



# Package an App with CodeBuild



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Copy

Objects are the fundamental entities stored in Amazon S3. You can use [Amazon S3 inventory](#) to get a list of all objects in your bucket. For other



Name



Type



Last modified



 [nextwork-web-build.zip](#)

zip

June 18,



# Introducing AWS CodeBuild!

## What it does & how it's useful

AWS CodeBuild is a fully managed continuous integration service that compiles source code, runs tests, and produces software packages.

Developers and teams use AWS CodeBuild because it scales automatically, integrates with other AWS services, and speeds up the build process.

## How I'm using it in today's project

I'm using AWS CodeBuild in this project to eliminate the need to provision, manage, and scale my own build servers.

## This project took me...

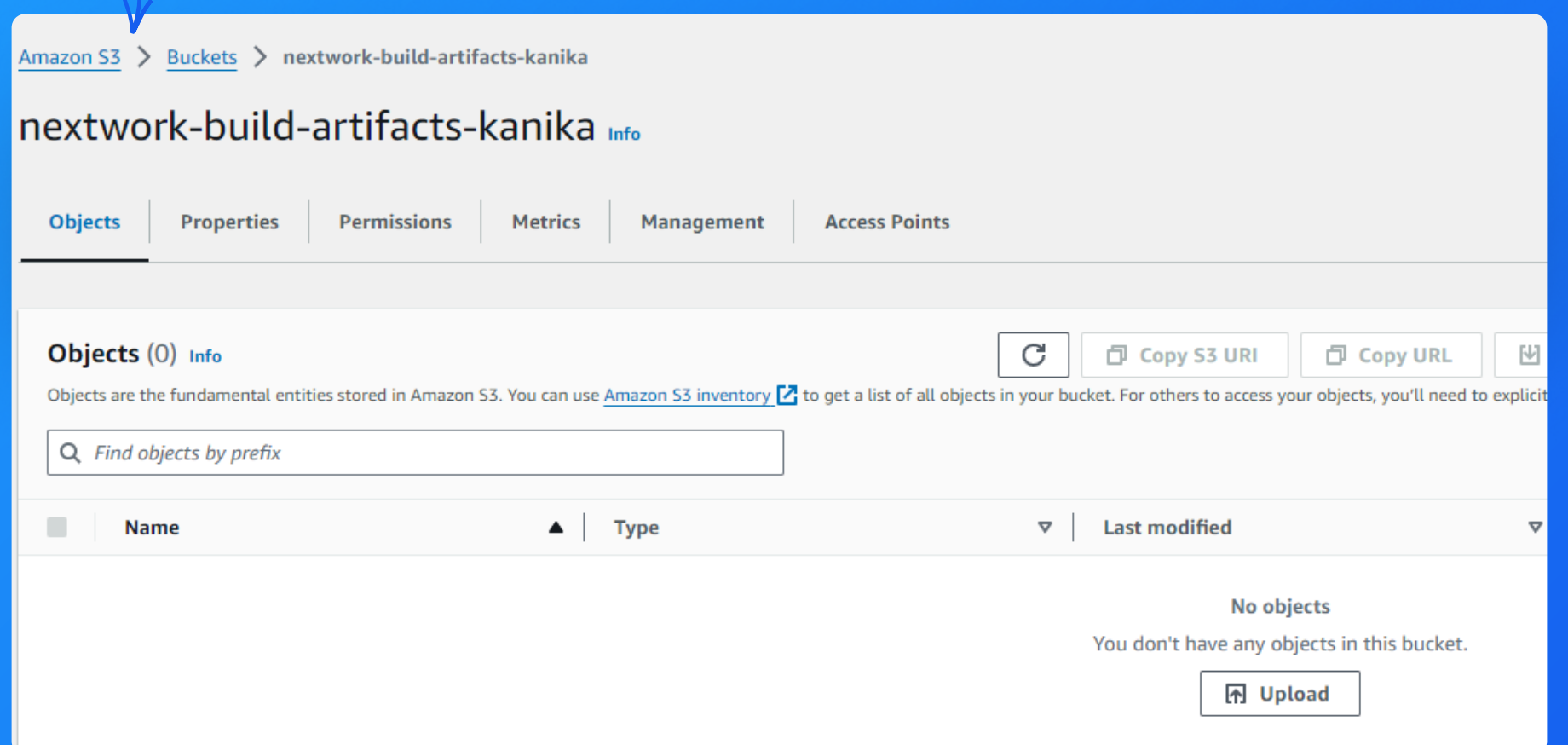
This project took me around 2 hours to complete.



