin. You have to convert it to OpenSSH format.

To convert to OpenSSH format, you can use PuttyGen.

Step 1: Download and Install PuttyGen

- Visit <http://www.chiark.greenend.org.uk/~sgtatham/putty/download.html> and download PuttyGen.
- Install PuttyGen on your system.

Step 2: Open PuttyGen and Load Your .ppk File

- Launch PuTTYgen.
- Click on "Load" under Actions.
- Navigate to your .ppk file and select it.



Key

Public key for pasting into OpenSSH authorized_keys file:

```
ssh-rsa
AAAAB3NzaC1yc2EAAAABJQAAQEA18Pw2Zi7Bk/ISqUAsgNQ7tZggsE3KxbK75v9
NHv6N4Z451vNUJm/mwSAv9c4vFeVDvIPPJjATizfcO77dzUQg1mPobSA559mWYpQ
LcoJt8VZIdn1k27V1xDB+ev9LAFsNQJ9iN366cAWM5feaxMcYRA9GCHLipaA0eY5m
+twAb8wzw0+E5crQFgqpqvudEn9leV6KMf06p3t0zBoeQ1iSnjez3Y131ZpnkDgJ51QT
```

Key fingerprint: ssh-rsa 2048 d9:63:a3:3c:0a:a7:ee:c8:5d:57:5a:e5:b4:65:98:14

Key comment: rsa-key-20180809

Key passphrase:

Confirm passphrase:

Actions

Generate a public/private key pair

Generate

Load an existing private key file

Load

Save the generated key

Save public key

Save private key

Parameters

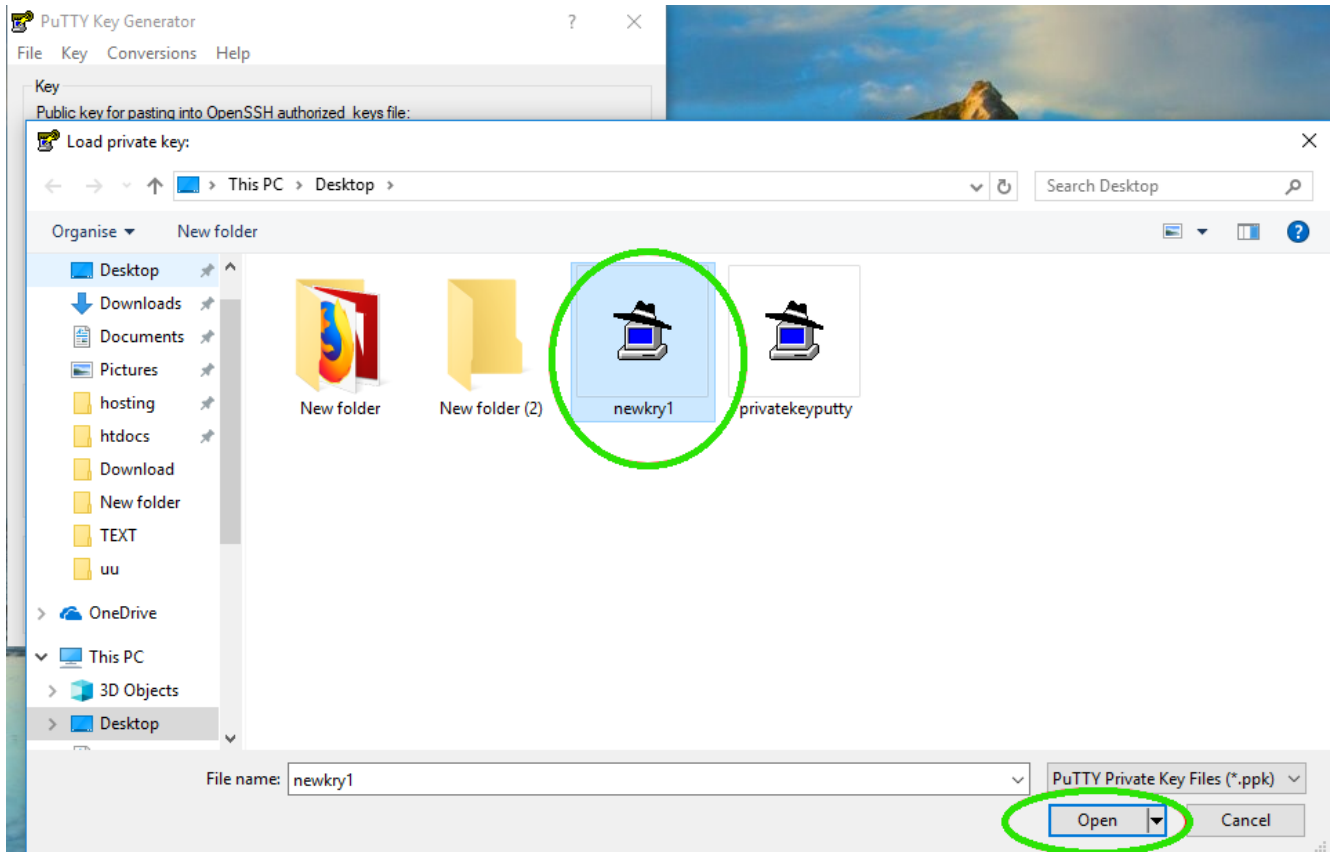
Type of key to generate:

