# S3 Lifecycle Configuration

To automatically delete backups older than 7 days, you use S3 Lifecycle Configuration. This is a feature built into AWS S3 that automatically manages objects for you.
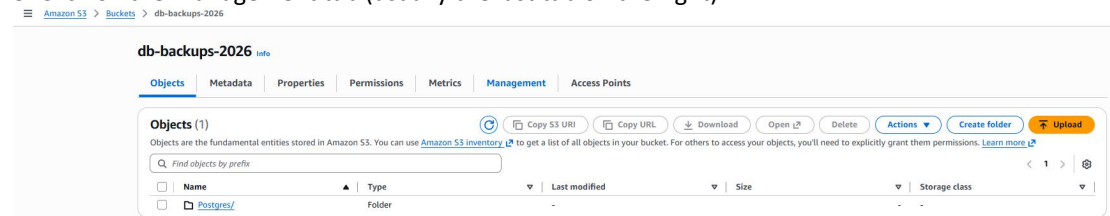
You can set this up easily from the AWS Console (Web Browser).

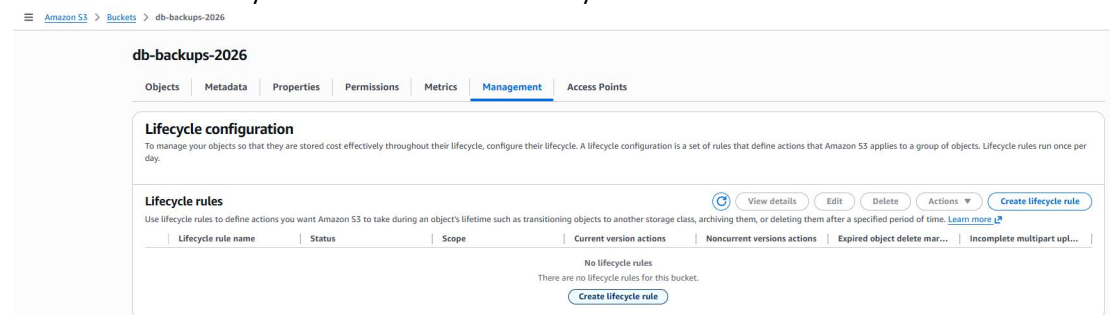Steps to Set 7-Day Retention Policy
1. Login to AWS Console and go to the S3 service.
2. Click on your bucket name (db-backups-2026).
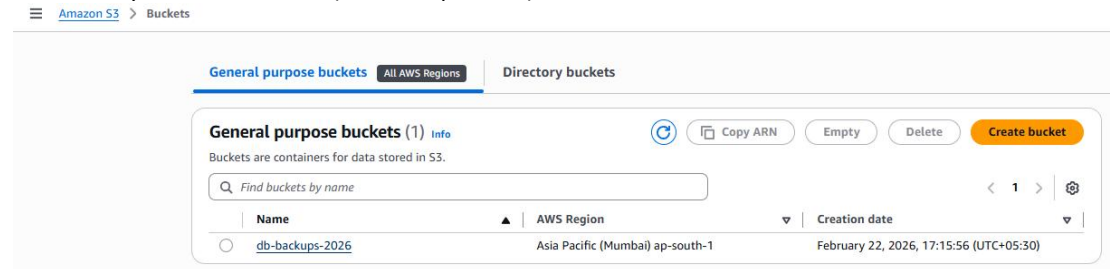
3. Click on the Management tab (usually the last tab on the right).

4. Scroll down to Lifecycle rules and click Create lifecycle rule.

Fill in the Rule Details:
1. Rule name: Enter a name, e.g., DeleteOldBackups.

2. Scope:
Select Limit the scope of this rule using one or more filters.
In the Prefix box, type: Postgres/

(This ensures the rule only applies to your database backups and not other files in the bucket).

Prefix
Add filter to limit the scope of this rule to a single prefix.

> Postgres/

Don't include the bucket name in the prefix. Using certain characters in key names can cause problems with some applications and protocols. Learn more ↗

Object tags
You can limit the scope of this rule to the key/value pairs added below.

(Add tag)

Object size
You can limit the scope of this rule to apply to objects based on their size. Learn more ↗

☐ Specify minimum object size
☐ Specify maximum object size

3. Lifecycle rule actions:
Check the box: Expire current versions of objects.
(This is the setting that deletes files).

Lifecycle rule actions

Choose the actions you want this rule to perform.

☐ Transition current versions of objects between storage classes
This action will move current versions.

