

## **CloudFront with ALB + EC2 (Free Tier)**

### **Step 1: Launch an EC2 instance**

#### **Open the EC2 Console**

Sign in to the AWS Management Console → **EC2**.

#### **Create the ALB security group (ALB-SG)**

In the EC2 left menu → **Network & Security** → **Security Groups** → **Create security group**.

Set:

**Name:** ALB-SG

**Description:** Allow HTTP from Internet (for ALB)

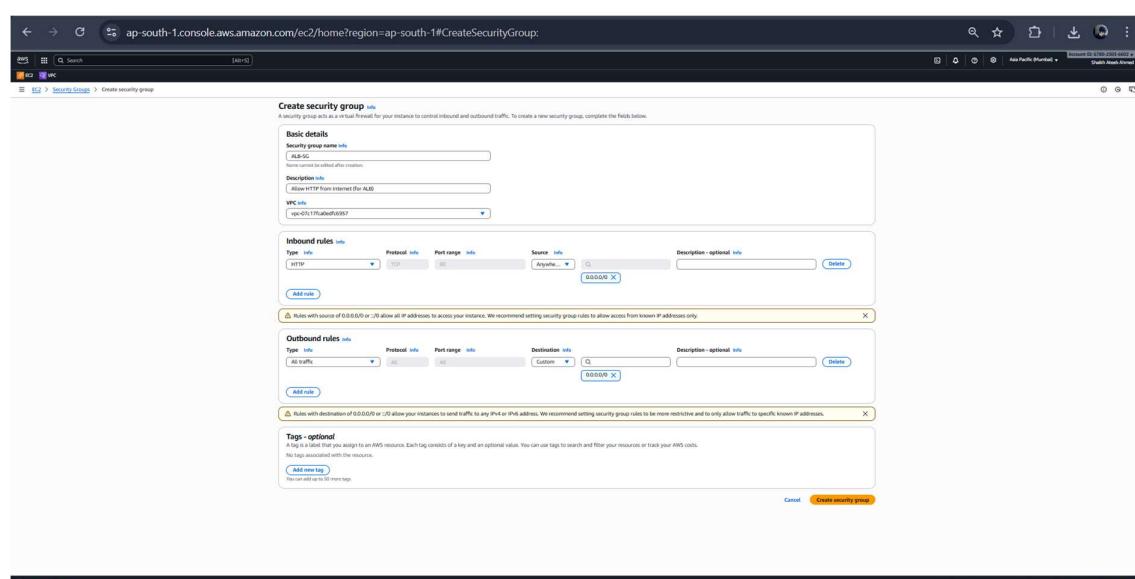
**VPC:** choose the same VPC you will use for your instance.

#### **Inbound rules → Add rule:**

Type: **HTTP**, Port: **80**, Source: **Anywhere (0.0.0.0/0)**

Leave outbound as default (allow all).

Click **Create security group**.



### **Create the EC2 security group (EC2-SG)**

Still in **Security Groups** → **Create security group**.

Set:

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**Name:** EC2-SG

**Description:** Allow SSH from my IP and HTTP from ALB

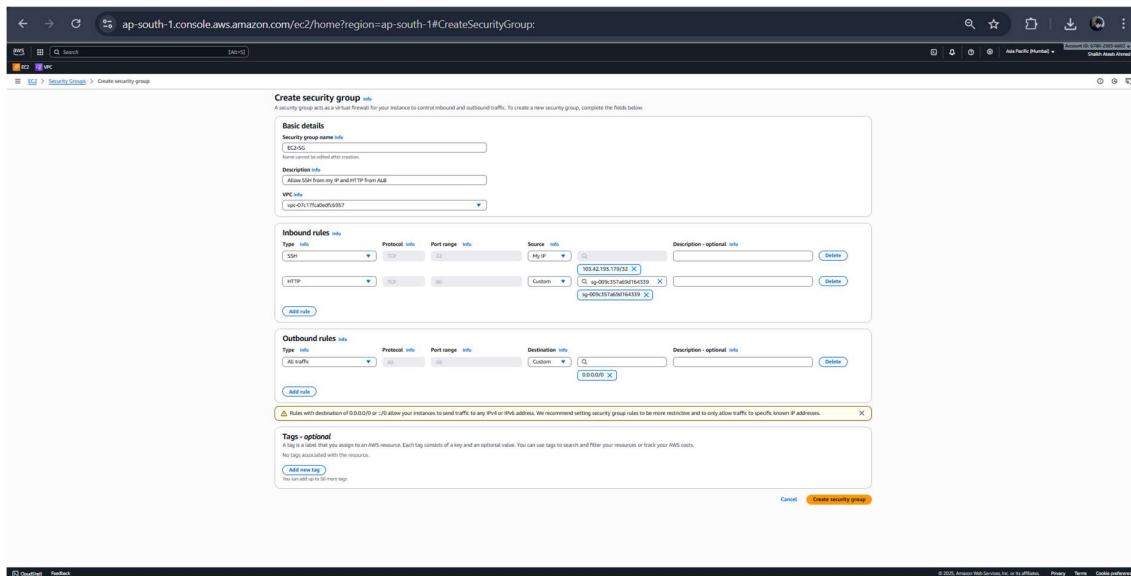
**VPC:** same VPC as ALB-SG and instance.

