

Hosting a Static Website on Amazon S3

1. Create an S3 Bucket

- Go to the AWS S3 Console
- Click “Create bucket”
- Bucket name: Must be globally unique (e.g., my-website-bucket)
- Region: Choose your preferred AWS region
- Uncheck “Block all public access” (important for website access)
- Acknowledge the warning and create the bucket

2. Upload Your Website Files

- Click on your bucket name
- Click “Upload”
- Upload your static files (e.g., index.html, style.css, etc.)
- Click “Upload”

3. Set Permissions

To allow public access:

1. Go to your bucket > Permissions tab
2. Under Bucket Policy, paste the following JSON (replace your-bucket-name):

```
json
CopyEdit
{
  "Version": "2012-10-17",
  "Statement": [
    {
      "Sid": "PublicReadGetObject",
      "Effect": "Allow",
      "Principal": "*",
      "Action": "s3:GetObject",
      "Resource": "arn:aws:s3:::your-bucket-name/*"
    }
  ]
}
```

- "Effect": "Allow" → Grants permission
- "Principal": "*" → Applies to everyone (public)
- "Action": "s3:GetObject" → Allows downloading (read-only)
- "Resource": "arn:aws:s3:::your-bucket-name/*" → Applies to all objects in the bucket

Why Set a Bucket Policy for Static Website Hosting?

By default, S3 buckets are private — no one (not even you via a browser) can access the files unless permissions are explicitly granted.

Without a proper bucket policy:

- Users will get a 403 Forbidden error when visiting your site
- Your website won't load images, CSS, JS, etc.

4. Enable Static Website Hosting

1. Go to the Properties tab of the bucket
2. Scroll to "Static website hosting"
3. Click Edit
4. Select "Enable"
5. Enter:
 - Index document: index.html
 - (Optional) Error document: error.html
6. Save changes

5. Access Your Website

- Go back to the Properties > Static website hosting
- Copy the "Bucket website endpoint" URL (e.g., <http://your-bucket-name.s3-website-us-east-1.amazonaws.com>)
- Open it in your browser — your static website is now live!