

# HOSTING A STATIC WEBSITE ON AWS S3 – DOCUMENTATION

This document provides a step-by-step guide to hosting a static website using Amazon S3. This is a common cloud engineering task and helps beginners understand how cloud storage can serve static content like HTML, CSS, and JS.

## Step 1: Create an S3 Bucket

- Log in to AWS Management Console
- Go to S3 service
- Click 'Create bucket'
- Enter a globally unique bucket name (e.g., my-first-static-site-2025)
- Choose a region close to you
- Disable 'Block all public access' for demo purpose
- Create the bucket

The screenshot shows the AWS Management Console interface for the S3 service. The URL in the address bar is <https://ap-south-1.console.aws.amazon.com/s3/buckets?region=ap-south-1&bucketType=general>. The top navigation bar includes the AWS logo, a search bar, and account information (Account ID: 2488-9611-6805, Region: Asia Pacific (Mumbai)). Below the navigation is a secondary menu with links for S3, EC2, and IAM. The main content area is titled 'Amazon S3 > Buckets'. There are two tabs at the top: 'General purpose buckets' (selected) and 'Directory buckets'. The 'General purpose buckets' tab shows a list with one item: 'General purpose buckets (1)'. Below this, it says 'Buckets are containers for data stored in S3.' and features a search bar labeled 'Find buckets by name'. The list table has columns for 'Name' (with a dropdown arrow), 'AWS Region' (with a dropdown arrow), and 'Creation date'. The single entry in the list is 'webbhostss' (Asia Pacific (Mumbai) ap-south-1, September 16, 2025, 12:49:36 (UTC+05:30)). To the right of the list are two callout boxes: 'Account snapshot' (info, updated daily) which provides visibility into storage usage and activity trends, and 'External access summary - new' (info, updated daily) which helps identify bucket permissions for public access or access from other AWS accounts. At the bottom of the page are links for CloudShell, Feedback, Copyright notice (© 2025, Amazon Web Services, Inc. or its affiliates.), Privacy, Terms, and Cookie preferences.

## Step 2: Upload Website Files

- Open the created bucket
- Go to 'Objects' tab
- Click 'Upload' and add index.html, style.css, and other assets
- Ensure index.html is at the root level

The screenshot shows the AWS S3 console interface. At the top, the URL is https://ap-south-1.console.aws.amazon.com/s3/buckets/webbhostss?region=ap-south-1&bucketType=general&tab=objects. The top navigation bar includes the AWS logo, search bar, and account information (Account ID: 2488-9611-6805, Asia Pacific (Mumbai)). Below the navigation is a secondary navigation bar with links for S3, EC2, and IAM. The main content area shows the 'Objects' tab for the 'webbhostss' bucket. A table lists the following objects:

Name	Type	Last modified	Size	Storage class
assets/	Folder	-	-	-
index.html	html	September 16, 2025, 13:30:54 (UTC+05:30)	31.2 KB	Standard
prepros.config	config	September 16, 2025, 13:30:55 (UTC+05:30)	22.0 KB	Standard
vendor/	Folder	-	-	-

## Step 3: Set Permissions

- Go to the 'Permissions' tab of your bucket
- Edit the Bucket Policy
- Add a policy to allow public read access to objects (only for demo)
- Example Policy:

```
{  
  "Version": "2012-10-17",  
  "Statement": [  
    {  
      "Effect": "Allow",  
      "Principal": "*",  
      "Action": "s3:GetObject",  
      "Resource": "arn:aws:s3:::your-bucket-name/*"  
    }  
  ]  
}
```

The screenshot shows the AWS S3 console with the URL <https://ap-south-1.console.aws.amazon.com/s3/buckets/webbhostss?region=ap-south-1&bucketType=general&tab=permissions>. The page displays a bucket policy in JSON format:

```
{
  "Version": "2012-10-17",
  "Statement": [
    {
      "Sid": "PublicReadGetObject",
      "Effect": "Allow",
      "Principal": "*",
      "Action": "s3:GetObject",
      "Resource": "arn:aws:s3:::webbhostss/*"
    }
  ]
}
```

There is a 'Copy' button next to the policy. At the top, there is a note: "Individual Block Public Access settings for this bucket". Below the policy, there are 'Edit' and 'Delete' buttons.

## Step 4: Enable Static Website Hosting

- Go to 'Properties' tab
- Scroll down to 'Static website hosting'
- Enable it
- Specify Index document = index.html
- (Optional) Error document = error.html (or index.html if you don't have one)
- Save changes

The screenshot shows the AWS S3 console with the URL <https://ap-south-1.console.aws.amazon.com/s3/bucket/webbhostss/property/website/edit?region=ap-south-1&bucketType=general>. The page is titled "Edit static website hosting".

