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How To Check Whether An EC2 Instance Has Finished Initialising?



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When working with EC2, sometimes you need to know whether AWS has finished creating the instance. There are many ways to do this, here are some the ones I have

found work best.

Waiting for boot-finished flag to exist

When AWS have finished setting up the instance, it adds a file into the filesystem at location:

```
/var/lib/cloud/instances/{instance-id}/boot-finished
```

Using the script below, it is possible to wait for the file to exist

```
while true
do
  if [ $(find /var/lib/cloud/instances -maxdepth 2 -name 'boot-
finished' -print -quit) ]; then
    break
  else
    echo Waiting for boot-finished...
    sleep 5
  fi
done
```

This technique is handy as it doesn't rely on you knowing your instance id, or to call the aws cli, but can only be performed on the ec2 instance.





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Using Boto3 or AWS Cli

There are methods within the AWS cli which allow checking the status of an EC2 instance. In order to use these, you need to know the instance id.

The good thing with this, is that it can be run outside of the ec2 instance.

```
aws ec2 start-instances --instance-ids "i-XXXXXXX"
```

There is a similar method within boto3

```
import boto3
client = boto3.client('ec2')
instances = client.create_instances(ImageId='image.id',
    MinCount=1,
    MaxCount=1,
    KeyName='key_name',
    InstanceType='t2.micro',
    SubnetId='subnet.id')

instances[0].wait_until_running()
```

Ec2 DevOps AWS

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