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Installing Ubuntu in AWS EC2

This chapter guides you through setting up an Ubuntu server on Amazon's Elastic Compute Cloud (EC2) service. We'll navigate the AWS console to create a new instance, ensuring cost-efficiency and secure access.

Prerequisites

- An AWS account with appropriate permissions to launch EC2 instances.
- Basic understanding of navigating web interfaces.

Accessing the AWS Management Console

1. Navigate to the AWS Management Console at <https://aws.amazon.com/console/>.
2. Sign in to your AWS account using your credentials.

Launching an Instance

1. **Search for EC2:** In the console's search bar, type "EC2" and select "Amazon EC2" from the search results. This will take you to the EC2 service dashboard.
2. **Launch Instance:** Click the orange "Launch Instance" button on the EC2 dashboard.
3. **Choose an AMI (Amazon Machine Image):**
 - On the "Choose an AMI" page, select an Ubuntu image that qualifies for the free tier. You can find free-tier eligible AMIs by searching for "Ubuntu Server" and filtering by "Free tier eligible" under the "Filters" section on the left side of the page.
4. **Select Instance Type:**
 - Under "Choose an Instance Type," select a cost-effective option like the "t2.micro" instance type. This instance type is suitable for basic server tasks and falls within the free tier limitations.
5. **Configure Instance Details:**
 - You can leave most of the following options at their default settings unless you have specific requirements:
 - Number of Instances: 1
 - Storage: Defaults are sufficient for basic setups.
 - VPC (Virtual Private Cloud): Defaults are sufficient for this tutorial.
6. **Create a Key Pair:**

- Under "Network Settings," choose "Create a new key pair." Enter a key pair name (e.g., "myUbuntuServer") and download the key pair (.pem) file securely. This key file will be used to connect to your Ubuntu server later.
- 7. Security Group Configuration:**
 - Click on "Security group" and then "Create Security Group."
 - Give your security group a name (e.g., "UbuntuServerAccess") and a description.
 - Click "Edit inbound rules."
 - Add a new rule allowing SSH access:
 - Rule Type: SSH
 - Source: Custom – Choose your IP address or CIDR block to restrict access (0.0.0.0/0 allows all traffic for demonstration purposes, but restrict this for real-world scenarios).
 - Port Range: 22 (default SSH port)
 - Save the security group configuration.
- 8. Launch the Instance:**
 - Review your instance configuration on the final screen.
 - Ensure you have selected the free-tier eligible AMI, t2.micro instance type, and created a new key pair.
 - Click "Launch" to start provisioning your Ubuntu server instance.
- 9. Note your Instance ID:**
 - On the launch confirmation page, make note of your instance's public DNS name (e.g., [invalid URL removed]). You'll use this to connect to your server.

Connecting to your Ubuntu Server

Once your instance has launched (it may take a few minutes), you can connect to it using SSH. Here's how:

- 1. Prerequisites:**
 - Downloaded key pair (.pem) file from step 6.
 - An SSH client (e.g., terminal with SSH installed for Linux/macOS or PuTTY for Windows).
- 2. Connect using SSH:**
 - Open your SSH client and connect to your server using its public DNS name and username "ubuntu" (default for Ubuntu):

```
ssh -i <key_pair_file.pem> ubuntu@<public_dns_name>
```

* Replace ``<key_pair_file.pem>`` with the actual path to your downloaded key pair file.
* Replace ``<public_dns_name>`` with the public DNS name of your instance obtained in step 9 of the launch process.

- 3. Enter your key passphrase (if set):**
 - If you set a passphrase while creating the key pair, you'll be prompted to enter it at this stage.
- 4. Command Line Access:**
 - Upon successful authentication, you'll be granted command-line access to your Ubuntu server.