

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

74 admin July 2, 2024 [Common Errors & Troubleshooting](#) 9939

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

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

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

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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  
NHy6N4Z451vNUJm/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

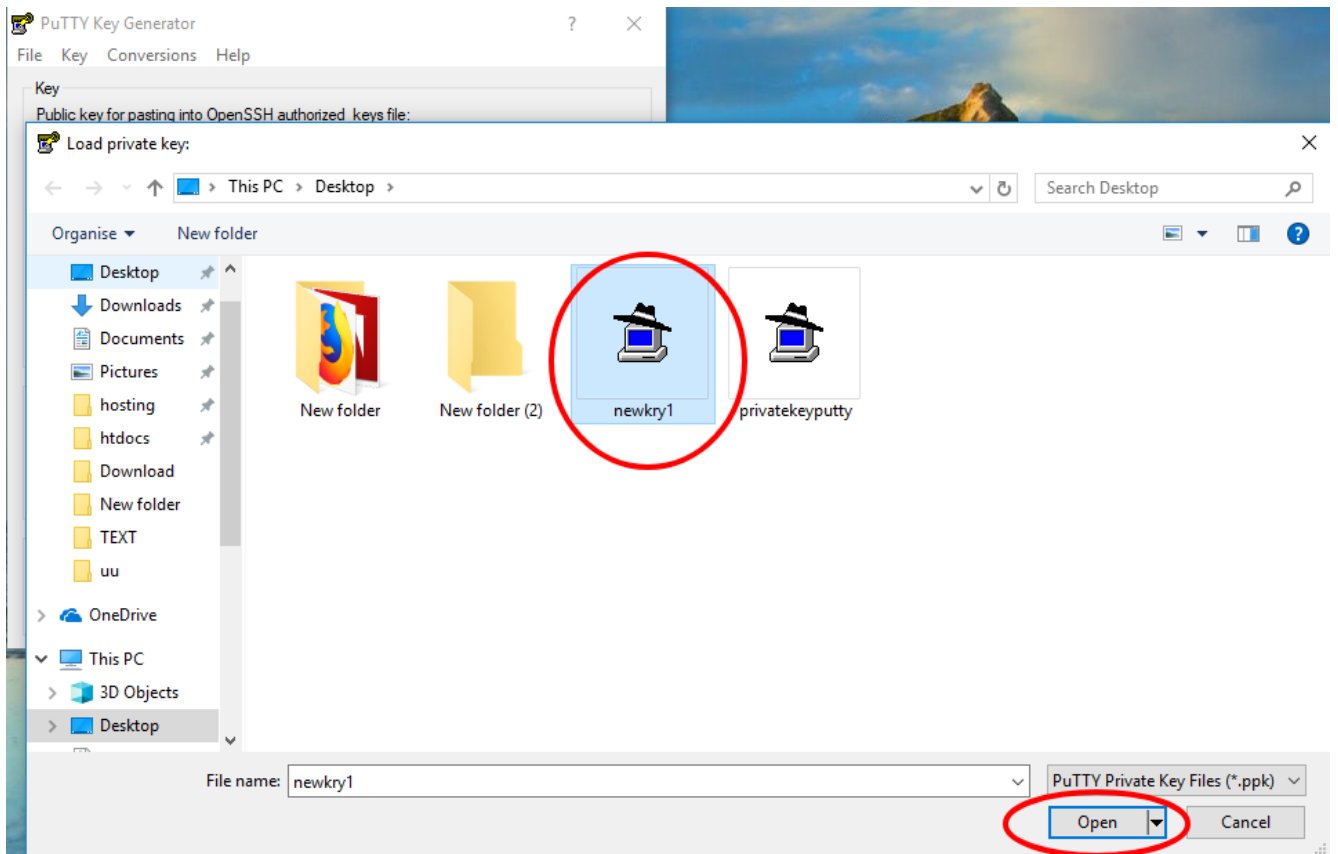
Save the generated key Save public key Save private key

Parameters

Type of key to generate:  
 RSA  DSA  ECDSA  ED25519  SSH-1 (RSA)

