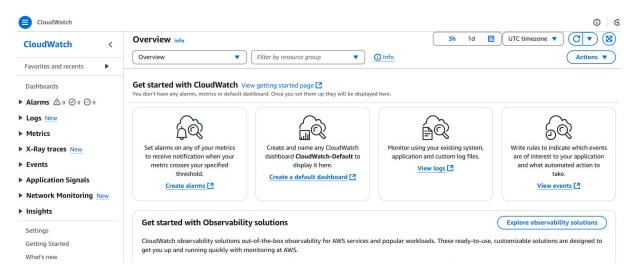
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Overview

Amazon CloudWatch is a monitoring and observability service that provides data and actionable insights to monitor your applications, optimize resource utilization, and respond to system-wide performance changes. Setting up an alarm in CloudWatch allows you to monitor specific metrics (e.g., CPU utilization for an EC2 instance) and take automated actions or receive notifications when thresholds are breached.

The task focuses on configuring a CloudWatch alarm to monitor CPU utilization for an EC2 instance, triggering an alert when the CPU usage exceeds 80% for 5 consecutive minutes.



Prerequisites

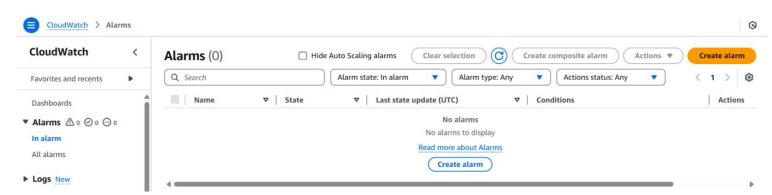
- · AWS Account: Active account with CloudWatch and EC2 access.
- · Running EC2 Instance: An instance to monitor, using a supported AMI (e.g., Amazon Linux).
- · CloudWatch Agent: Optional for tracking metrics like memory and disk usage.
- · **SNS Topic**: For receiving alarm notifications (e.g., email or SMS).
- · Basic Info: Instance name, CPU threshold (80%), and evaluation duration (5 minutes).

Step 1: Log in to AWS Console

Access the AWS Management Console and navigate to the CloudWatch service.

Step 2: Navigate to Alarms

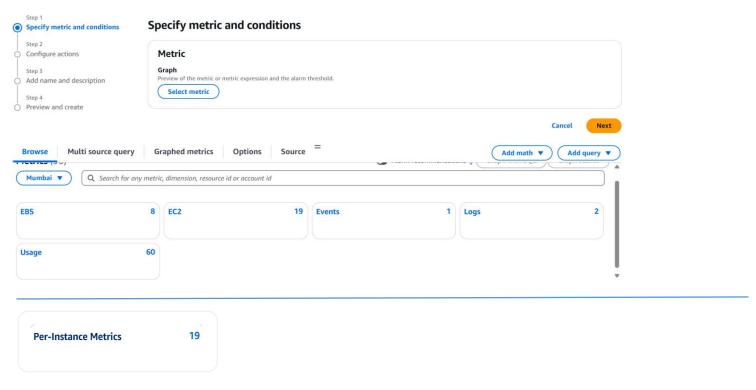
- · In the CloudWatch dashboard, on the left-hand side, click on Alarms under the Events section.
- Click Create alarm at the top of the page.



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Step 3: Select a Metric

- In the Create Alarm window, click Select Metric.
- Navigate to EC2 > Per-Instance Metrics.



Step 4: Choose CPU Utilization Metric



Step 5: Configure Metric and Conditions

- · Statistic: Leave it as Average.
- · Period: Set to 1 minute.
- · Threshold Type: Select Static to define a specific value.
- · Threshold: Set to Greater than 80.

Step 6: Set Evaluation Periods

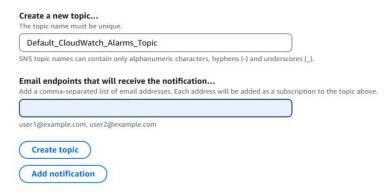
80	
Must be a number	
▼ Additional configuration	
Datapoints to alarm Define the number of datapoints within the evaluation period that must be breaching to cause the alarm to go to ALARM state. 5 out of 5	
Missing data treatment How to treat missing data when evaluating the alarm.	
Treat missing data as missing	

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- In the Condition section, under Additional Configuration, set the Datapoints to Alarm to 5 out of 5.
- This ensures the alarm triggers only if the CPU Utilization exceeds 80% for **5 consecutive 1-minute periods** (5 minutes in total).

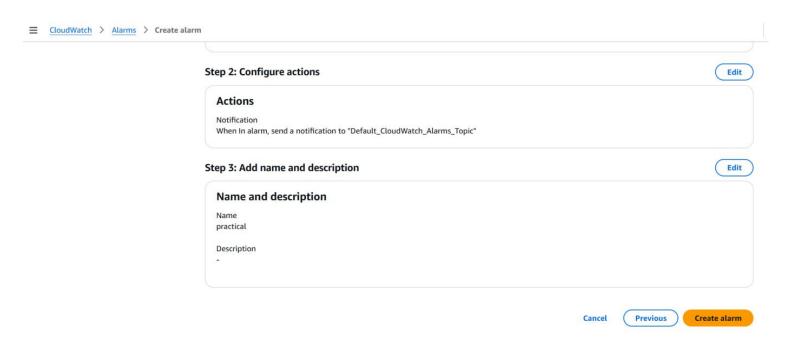
Step 7: Set Up Notification

- Click Next and create an SNS topic (or use an existing one) to send the alert.
- Provide an email address to receive notifications and confirm the subscription via the email sent to you.



Step 7: Name the alarm

- On the next page, provide a name for your alarm (e.g., "High CPU Alarm").
- Review the settings and click Create Alarm.



Your alarm is now set up to monitor CPU utilization and notify you if it exceeds 80% for 5 minutes.