

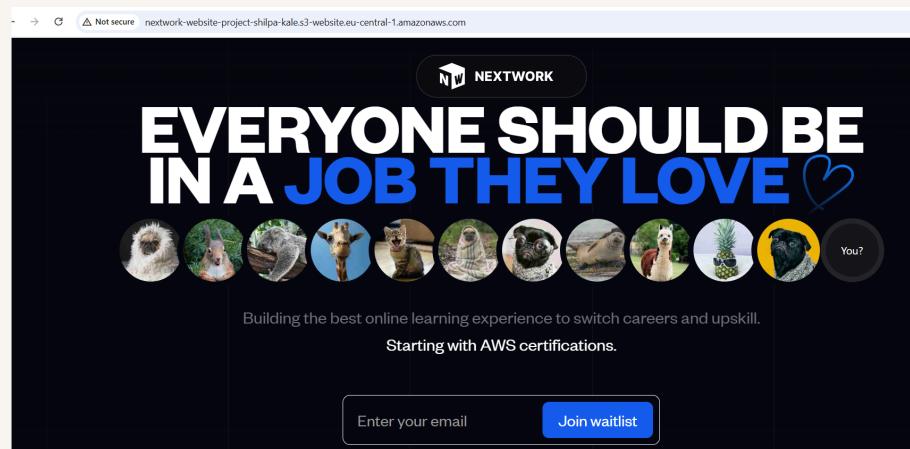


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Host a Website on Amazon S3



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Introducing Today's Project!

In this project, we will demonstrate how to use S3 to host a static website. We are doing this project to learn about AWS and cloud services and how they can be used to store objects in the cloud AND even host websites.

Tools and concepts

Services we used were Amazon S3. Key concepts we learnt include bucket policies, uploading static website files, index.html, bucket endpoint url and ACLs.

Project reflection

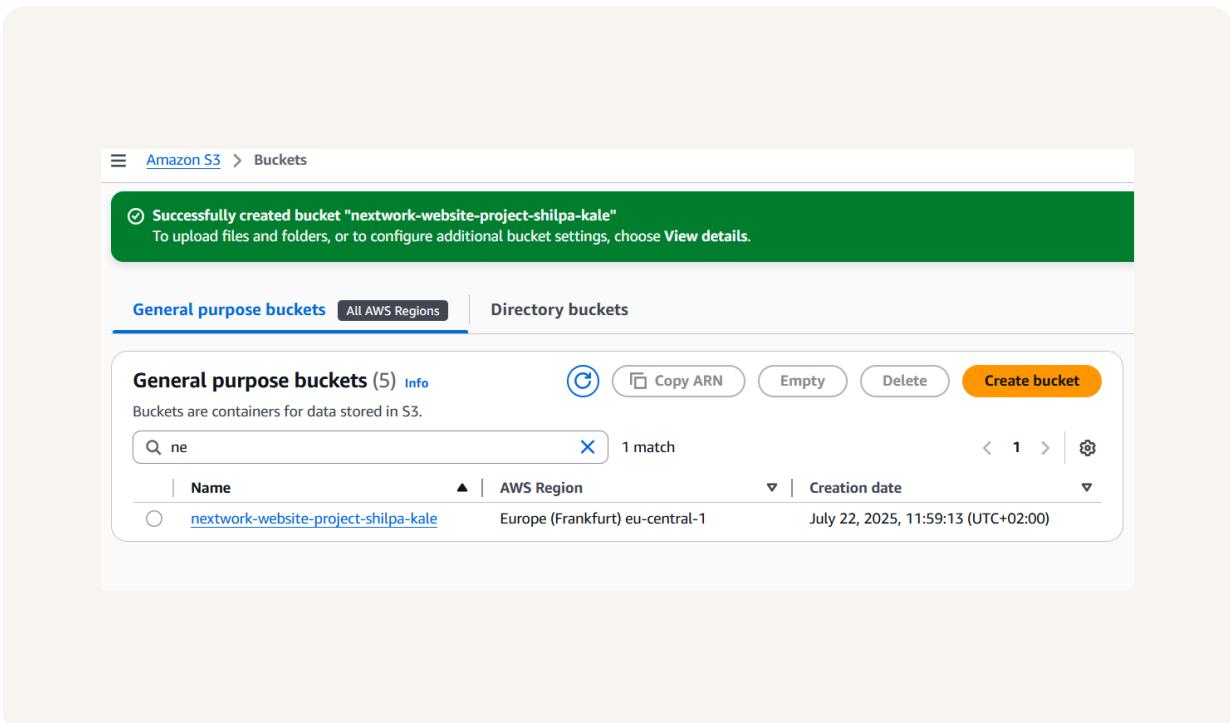
This project took me approximately 1 and half hour including demo time, quiz time. The most challenging part was resolving the 403 Forbidden error. It was most rewarding to see webpage load live and be public to the world.

