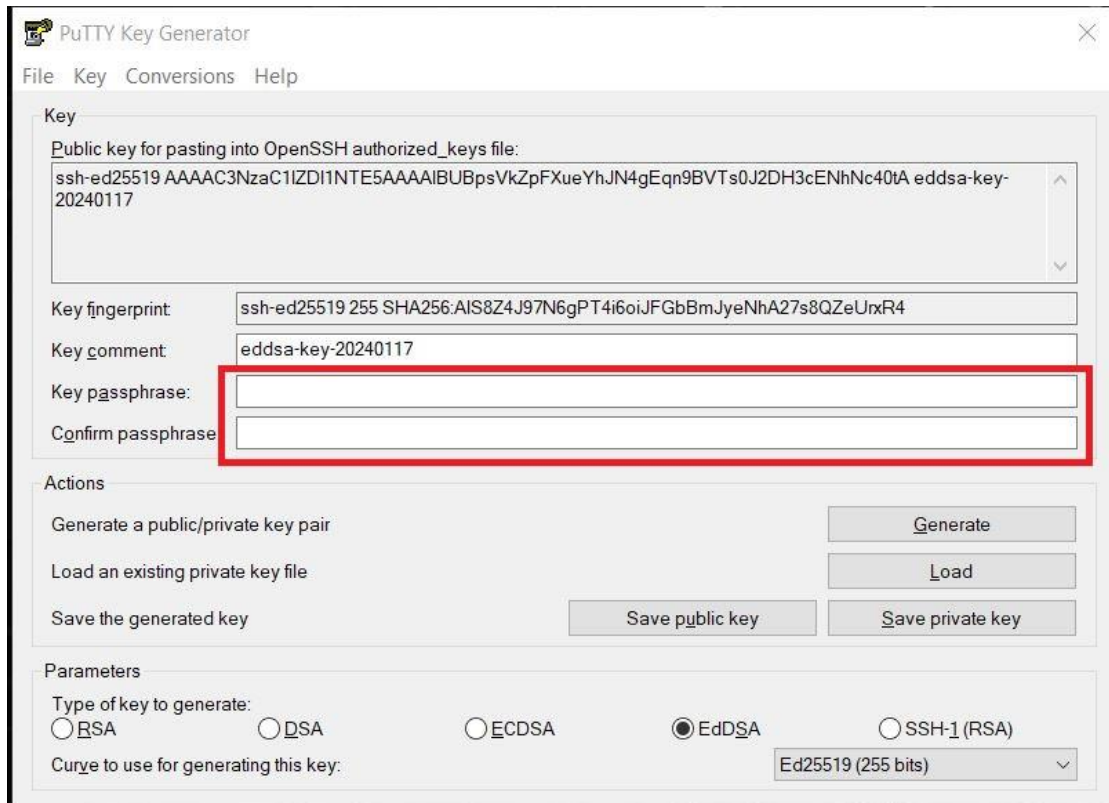# Generate SSH keys on Windows

1. Install PuTTY. The PuTTY command-line SSH client, the PuTTYgen key generation utility, the Pageant SSH authentication agent, and the PuTTY SCP and SFTP utilities are packaged together in a Windows installer [Download PuTTY: latest release (0.79) (greenend.org.uk)](#)

2. Launch `PuTTYgen`.

3. In the "PuTTY Key Generator" window, under "Parameters":

   o For "Type of key to generate", select **EdDSA**.

   o For "Number of bits in a generated key", leave the default value.
4. Under "Actions", click `Generate`.
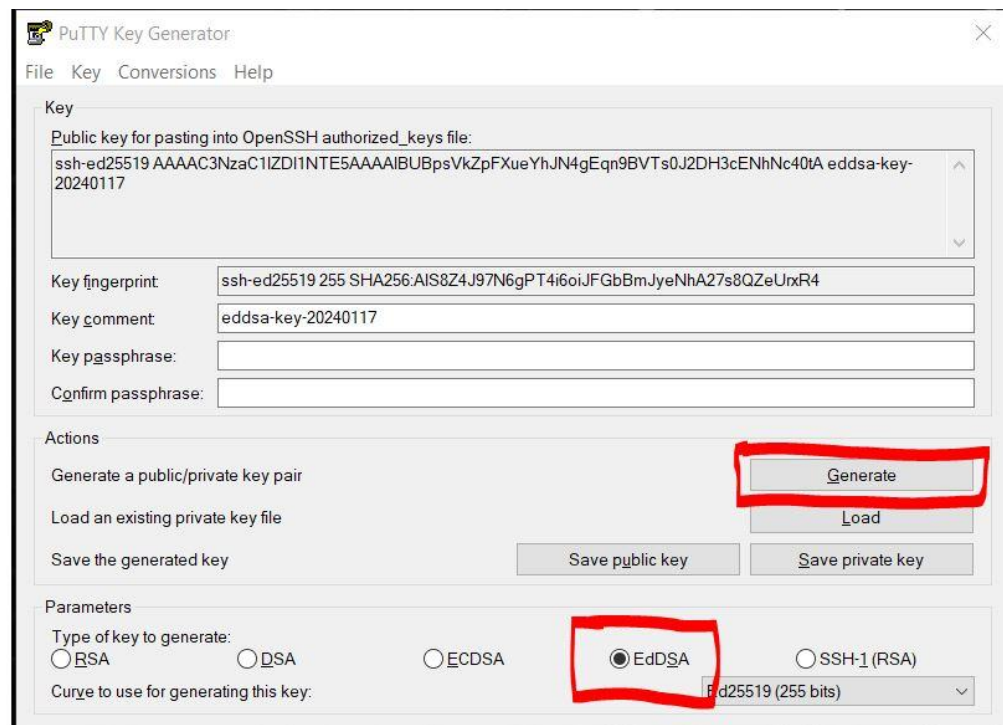
5. When prompted, **use your mouse (or trackpad) to move your cursor around the blank area under "Key";** this generates randomness that PuTTYgen uses to generate your key pair.