☒ RSA ☐ DSA ☐ ECDSA ☐ ED25519 ☐ SSH-1 (RSA)

Number of bits in a generated key:

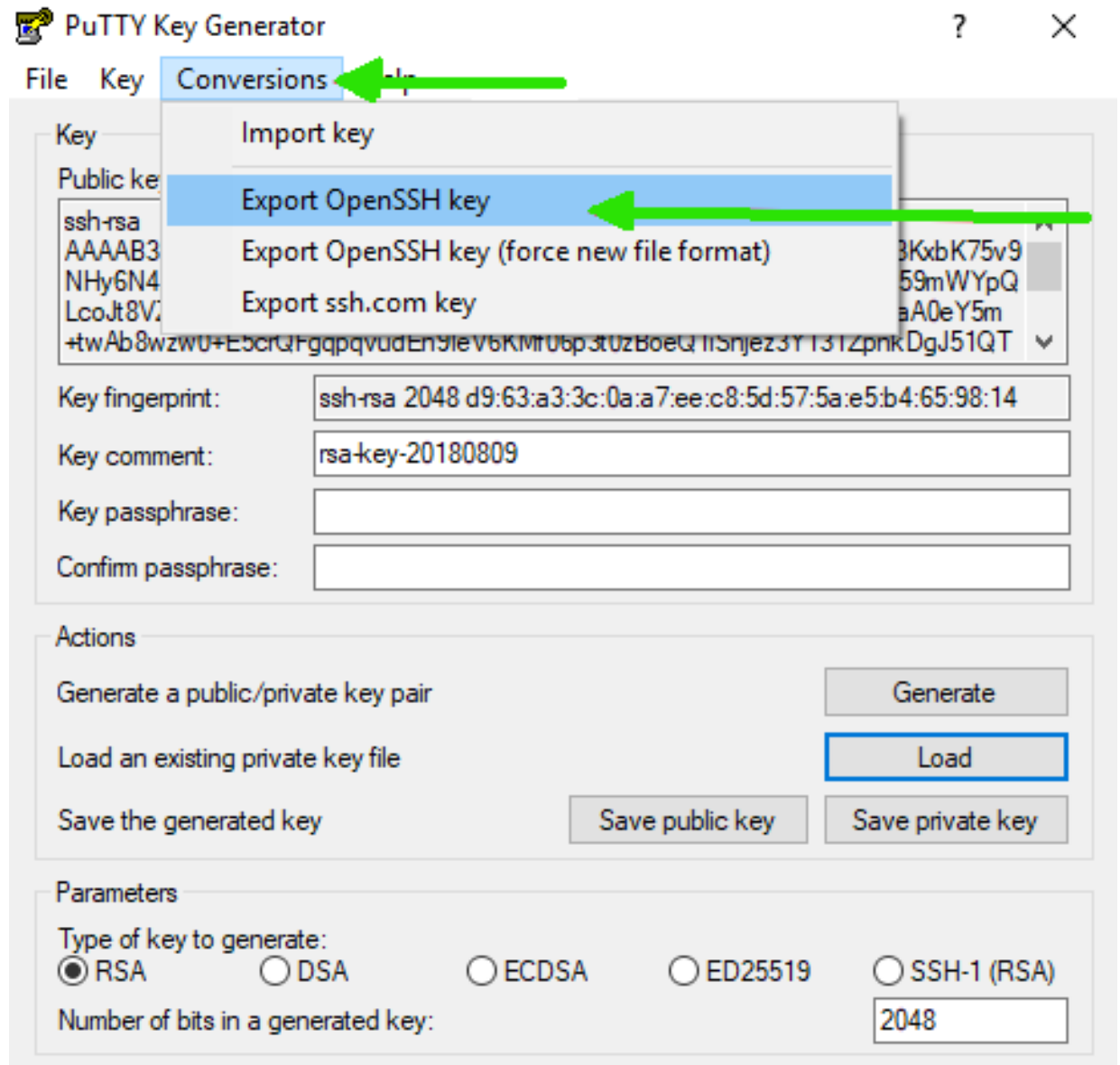
2048

- Click "Open" to load the file.