**Static website hosting**

Enable

**Hosting type**

Host a static website  
Use the bucket endpoint as the web address. [Learn more](#)

Redirect requests for an object  
Redirect requests to another bucket or domain. [Learn more](#)

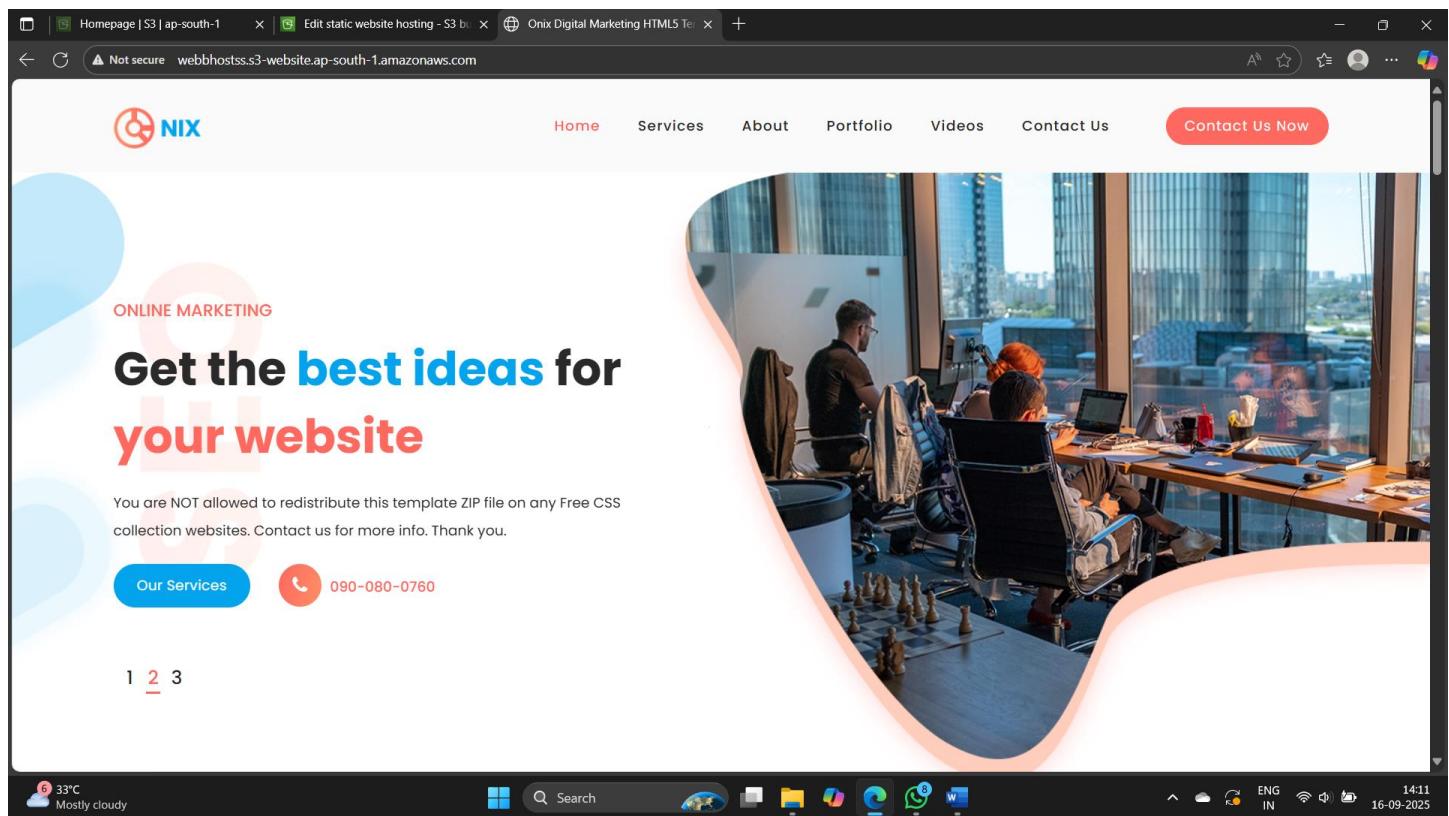
**Index document**  
Specify the home or default page of the website.  
index.html

**Error document - optional**  
This is returned when an error occurs.  
error.html

**Redirection rules - optional**  
Redirection rules, written in JSON, automatically redirect webpage requests for specific content. [Learn more](#)

## Step 5: Access Your Website

- Copy the S3 Website endpoint URL
- Paste it in your browser
- You should see your website live!



## Conclusion

This hands-on exercise demonstrates how to use AWS S3 to host a static website. The setup is perfect for demos, portfolios, or learning projects. For production use, it is recommended to integrate CloudFront, enable HTTPS, and keep the bucket private using Origin Access Control (OAC).