**Team Access Tutorial: GMU Honeypot EC2 Instance**

**Prerequisites**

* Windows 10/11 with WSL2 installed
* VS Code with Remote-WSL extension
* Basic terminal/SSH knowledge

**Step 1: Install WSL2 (if not already installed)**

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| # Run in PowerShell as Administrator  wsl --install  # Restart computer when prompted |

**Step 2: Get the SSH Key**

**Team Leader will provide:**

* File: ​gmu-honeypot-key.pem​
* EC2 IP: ​44.222.200.1​

**Save the key file to your WSL home directory:**

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| # In WSL terminal  mkdir -p ~/.ssh  # Copy the key file to ~/.ssh/gmu-honeypot-key.pem  chmod 400 ~/.ssh/gmu-honeypot-key.pem |

**Step 3: Test Connection**

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| # Test SSH connection  ssh -i ~/.ssh/gmu-honeypot-key.pem ec2-user@44.222.200.1  # If successful, you'll see:  # [ec2-user@ip-172-31-21-182 ~]$ |

**Step 4: Create Convenient Alias**

Add to your ​~/.bashrc​:

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| # Edit bashrc  nano ~/.bashrc  # Add this line at the end:  alias ec2='ssh -i ~/.ssh/gmu-honeypot-key.pem ec2-user@44.222.200.1'  # Save and reload  source ~/.bashrc |

**Step 5: Quick Access**

Now you can connect with just:

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| --- |
| ec2 |

**Common Commands on EC2**

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| --- |
| # Check Cowrie status  sudo -u cowrie python3.10 /opt/cowrie/src/cowrie/scripts/cowrie.py status  # View Cowrie logs  sudo tail -f /opt/cowrie/var/log/cowrie/cowrie.log  # Test honeypot (from another terminal)  ssh -p 2222 root@44.222.200.1  # Stop/Start Cowrie  sudo -u cowrie python3.10 /opt/cowrie/src/cowrie/scripts/cowrie.py stop  sudo -u cowrie python3.10 /opt/cowrie/src/cowrie/scripts/cowrie.py start |

**Troubleshooting**

**Permission Denied Error:**

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| --- |
| # Fix key permissions  chmod 400 ~/.ssh/gmu-honeypot-key.pem |

**Connection Refused:**

* Check if EC2 instance is running in AWS Console
* Verify security group allows SSH (port 22) from your IP

**Wrong User:**

* Use ​ec2-user​, not ​ubuntu​ or ​root​
* Amazon Linux 2 uses ​ec2-user​ as default

**Security Notes**

* **Never share the private key publicly**
* **Only use for project purposes**
* **Don't modify system files without team coordination**
* **Always use ​sudo -u cowrie​ for Cowrie operations**

**Project Structure**

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| --- |
| /opt/cowrie/          # Main Cowrie directory  ├── src/              # Source code  ├── etc/              # Configuration files  ├── var/log/cowrie/   # Log files  └── honeyfs/          # Fake filesystem for honeypot |

**Team Coordination**

* **Coordinate Cowrie restarts** - notify team before stopping
* **Share interesting log findings** in team chat
* **Document any configuration changes**
* **Use screen/tmux for long-running processes**

**Quick Reference**

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| --- | --- |
| **Command** | **Purpose** |
| ​ec2​ | Connect to EC2 instance |
| ​sudo tail -f /opt/cowrie/var/log/cowrie/cowrie.log​ | View live logs |
| ​ssh -p 2222 root@44.222.200.1​ | Test honeypot |
| ​sudo netstat -tlnp | grep 2222​ | Check if honeypot is running |



**Questions?** Contact the team leader or check the project documentation.