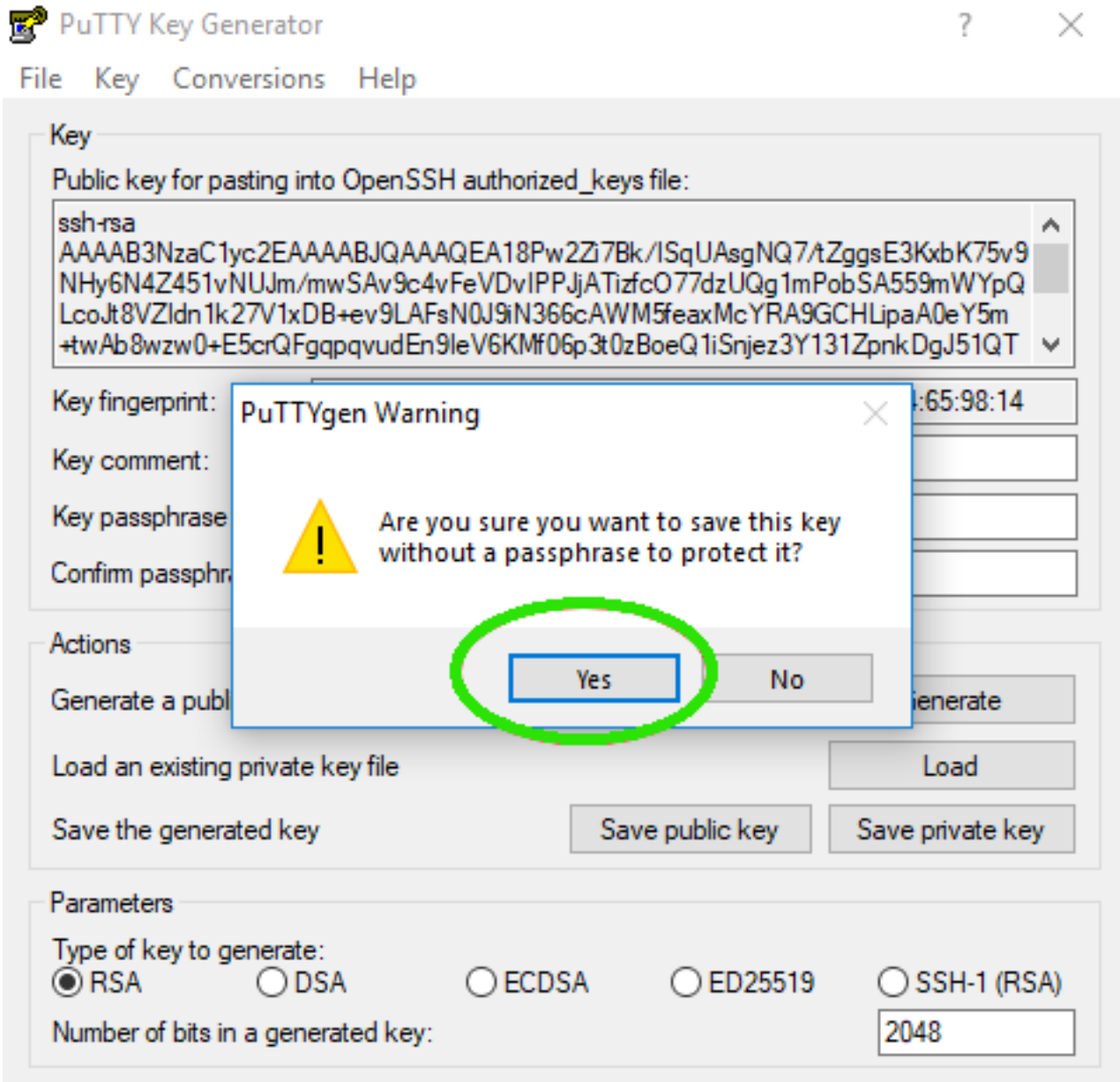
Step 3: Export the Key in OpenSSH Format.

- Once the key is loaded in PuTTYgen.
- Go to Conversions in the top menu.
- Choose Export > OpenSSH Key.