6. When your key pair is generated, PuTTYgen displays the public key in the area under "Key". In the "Key passphrase" and "Confirm passphrase" text boxes, enter a passphrase to passphrase-protect your private key.

7. Right-click in the "Public key for pasting into OpenSSH authorized_keys file" text box, choose `Select All`, and then right-click in the text box again and select `Copy`.

   a. Save your private key in a safe place. Under "Actions", next to "Save the generated key", click `Save private key`.
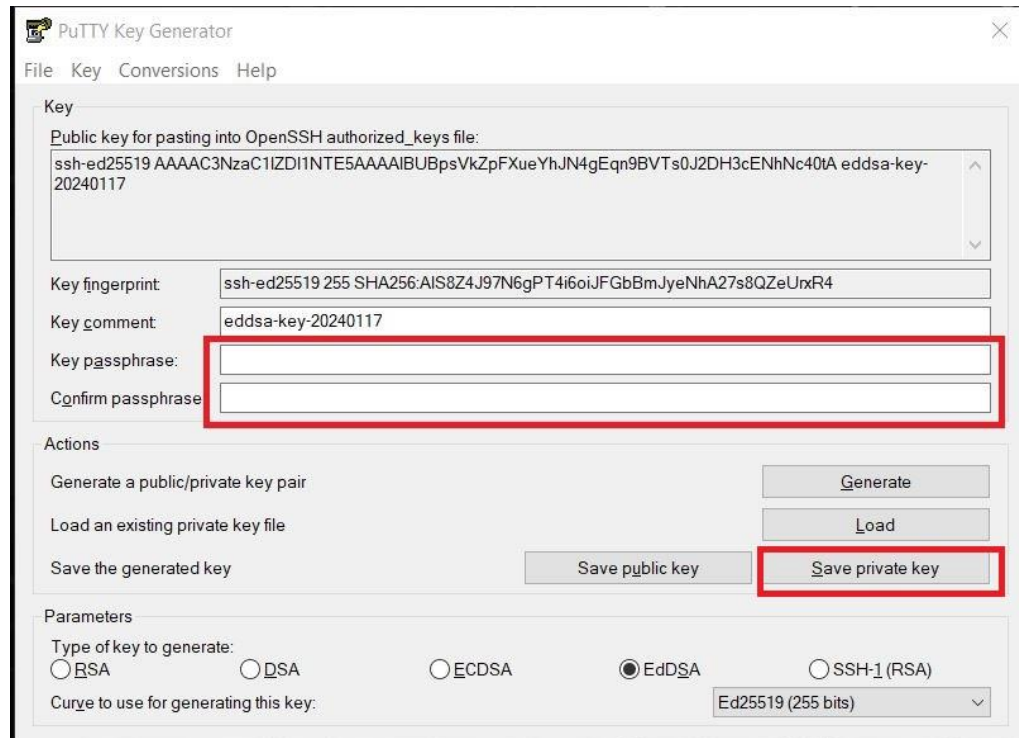
Note:

If you no longer have the public key, or if it is later determined to be invalid, use the following steps to obtain a public key:

1. Launch `PuTTYgen`.

2. Click `Load`.

3. Navigate to your private key and click `Open`.

4. In the PuTTYgen pop-up window, enter the passphrase.

5. Right-click in the "Public key for pasting into OpenSSH authorized_keys file" text box, choose `Select All`, and then right-click in the text box again and select `Copy`.

6. Select `File > Exit` to close PuTTYgen.