How I Set Up an S3 Bucket

Creating an S3 bucket took me less than 5 minutes. We needed to learn a few concepts like ACLs, block public access.

The Region I picked for my S3 bucket was Europe(frankfurt) because it's the closest and it reduces the time to retrieve the files.

S3 bucket names are globally unique! This means no two amazon S3 buckets in the entire world can have the same name. They have to be completely unique regardless of region and the account ID.

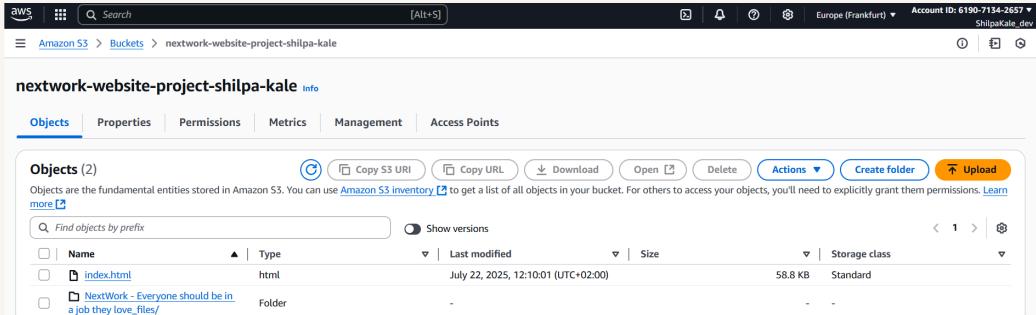


Upload Website Files to S3

index.html and image assets

We uploaded two files to my S3 bucket - they were index.html and a folder of images and assets.

Both files are necessary for this project as index.html determines the structure, but the structure alone does not illustrate the contents of the website.

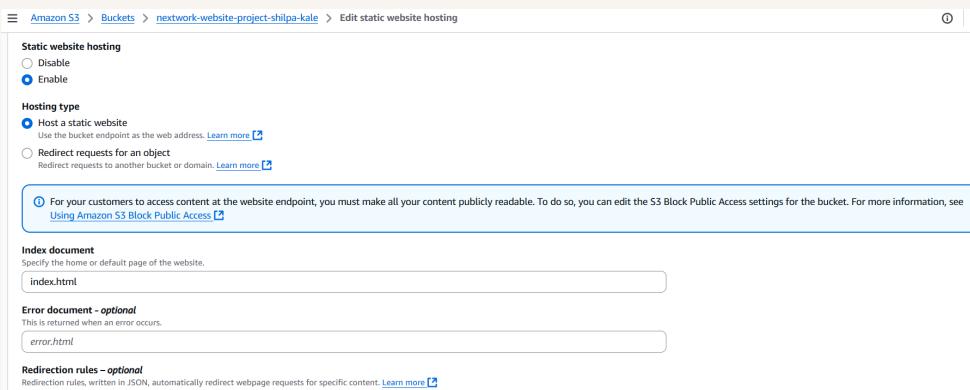


Static Website Hosting on S3

Website hosting means putting our website files on a webserver which is a computer design to turn our files into a website page that people can visit.

To enable website hosting with my S3 bucket, we went into the properties tab of our bucket and enabled static website hosting and added index.html.

