

Cloud Server Setup Documentation

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DNS: <https://techhoriozn.online/>

1. Project Overview

1.1. Objective: The objective of this project is to create a cloud-based server using (IaaS) infrastructure as a service to host an Amazon EC2 server, which will provide information about different types of technology and other things with a technological background. The server will be configured and deployed manually, with all the required software and services installed from scratch.

1.2. Cloud Provider:

- Platform: Amazon EC2 Server
- Server Size: 2vCpus, 16GB Ram
- Operating system: Ubuntu

2. Environment Setup

2.1. Prerequisites:

- A Cloud account with Amazon EC2
- Access to SSH
- Basic knowledge of Linux commands and server administration.

2.2. Creating the Server Instance

- Log in to Amazon EC2 or any other cloud service provider according to your choice.

2.3. Create a New Server Instance:

Go to the Dashboard and click on Launch Instance

- Select a region, for example, I have chosen Europe, Stockholm
- Choose an Instance site, for example, choose the desired amount of RAM and storage and the CPUs.
- Select your preferred operating system, for example, Ubuntu.

- Set a Key pair name which you can easily access.
- Set up the Network, and while doing so, enable the allow HTTPS traffic from the internet.

2.4. Setup your Elastic IP Address:

- Go to Network and Security > Elastic IPs
- Click on Allocate Elastic Ip Address, and after that click on actions, and click on associate elastic ip address.
- From that, go to the instance and choose the desired instance to which you wish to allocate an Elastic Ip to it.
- Also allocate the private IP address to it which is already given.

3. Installing Apache On the Amazon EC2:

- Go to the command center and type in : (**ssh -i the location_of your_pem_file ec2-user@the ip address of your instance**)
- For example, mine is:
- **ssh -i D:\Looper.pem [ubuntu@16.170.77.192](#)**
- After gaining Connection to your instance then type in these commands:

```
sudo apt update
sudo apt install apache2
```

3.1. Creating Your Website:

So first let's start by creating a Folder for the new website that you're going to create for that enter this:

```
sudo mkdir /var/www/gci/
```

I have named it gci here, but you can name it anything you want, and since now we have a directory created for our website, let's create an HTML file in it, and it can be created by typing this:

```
cd /var/www/gci/
nano index.html
```

Now you can edit the HTML file by using any HTML code you want, for example:

```
<html>
<head>
  <title> Ubuntu rocks! </title>
</head>
<body>
  <p> I'm running this website on an Ubuntu Server server!
</body>
</html>
```

3.2.Setting up a virtual host File:

- First, we must go into the configuration files directory for that type:

```
cd /etc/apache2/sites-available/
```

- Then type the following:

```
sudo cp 000-default.conf gci.conf
```

- Now let us edit the configuration file:

```
sudo nano gci.conf
```

- We also want the DocumentRoot directive to point to the directory where our site files are hosted:

```
DocumentRoot /var/www/gci/
```

- The default file doesn't come with a ServerName directive, so we'll have to add and define it by adding this line below the last directive:

```
ServerName gci.example.com
```

3.3.Activating the virtual host file:

- After setting up our website, we need to activate the virtual hosts configuration file to enable it. We do that by running the following command in the configuration file directory:

```
sudo a2ensite gci.conf
```

- You should see the following output

```
Enabling site gci.  
To activate the new configuration, you need to run:  
    service apache2 reload  
root@ubuntu-server:/etc/apache2/sites-available#
```

- To load the new site, we restart Apache by typing:

```
service apache2 reload
```