# Set up an S3 bucket

- I started my project by creating an S3 bucket because this bucket will later catch an important artifact that gets created from the build process I am setting up with CodeBuild.
- The key artifact that this S3 bucket will capture is called a WAR (Web Application Resource) file.
- This file is important because it ensure that any server that will host my web app will have all of the resource/tools it needs to successfully run my application.

My S3 bucket!





# Set up a CodeBuild project

When creating a project in CodeBuild, there were 5 key configurations I set up:

1. **Source**, which means the source of the project's code/files. I selected AWS CodeCommit, as that is my cloud repository for my project's files.
2. **Environment**, which means the set of resources/configurations required to build my web app. I selected an EC2 instance running Amazon Linux 2 and Java Coretto 8 as the runtime.
3. **Buildspec**, which are the set of commands to run in my local computer's terminal during the build process. I selected "use a buildspec file."
4. **Artifacts**, which means where CodeBuild should store the build artifacts that get produced during the build process. I selected the S3 bucket I created.
5. **Logs**, which means whether I'd like to keep records of every single build process that CodeBuild does. I enabled CloudWatch Logs.

My completed project ready for the first build!

The screenshot shows the AWS CodeBuild console for a project named 'nextwork-web-build'. The top navigation bar includes buttons for 'Actions', 'Create trigger', 'Edit', 'Clone', 'Debug build', 'Start build with overrides', and 'Start build'. The 'Configuration' section displays the following settings:

Source provider	Primary repository	Artifacts upload location	Service role
AWS CodeCommit	nextwork-web-project	nextwork-build-artifacts-kanika	arn:aws:iam::991380288324:role/service-role/codebuild-nextwork-web-build-service-role

Public builds are set to 'Disabled'. Below the configuration, the 'Build history' tab is selected, showing a table with columns: Build run, Status, Build number, Source version, Submitter, Duration, and Completed. The table is currently empty, displaying 'No results' and 'There are no results to display.'



## Create a buildspec.yml file

- I created a buildspec.yml file at the root of our code repository.
- This file contains four phases that tells our build environment what commands to run. These four phases are:
  1. install -i.e. install these dependencies before you start compiling (in this project, it's Java Coretto 8).
  2. pre\_build - i.e. before Maven starts building retrieve an access token to our CodeArtifact repository so we can fetch dependencies later.
  3. build - i.e. to build our web app project, run these commands.
  4. post\_build - i.e. after building our web app project, package up the machine code using settings in the setting.xml file.

