



VPC Traffic Flow and Security

R

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The screenshot shows the AWS VPC Security Groups console. A success message at the top states: "Security group (sg-08425e9b511b0e1da | NextWork Security Group) was created successfully". The main card displays the following details:

Security group name	sg-08425e9b511b0e1da	Description	VPC ID
Owner	32177568295	Inbound rules count	1 Permission entry
		Outbound rules count	1 Permission entry

Below the details, there are tabs for Inbound rules, Outbound rules, Sharing - new, VPC associations - new, and Tags. The Inbound rules section shows one rule:

Version	Type	Protocol	Port range	Source	Description
1	HTTP	TCP	80	0.0.0.0/0	-

Introducing Today's Project!

What is Amazon VPC?

Amazon VPC is a service provided by AWS that allows us to create a logically isolated section of the AWS cloud, where we can launch and manage resources in a secure and controlled environment.

How I used Amazon VPC in this project

I used Amazon VPC in this project to add a security group to my resource within a subnet in a VPC and also a network ACL to the subnet. I also created a route table that directs traffic from the internet gateway to the resources in the subnet.

One thing I didn't expect in this project was...

The various security layers for a resource inside a subnet in a VPC.

This project took me...

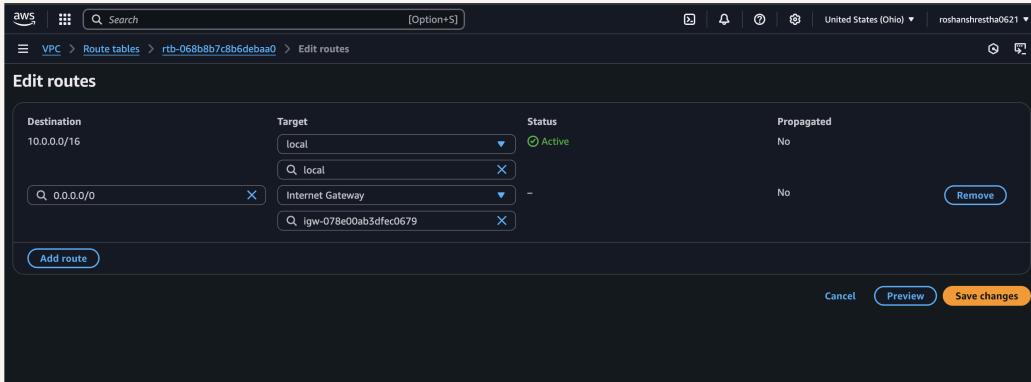
About an hour.



Route tables

Route tables are a table of rules, called routes that decide where data in the network should go. Like GPS/Maps for data. Every subnet in your VPC needs to be linked to a route table, because the table tells your subnet's traffic where to travel to.

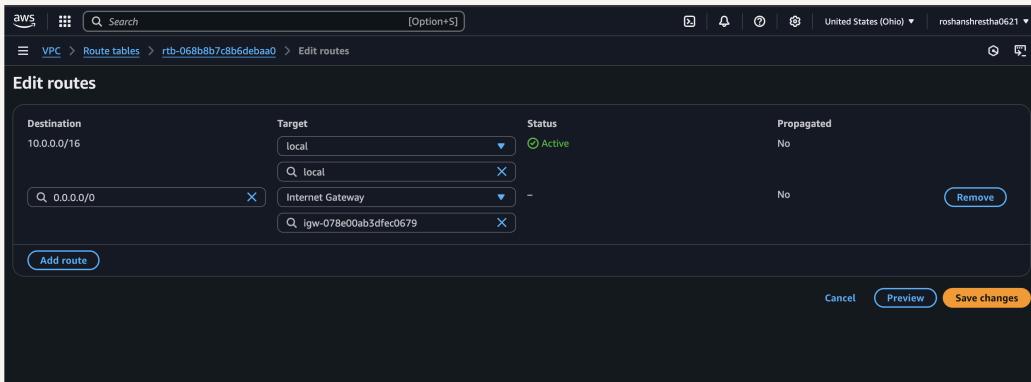
Routes tables are needed to make a subnet public because the routes direct the resources within the subnet to the internet via the internet gateway.



Route destination and target

Routes are defined by their destination and target, which mean the ip address range that the traffic wants to reach and the road or path the traffic will have to take to get to its destination respectively.

The route in my route table that directed internet-bound traffic to my internet gateway had a destination of 0.0.0.0/0 and a target of igw-078e00ab3dfec0679



Security groups

Security groups are like guards to resources within a subnet inside a VPC. Every resource must be associated with a security group. If a resource is launched without a security group, AWS associates it to the default security group created for the VPC

Inbound vs Outbound rules

Inbound rules are rules that control the data that can enter the resources within a security group. I configured an inbound rule that set source as 0.0.0.0/0 and allows any IP address to access my resources in the public subnet

Outbound rules are rules that control the data that your resources can send out. eg. email, request data from other service. By default, my security group's outbound rule allows all outbound traffic unless specified otherwise.



The screenshot shows the AWS VPC Security Groups console. A success message at the top states: "Security group (sg-08425e9b511b0e1da | NextWork Security Group) was created successfully". The main card displays the following details:

Security group name NextWork Security Group	Security group ID sg-08425e9b511b0e1da	Description A Security Group for the NextWork VPC	VPC ID vpc-028ee8e2a4aa16681
Owner 321775682595	Inbound rules count 1 Permission entry	Outbound rules count 1 Permission entry	

Below the details, there are tabs for Inbound rules, Outbound rules, Sharing - new, VPC associations - new, and Tags. The Inbound rules section shows one rule:

Version	Type	Protocol	Port range	Source	Description
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Buttons for Manage tags and Edit inbound rules are visible above the table.

Network ACLs

Network ACLs are broad traffic rules that apply to an entire subnet. One ACL per subnet. They check each data packet against a table of ACL rules before allowing them through.

Security groups vs. network ACLs

The difference between a security group and a network ACL is that security groups allow granular control managing access to each individual resource while a network ACL applies to an entire subnet.

Default vs Custom Network ACLs

Similar to security groups, network ACLs use inbound and outbound rules

By default, a network ACL's inbound and outbound rules will allow all inbound and outbound traffic.

In contrast, a custom ACL's inbound and outbound rules are automatically set to block all traffic.

The screenshot shows the AWS VPC Network ACLs console. On the left, the navigation pane includes sections for Virtual private cloud, Security (Network ACLs selected), and PrivateLink and Lattice. The main content area displays a table of Network ACLs with one row highlighted:

Name	Network ACL ID	Associated with	Default	VPC ID
acl-0d73aea39f508ba66	3 Subnets	-	Yes	vpc-014df052d02fd0ee7
acl-0e346e0563103f731	-	-	Yes	vpc-028ee8e2a4aa16681 / NextWork V...
NextWork Network A...	acl-034ece16794b2b8c6	subnet-00ce4436a00bd18a / Public_1	No	vpc-028ee8e2a4aa16681 / NextWork V...

Below the table, the 'Inbound rules' tab is selected, showing two rules:

Rule number	Type	Protocol	Port range	Source	Allow/Deny
100	All traffic	All	All	0.0.0.0/0	Allow
*	All traffic	All	All	0.0.0.0/0	Deny



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