4. Global IP address and DNS configuration:

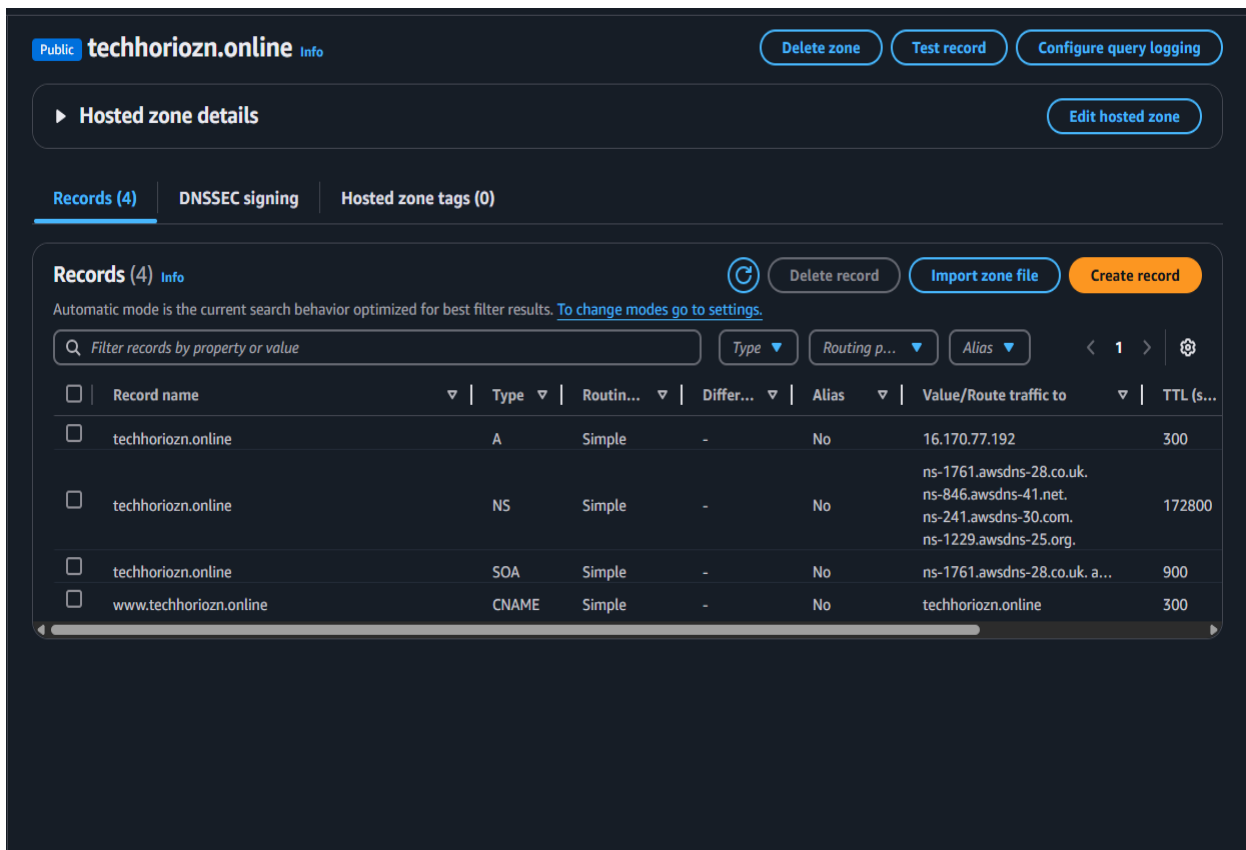
4.1.First you have to purchase a domain name from any domain website for that I have used GoDaddy.

4.2.After that, you have to register your domain name via GoDaddy/ route 53 in Amazon EC2. For that, first go to Route 53 and then click on Hosted Zones and then click Create Hosted Zone.

The screenshot shows the 'Create hosted zone' page in the AWS Route 53 console. The page has a dark theme. At the top, there's a breadcrumb trail: 'Route 53 > Hosted zones > Create hosted zone'. The main heading is 'Create hosted zone' with an 'info' icon. Below this is a section titled 'Hosted zone configuration' with a sub-header 'A hosted zone is a container that holds information about how you want to route traffic for a domain, such as example.com, and its subdomains.' There are two input fields: 'Domain name' (with a value of 'techhorizon.com') and 'Description - optional' (with a value of 'techhorizon.com'). Below the description field, it says 'The description can have up to 256 characters. 15/256'. There are two radio buttons for 'Type': 'Public hosted zone' (selected) and 'Private hosted zone'. Below the radio buttons, it says 'The type indicates whether you want to route traffic on the internet or in an Amazon VPC.' At the bottom, there's a 'Tags' section with an 'Add tag' button. At the very bottom right, there are 'Cancel' and 'Create hosted zone' buttons.

