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Amazon Machine Images (AMI)

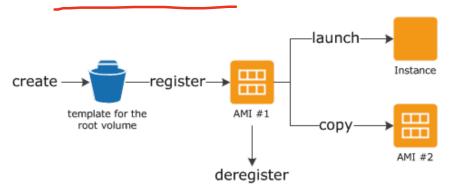
An Amazon Machine Image (AMI) provides the information required to launch an instance, which is a virtual You must specify a source AMI when you launch an instance. You can launch multiple instances from a singular need multiple instances with the same configuration. You can use different AMIs to launch instances when with different configurations.

An AMI includes the following:

- A template for the root volume for the instance (for example, an operating system, an application ser applications)
- Launch permissions that control which AWS accounts can use the AMI to launch instances
- A block device mapping that specifies the volumes to attach to the instance when it's launched

Using an AMI

The following diagram summarizes the AMI lifecycle. After you create and register an AMI, you can use it to laun instances. (You can also launch instances from an AMI if the AMI owner grants you launch permissions.) You can within the same region or to different regions. When you no longer require an AMI, you can deregister it.



You can search for an AMI that meets the criteria for your instance. You can search for AMIs provided by AWS or by the community. For more information, see AMI Types and Finding a Linux AMI.

When you are connected to an instance, you can use it just like you use any other server. For information about l connecting, and using your instance, see Amazon EC2 Instances.

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Creating Your Own AMI

You can launch an instance from an existing AMI, customize the instance, and then save this updated conf AMI. Instances launched from this new custom AMI include the customizations that you made when you

The root storage device of the instance determines the process you follow to create an AMI. The root volue either an Amazon EBS volume or an instance store volume. For information, see Amazon EC2 Root Device

To create an Amazon EBS-backed AMI, see Creating an Amazon EBS-Backed Linux AMI. To create an instal see Creating an Instance Store-Backed Linux AMI.

To help categorize and manage your AMIs, you can assign custom *tags* to them. For more information, see Amazon EC2 Resources.

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