# Introduction to CloudFront What is CloudFront?

CloudFront is the Content Delivery Network (CDN) of AWS. Basically, it is a globally distributed network located on different geographical places. The aim of this service is to provide faster distribution to the dynamic or the static web contents. World-wide distributed data centers which are called edge locations are the backbone of CloudFront.



#### CloudFront Infrastructure



The Amazon CloudFront Global Edge Network

AWS CloudFront has a world-wide network of 216 Points of Presence (PoP) consisting of 205 Edge Locations and 11 Regional Edge Caches. These facilities are spread over 84 cities across 42 countries. The image above shows The Amazon CloudFront Global Edge Network.

You can check the link below to see the Edge Locations and the Regional Edge Caches all around the world.

The Amazon CloudFront Global Edge Network

## How Does CloudFront Work?



How does CloudFront work?

When a request is sent from an end user to the origin server, this request has to travel through the entire connecting network from the user's computer to the origin server. The response of the origin server (i.e. image.png) has to cover the same distance back to the user's computer as well.

Considering the vast number of users in a region trying to fetch/send data from/to servers in different regions, this process inevitably causes latency and redundant traffic.

CloudFront's world-wide distributed edge locations cache requested data and deliver it to the end users without the necessity of going back and forth between users and servers.

### Accessing CloudFront



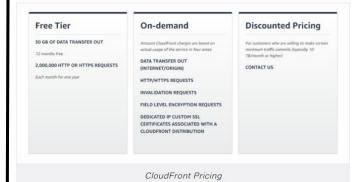
Accessing CloudFront

AWS enables you to access CloudFront via:

- AWS Management Console: You can use Management Console to easily access CloudFront like many other services.
- AWS Command Line Interface: You can use also CLI to access CloudFront.

  Please check this link if you need more information about AWS CLI.
- AWS Tools for Windows PowerShell: As well as CLI, AWS lets you access CloudFront using Windows PowerShell. Here is the link for more information about AWS Tools for Windows PowerShell.
- AWS SDKs: You can use SDKs to access CloudFront. AWS provides SDKs for many programming languages. To see these SDKs and programming languages check Tools for Amazon Web Services.
- CloudFront API: If you can't find an SDK which AWS provides for your
  programming language, see Amazon CloudFront API Reference for information
  about making API requests and API actions.

#### CloudFront Pricing



CloudFront offers three options for pricing:

- Free Tier
- On-demand
- Discounted Pricing

Pricing varies depending on region and usage. Thus, to be more cost effective setup your configuration regarding your goal, methods, end users and geographic locations. You can check the link below to see AWS pricing in detail.

#### AWS CloudFront Pricing

You can also estimate your monthly bill using the AWS Simple Monthly Calculator.