Like in the picture above, enter the details and click on Create Hosted Zones.

4.3. Now, after that, we have to create records like this, for example



5. Let's install WordPress manually so that you can edit your Website:

5.1. Go to Command Center and type in: (`ssh -i the_location_of_your_pem_file ec2-user@the_ip_address_of_your_instance`)

5.2. Before installing nginx, we must disable Apache so first execute the following commands:

```
sudo systemctl stop apache2
sudo systemctl disable apache2
```

5.3. After that, let's install PHP, MariaDB and the Nginx Web Server for that type in this: **sudo apt install nginx mariadb-server php-fpm php-mysql**

5.4. Now, let's install WordPress: Execute the Following commands:

```
cd /var/www  
sudo wget https://wordpress.org/latest.tar.gz  
sudo tar -xzf latest.tar.gz  
sudo rm latest.tar.gz  
sudo chown -R www-data:www-data wordpress  
sudo find wordpress/ -type d -exec chmod 755 {} \;  
sudo find wordpress/ -type f -exec chmod 644 {} \;
```

5.5. Let's Set Up the Database: Secure your MariaDB installation by adding a password and disabling other features. When prompted, answer Y. So now let's execute this command:

```
sudo mysql_secure_installation
```

- Now let's access the MariaDB console for that type in this:

```
Sudo mysql -u root -p
```

- Now, within the MariaDB console, let's create a database for WordPress and make sure to choose your database, username and password. So let's execute this example Command:

```
create database example_db default character set utf8 collate  
utf8_unicode_ci;  
create user 'example_user'@'localhost' identified by  
'example_pw';  
Grant all privileges on example_db.* TO  
'example_user'@'localhost';  
flush privileges;  
exit
```

5.6. After this run this command to know which PHP version you have installed: **php -v**

And as you see, I have PHP version **8.3.6**.

```
C:\Users\Astil>ssh -i D:/Looper.pem ubuntu@16.170.77.192
Welcome to Ubuntu 24.04.2 LTS (GNU/Linux 6.8.0-1025-aws x86_64)

 * Documentation:  https://help.ubuntu.com
 * Management:    https://landscape.canonical.com
 * Support:       https://ubuntu.com/pro

System information as of Sat Mar 29 12:32:55 UTC 2025

System load:  0.0               Temperature:  -273.1 C
Usage of /:   21.6% of 14.46GB   Processes:    118
Memory usage: 43%              Users logged in: 0
Swap usage:   0%               IPv4 address for ens5: 172.31.21.23

 * Ubuntu Pro delivers the most comprehensive open source security and
   compliance features.
   https://ubuntu.com/aws/pro

Expanded Security Maintenance for Applications is not enabled.

0 updates can be applied immediately.

Enable ESM Apps to receive additional future security updates.
See https://ubuntu.com/esm or run: sudo pro status

Last login: Sat Mar 29 10:19:26 2025 from 2.49.235.69
ubuntu@ip-172-31-21-23:~$ php -v
PHP 8.3.6 (cli) (built: Dec  2 2024 12:36:18) (NTS)
Copyright (c) The PHP Group
Zend Engine v4.3.6, Copyright (c) Zend Technologies
   with Zend OPcache v8.3.6, Copyright (c), by Zend Technologies
ubuntu@ip-172-31-21-23:~$
```

