

Usage Alerts

The [AWS Free Tier](#) allows you to gain free hands-on experience with AWS service.

The Free Tier has limits, however. AWS does not provide an ability to automatically stop all services before you exceed the Free Tier. However, AWS Usage Alerts can help you monitor if your usage and costs, so that you can stop services yourself before you incur unexpected charges.

AWS Budgets is a service that can be accessed from your root account (or a user with billing admin permissions). This service allows you to create forecasts and alerts to notify you when you are about to exceed your budget.

Specifically, AWS Budgets can monitor your Free Tier usage and notify you via an email alert before you exceed the Free Tier.

1. Sign in to the AWS Console with your root account
2. Go to [Billing and Cost Management](#)
3. Under **Preferences**, click on **Billing Preferences** from the left sidebar
4. Under **Cost Management Preferences**, select **Receive Free Tier Usage Alerts**

By default, alerts will be sent to the root account email address. If you would like to change that, you can add an alternative address to the **Email address** field.

The screenshot shows the AWS Billing and Cost Management console. The left sidebar contains a navigation menu with options like Home, Cost Management, Cost Explorer, Budgets, and Billing. The main content area is titled 'Preferences' and is divided into two sections: 'Billing Preferences' and 'Cost Management Preferences'. In the 'Billing Preferences' section, the 'Receive PDF Invoice By Email' checkbox is unchecked. In the 'Cost Management Preferences' section, the 'Receive Free Tier Usage Alerts' checkbox is checked. Below this checkbox, there is a text box for 'Email Address' which is currently empty. At the bottom of the 'Cost Management Preferences' section, there is a 'Save preferences' button.