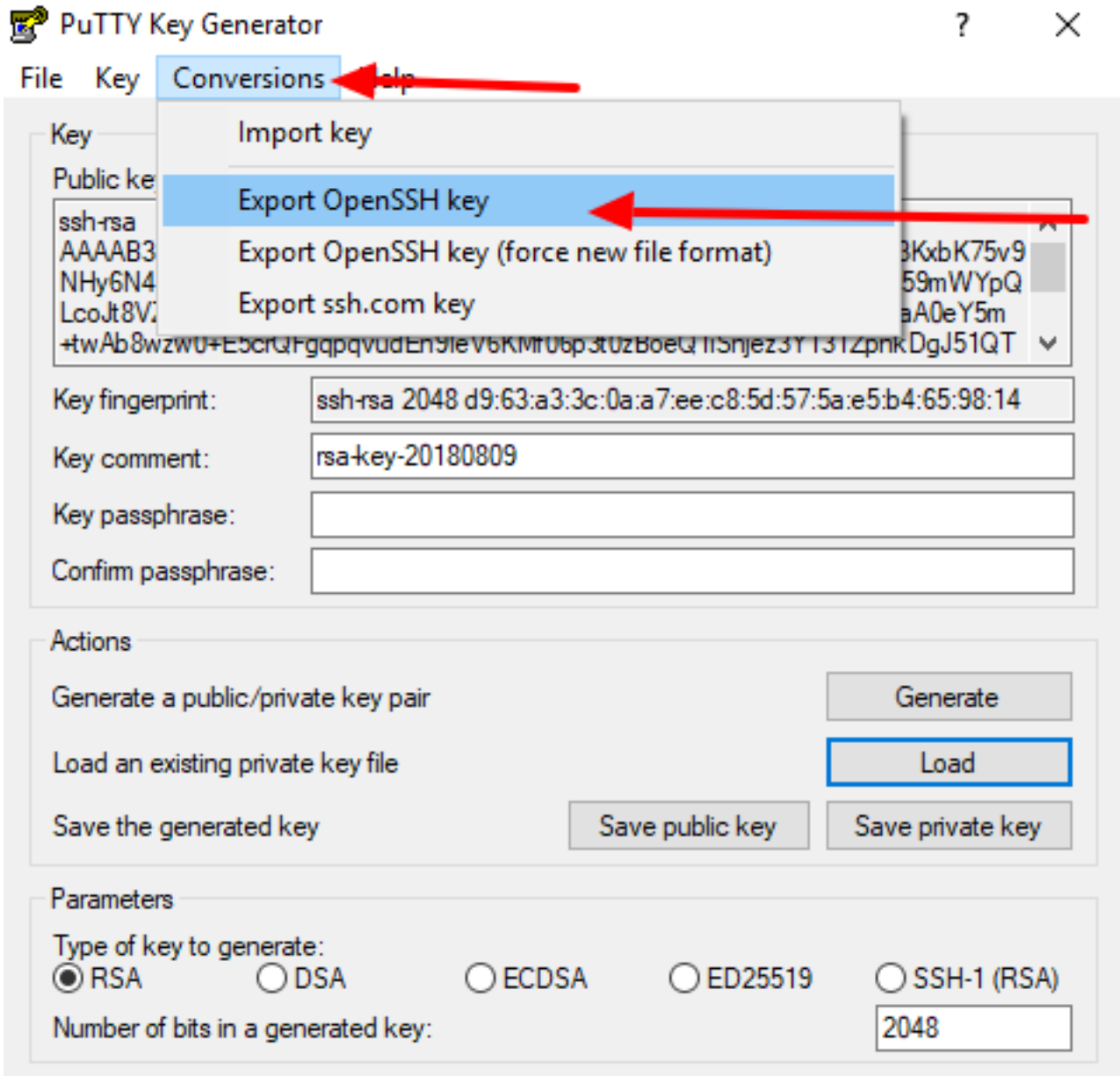
Number of bits in a generated key: 2048

- Click "Open" to load the file.