5.7. Now, Let's Configure The Nginx Web Server:

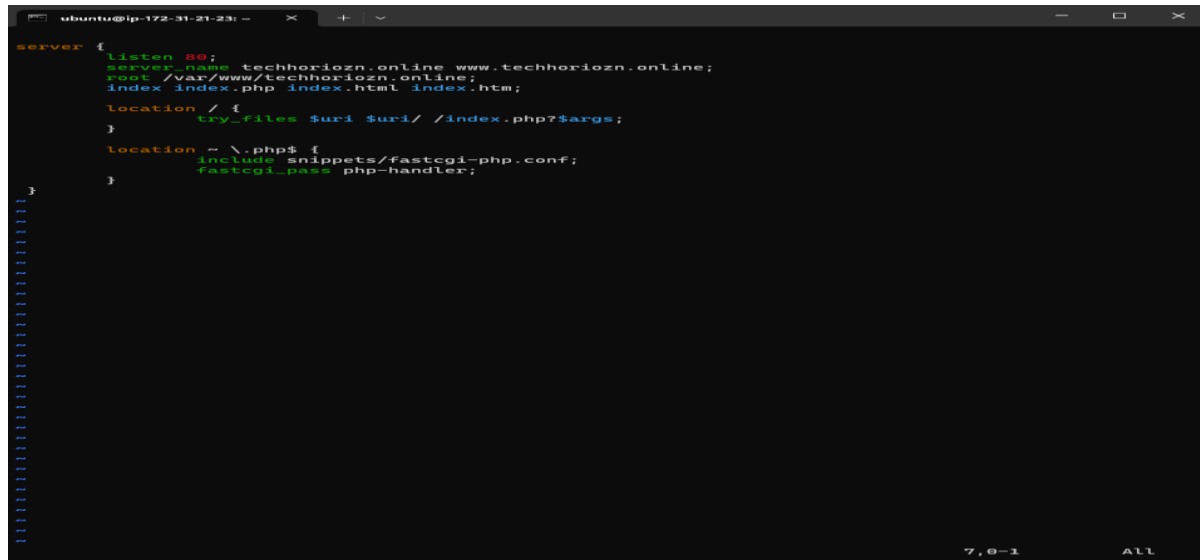
- First go to the directory which contains the configuration files for the Nginx web server and create a new configuration file. To execute this command:

```
Cd/etc/nginx/sites-available/  
sudo vim wordpress.conf
```

- Now use this configuration as an example and change it according to your website and server name. To input your command, press I and then enter your command, for example :

```
server {  
    listen 80;  
    server_name techhoriozn.online www.techhoriozn.online;  
    root /var/www/techhoriozn.online;  
    index index.php index.html index.htm;  
  
    location / {  
        try_files $uri $uri/ /index.php?$args;  
    }
```

```
location ~ \.php$ {  
    include snippets/fastcgi-php.conf;  
    fastcgi_pass php-handler;  
}
```



```
server {  
    listen 80;  
    server_name techhoriozn.online www.techhoriozn.online;  
    root /var/www/techhoriozn.online;  
    index index.php index.html index.htm;  
    location / {  
        try_files $uri $uri/ /index.php?$args;  
    }  
    location ~ \.php$ {  
        include snippets/fastcgi-php.conf;  
        fastcgi_pass php-handler;  
    }  
}
```

- Now, after this, press ESC to save your file, and then shift+; and then enter WQ exit so that it gets written, and you quit.
- After this, make a symbolic link to the website to let the Nginx know, and you can apply the changes by restarting the web server. To execute these commands:
**sudo ln -s /etc/nginx/sites-available/wordpress.conf /etc/nginx/sites-enabled/
sudo nginx -t
sudo systemctl restart nginx**

5.8. Finish the WordPress Install:

- Go to your domain in the browser and then enter your database name, user and password that u created earlier, like this.



Below you should enter your database connection details. If you are not sure about these, contact your host.

Database Name

The name of the database you want to use with WordPress.

Username

Your database username.

Password

Show

Your database password.