A peek into my buildspec.yml

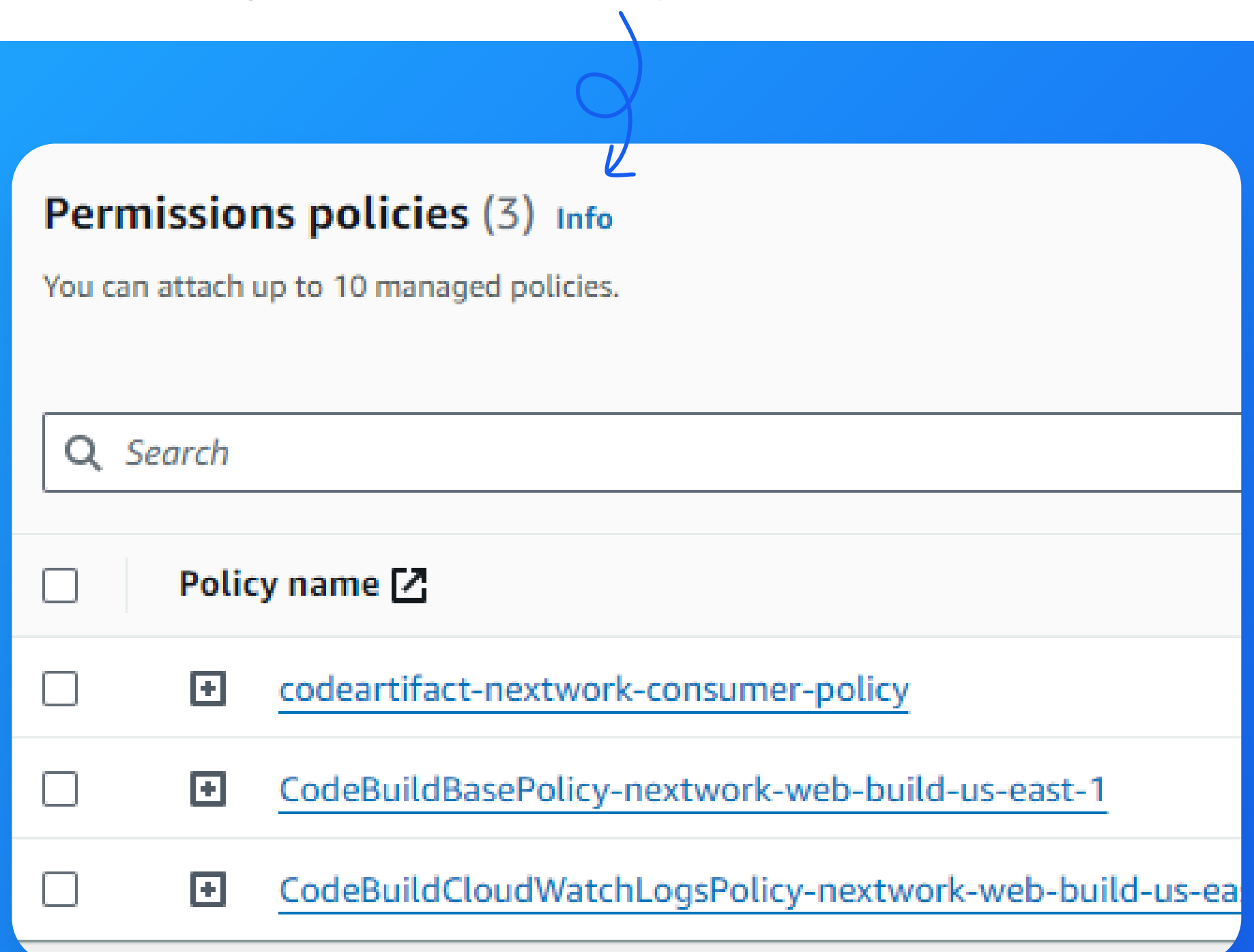
```
1  version: 0.2
2
3  phases:
4    install:
5      runtime-versions:
6        java: corretto8
7    pre_build:
8      commands:
9        - echo Initializing environment
10       - export CODEARTIFACT_AUTH_TOKEN=`aws codeartifact get-authorization-token --domain nex
11    build:
12      commands:
13        - echo Build started on `date`
14        - mvn -s settings.xml compile
15    post_build:
16      commands:
17        - echo Build completed on `date`
18        - mvn -s settings.xml package
19    artifacts:
20      files:
21        - target/nextwork-web-project.war
22    discard-paths: no
```



# Edit CodeBuild's IAM role

- Before I start building my web app project (exciting!), I modified my CodeBuild project's service role first. This role was first created when I set up my CodeBuild project (I checked the setting for create new service role).
- I attached a new policy called **codeartifact-nextwork-consumer-policy** to my CodeBuild project's IAM role. This means my CodeBuild project now has access to the packages/dependencies that it will later compile.

Updating permission policies for my CodeBuild project's IAM role.



**Permissions policies (3)** [Info](#)

You can attach up to 10 managed policies.

<input type="checkbox"/>	Policy name <a href="#">↗</a>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">+ codeartifact-nextwork-consumer-policy</a>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">+ CodeBuildBasePolicy-nextwork-web-build-us-east-1</a>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">+ CodeBuildCloudWatchLogsPolicy-nextwork-web-build-us-east-1</a>