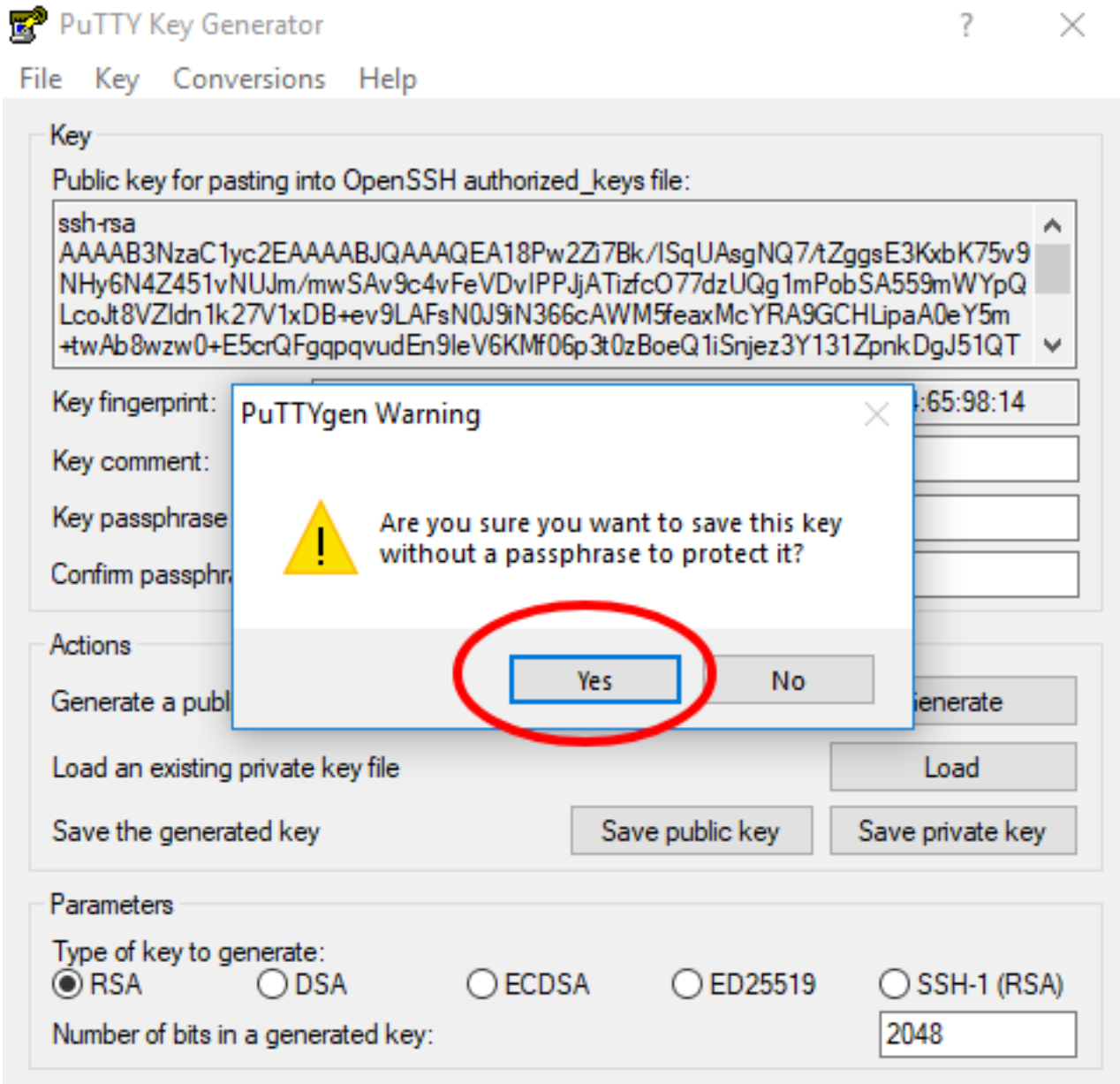
### Step 3: Export the Key in OpenSSH Format.