Database Host

You should be able to get this info from your web host, if localhost does not work.

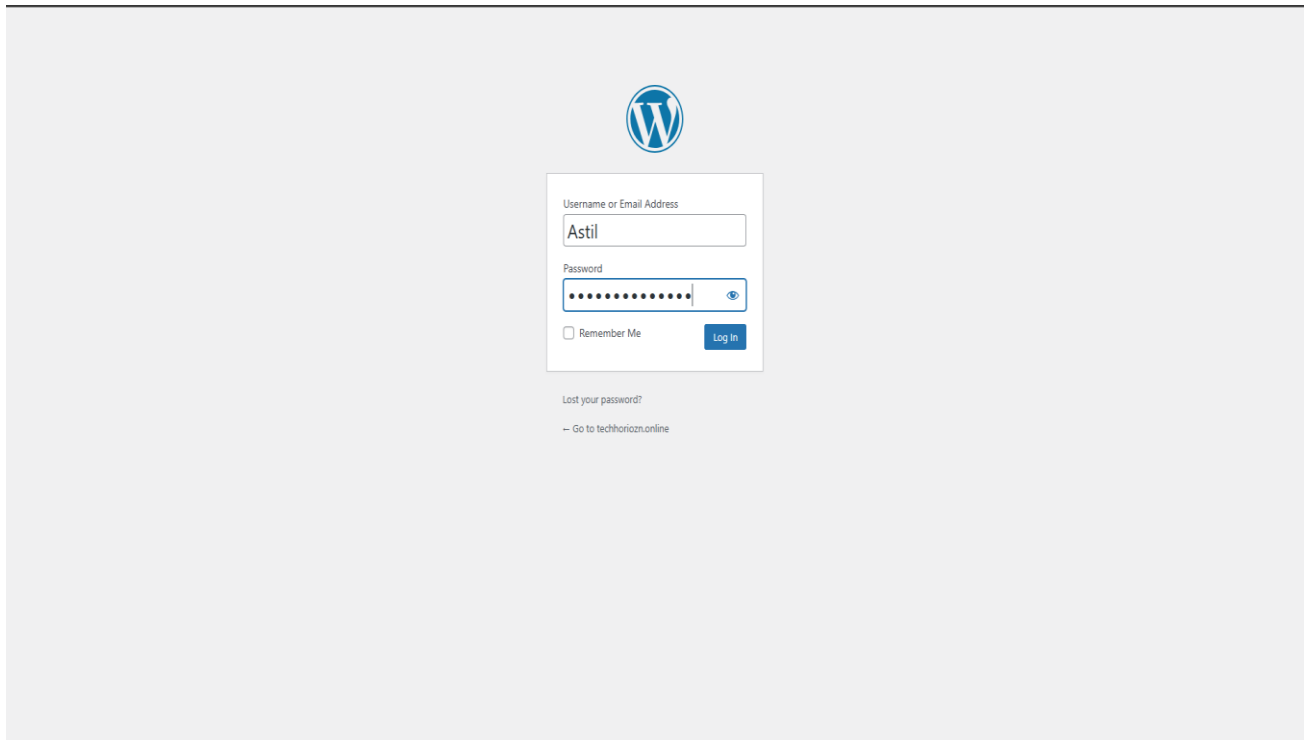
Table Prefix

If you want to run multiple WordPress installations in a single database, change this.

Submit

After the installation, you can access your WordPress administrator dashboard at <http://techhoriozn.com/wp-admin/>, where example.com is your domain name.

It will look like this:



5.9. The only thing left is to install the PHP packages required by WordPress to go back to the command center, and enter this:

```
sudo apt install php-curl php-dom php-mbstring php-imagick  
php-zip php-gd
```

6. Installing an SSL certificate for HTTPS:

For that, just execute the following command in your command center:

```
sudo apt install certbot python3-certbot-nginx  
sudo certbot --nginx -d  
techhoriozn.online -d www.techhoriozn.online
```