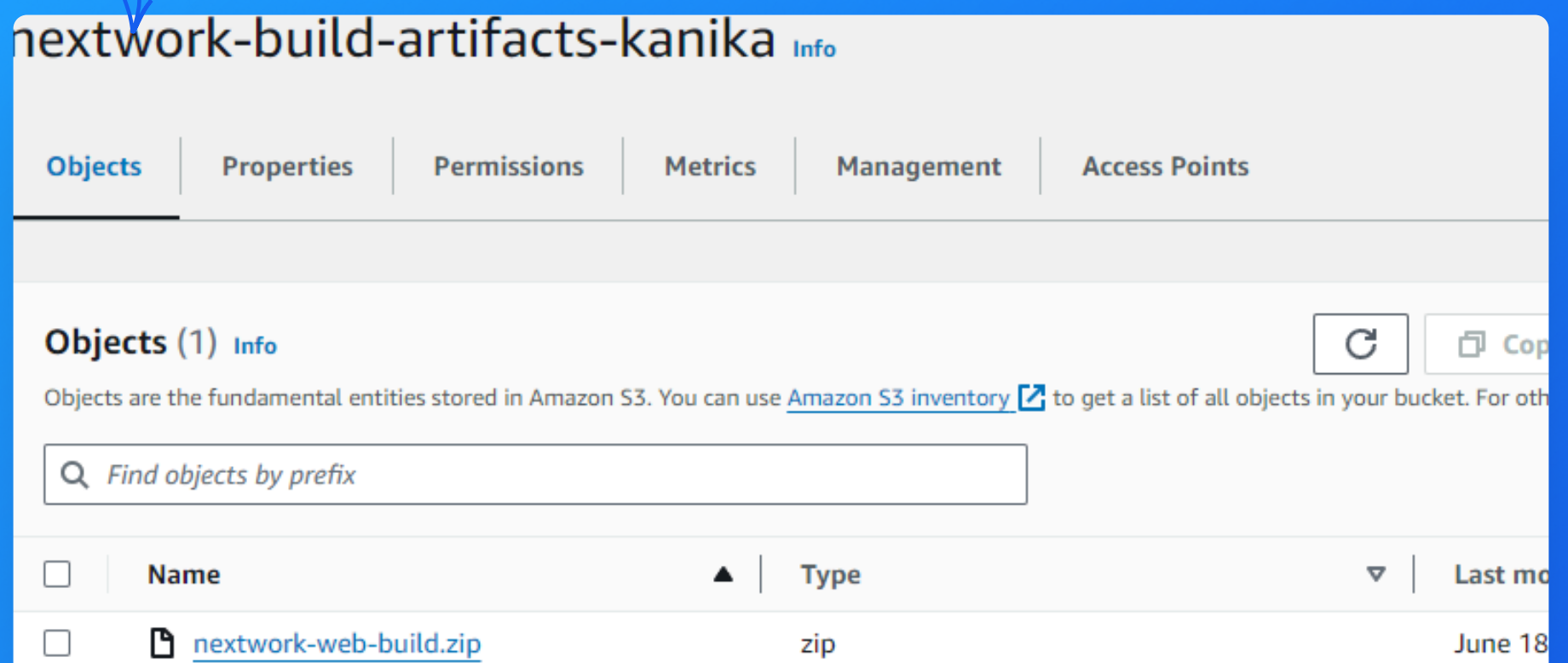




# My first project build 💪

- To build my project, all I had to do was select the Start build button in my CodeBuild console - super simple!
- The build process in CodeBuild took about 5 minutes.
- Once the build is complete, I checked our S3 bucket was set up at the start of this project to catch the build artifacts that get produced from our build process. I saw the zip file i.e. the WAR file (a bundle up package of all files/resources a server will need to run my web app), which verified that the build was completed successfully.

My completed project ready for the first build!





# My key learnings

- 1 The build process, or 'building', means converting source code into executable software. This involves compiling code, running tests, and packaging the software, ensuring that all dependencies are included and the code is ready for deployment.
- 2 The `buildspec.yml` file is a configuration file for AWS CodeBuild. It defines the build commands and settings used in the build process, including environment variables, build phases, and artifacts. This file ensures consistency and automation in building your project.
- 3 Even though CodeBuild creates a new service role for my build environment, I still have to modify the role's permission policies because the default permissions may not cover all the specific actions and resources my project requires.
- 4 One thing I didn't expect was how straightforward and efficient the integration of AWS CodeBuild with other AWS services would be, significantly streamlining our CI/CD pipeline and reducing manual overhead.



# Everyone should be in a job they love. *yes!*

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