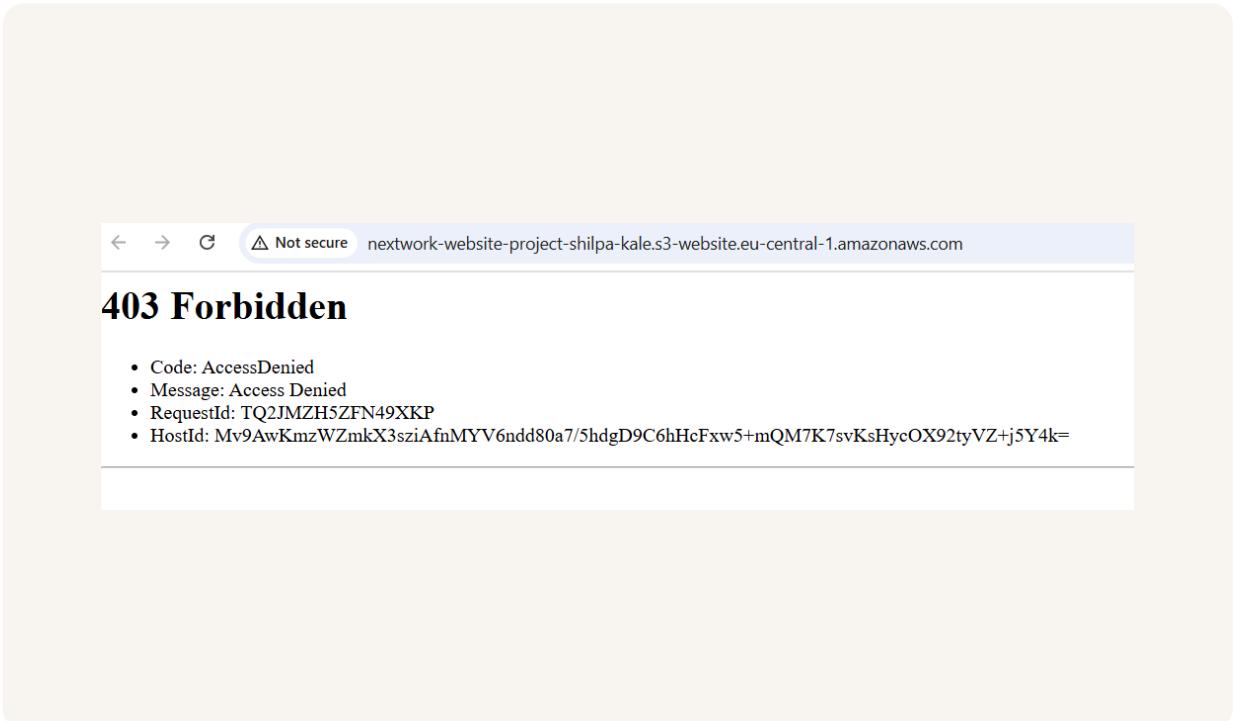
An ACL is an Access Control List. It is a way to configure permission settings inside a bucket. We enabled ACLs so that we can control access to our website files later.



Bucket Endpoints

Once static website is enabled, S3 produces a bucket endpoint URL, which is a URL that takes you and anyone in the internet to the website you are hosting

When we first visited the bucket endpoint URL, we saw an error 403 Forbidden. The reason for this error was objects in the bucket were public by default. But website files themselves were completely private. We need to manage their access settings.



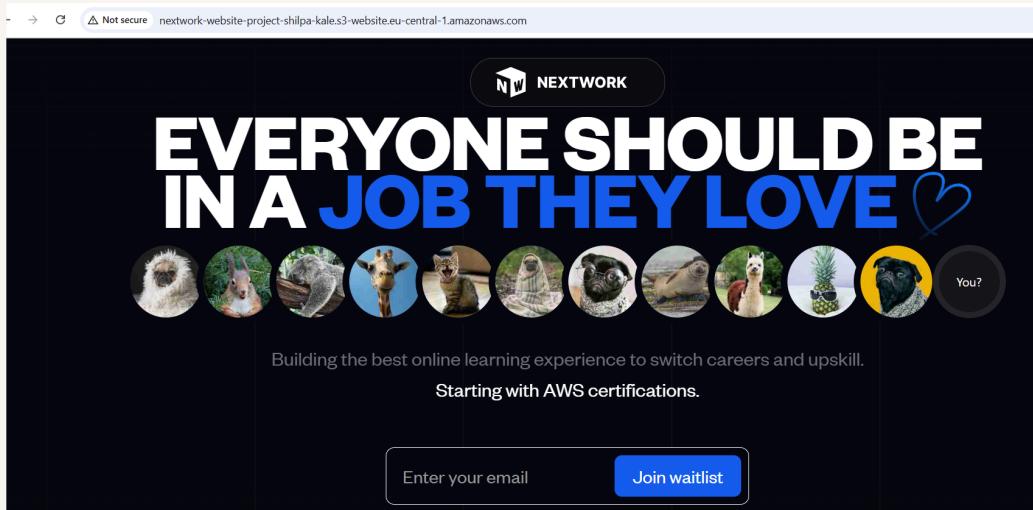


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Success!

To resolve this 403 Forbidden error, we updated the access settings of the files inside the bucket too. Using acls we made our bucket files public. Once we checked S3 bucket endpoint we can see the website.





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