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



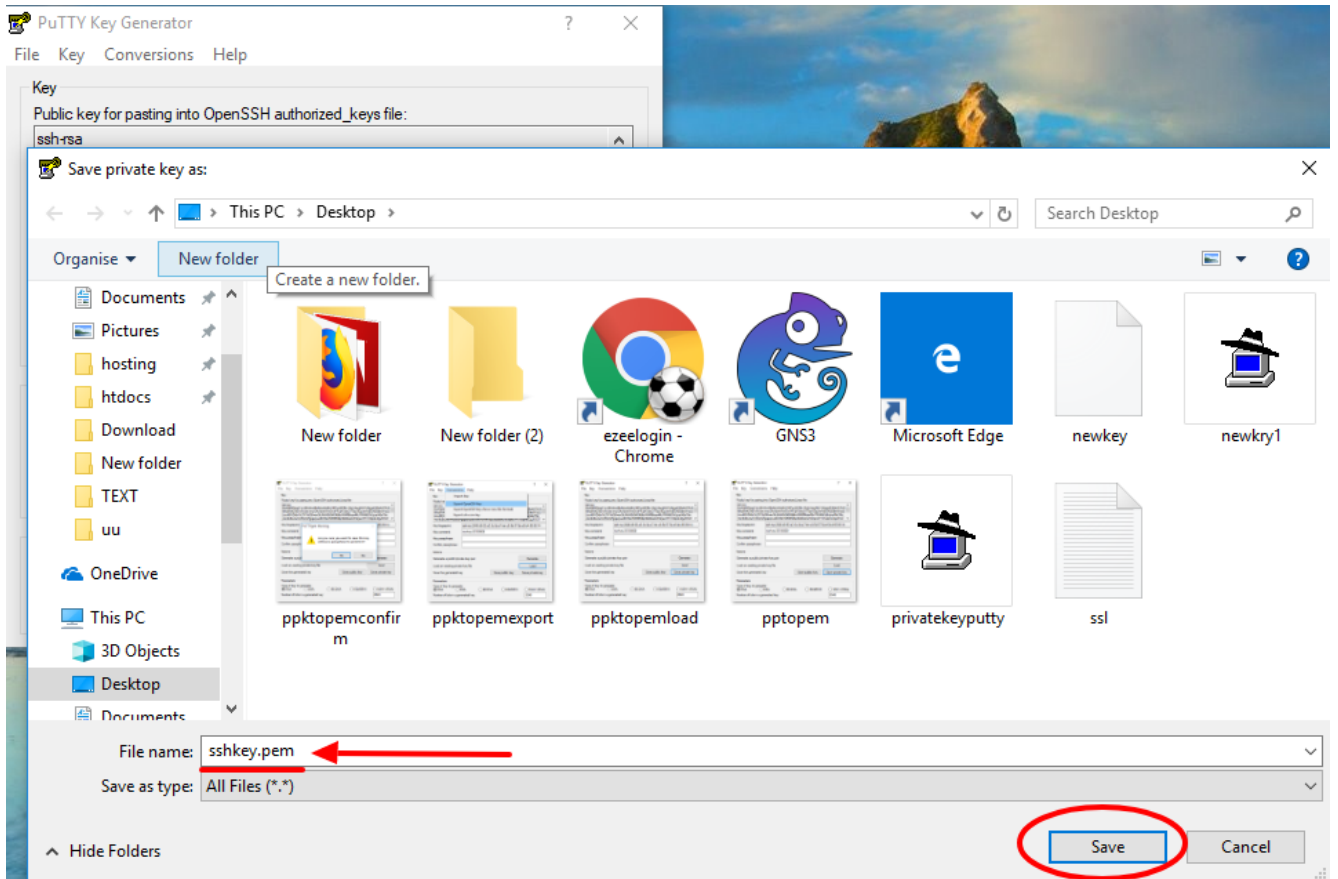
#### Step 4: Confirm Export Without Passphrase

- 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):**

**Dpkg-based (Ubuntu/Debian):**

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

```
:~# 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>