☐ Transition noncurrent versions of objects between storage classes
This action will move noncurrent versions.

☑ Expire current versions of objects

☐ Permanently delete noncurrent versions of objects

☐ Delete expired object delete markers or incomplete multipart uploads
These actions are not supported when filtering by object tags or object size.

4. Expire current versions of objects:
Enter 7 in the "Days after object creation" box.

Expire current versions of objects
For version-enabled buckets, Amazon S3 adds a delete marker and the current version of an object is retained as a noncurrent version. For non-versioned buckets, Amazon S3 permanently removes the object. Learn more ↗

Days after object creation

> 7

Review

Review transition and expiration actions

Current version actions	Noncurrent versions actions
Day 0	**Day 0**
• Objects uploaded	No actions defined.
↓	
Day 7	
• Objects expire	

5. Click Create rule at the bottom.

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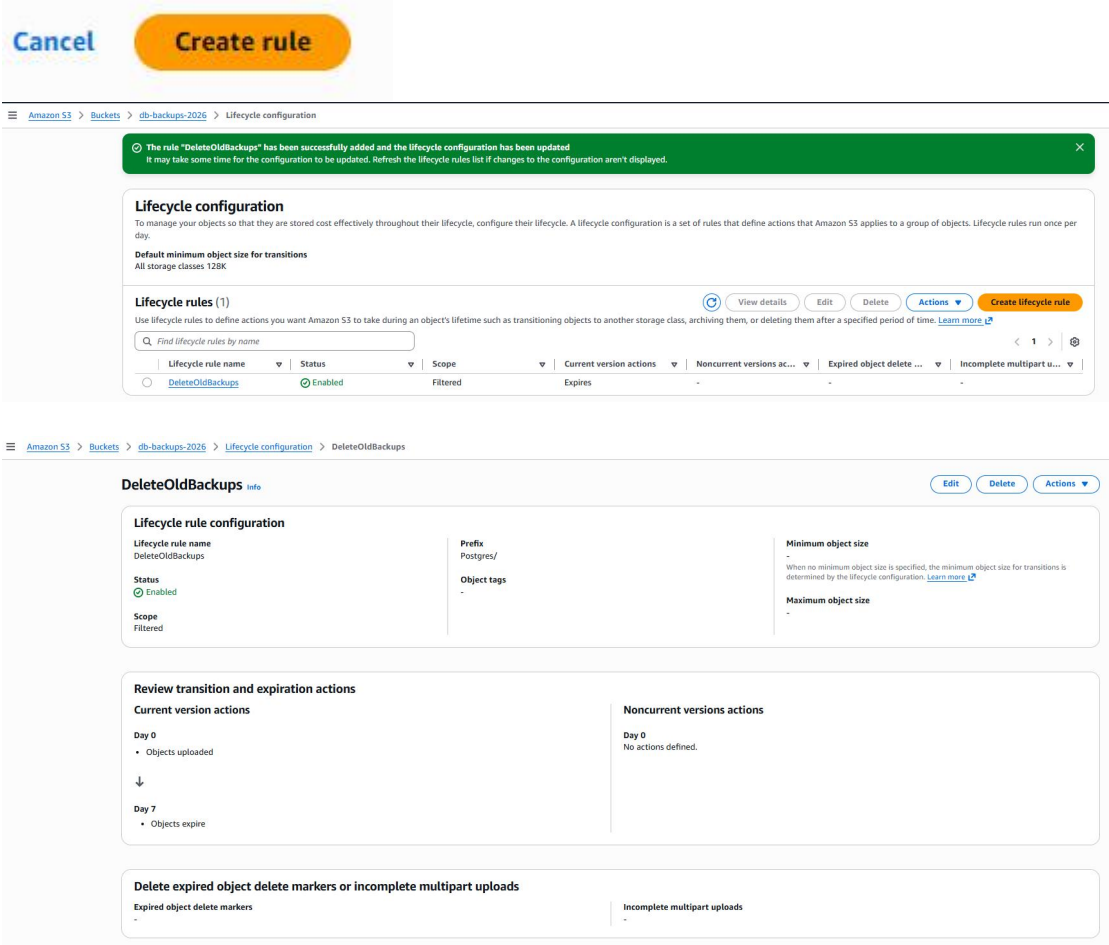
How it works:
AWS will check this bucket daily.
Any file inside the Postgres/ folder that is older than 7 days will be permanently deleted.
You do not need to change your script; AWS handles the cleanup automatically.