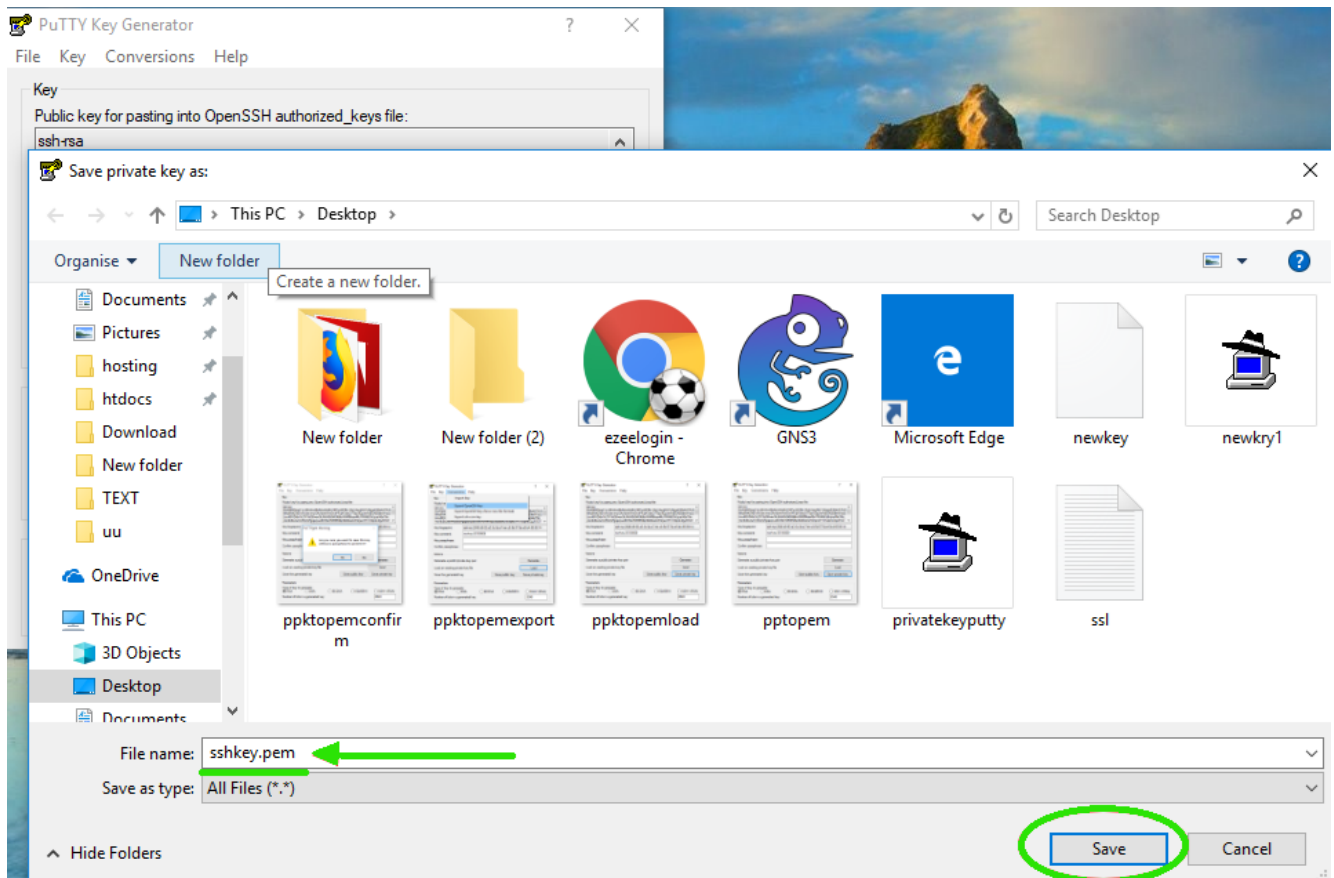
Step 4: Confirm Export Without Passphrase

- PuTTYgen may warn you about saving the key without a passphrase. Click "Yes" to proceed.



Step 5: Name and Save the Key

- Name the file as desired and add the .pem extension (e.g., mykey.em).
- Choose the location where you want to save the file.



Step 6: Convert Using Command Line (Unix/Linux)

- If you prefer using the command line on Unix/Linux:
 - Install PuTTY tools if not already installed:

RPM-based (CentOS):

```
root@desktop:$ sudo yum install putty
```

Dpkg-based (Ubuntu/Debian):

```
root@desktop:$ sudo apt-get install putty-tools
```

- Convert the **.ppk** file to **.pem** format using puttygen.

```
root@desktop:$ sudo puttygen ppkkey.ppk -O private-openssh -o pemkey.pem
```

Related Articles:

[Connection was closed by the remote host in Putty.](#)

[Connect Jumpserver using putty.](#)

[Prevent the putty window from closing during ssh.](#)

Online URL:

<https://www.ezeelogin.com/kb/article/unable-to-add-server-using-putty-private-key-key-pair-how-to-convert-ppk-file-openssh-format-74.html>