**Inbound rules** → add:

**SSH — Port 22 — Source: My IP** (click “My IP” to auto-fill your public IP).

**HTTP — Port 80 — Source: Custom** → *select the ALB security group you created.*

Create the security group.



## Launch EC2 instance (Amazon Linux 2, Free Tier)

EC2 → Instances → Launch instances.

Configure:

**Name:** e.g., web-server-1.

**AMI:** Amazon Linux 2 (Free Tier eligible).

**Instance type:** t3.micro (or t2.micro if t3 not available).

**Key pair:** choose existing.

**Network:** choose the same VPC as your security groups.

**Subnet:** choose a **public subnet** (one that assigns a public IP) if you want to test via the public IP.

**Auto-assign Public IP:** Enable (for quick testing).

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**Security group:** select **Select an existing security group** → choose EC2-SG.

Storage/Tags: set as desired (default 8 GiB is fine).

**Click Launch instance.**

ap-south-1.console.aws.amazon.com/ec2/home?region=ap-south-1#LaunchInstances:

Amazon EC2 allows you to create virtual machines, or instances, that run on the AWS Cloud. Quickly get started by following the simple steps below.

Name and tags

Name: web-service-1 Add additional tags

Application and OS Images (Amazon Machine Image)

Amazon Linux 2023.07.1 AMI (ami-09f908ef1d32fe41) (Free tier eligible) Search for AMI

Recent: Amazon Linux, MacOS, Ubuntu, Windows, Red Hat, SUSE Linux, Debian

My AMIs: Search for AMI

Quick Start: Browse more AMIs

Amazon Machine Image (AMI) Description: Amazon Linux 2023.07.1 is a modern, general purpose Linux-based OS that comes with 3 years of long term support. It is optimized for AWS and designed to provide a secure, stable and high-performance execution environment to develop and run your cloud applications.

Amazon Linux 2023.07.1 AMI (ami-09f908ef1d32fe41) (Free tier eligible) Virtualization type: Did not select Free tier eligible Username: ec2-user Verified provider

Architecture: 64-bit (x86) Boot mode: uefi-preferred AMI ID: ami-09f908ef1d32fe41 Publish Date: 2023-09-25 Username: ec2-user Verified provider

Instance type

Instance type: t3.micro (Free tier eligible) All generations Compare instance types Additional costs apply for AMIs with pre-installed software

Key pair (login)

Key pair name: vegeta\_2 Create new key pair

Network settings

VPC required: vpc-01111111111111111111111111111111 (Default) Create new subnet

Subnet: subnet-02f281fa303645745 Owner: EIP00000000 Availability Zone: sa-east-1a Create new subnet

Auto-assign public IP: Enable Firewall security group: sg-02a0a0a0a0a0a0a0a0a0a0a0a0a0a0a0 Select existing security group

Common security groups: sg-02a0a0a0a0a0a0a0a0a0a0a0a0a0a0a0 Select security group Compare security group rules

Advanced network configuration

Configure storage

Root volume: 1x 8 GiB gp3 3000 IOPS, Not encrypted Advanced Add new volume

Click refresh to view backup information Root volume, 3000 IOPS, Not encrypted The tags that you assign determine whether the instance will be backed up by any Data Lifecycle Manager policies.

File systems: Edit

Advanced details

Summary

Number of instances: 1

Software image (AMI): Amazon Linux 2023.07.1 AMI (ami-09f908ef1d32fe41) (Free tier eligible) am-09f908ef1d32fe41

Virtual server type (instance type): t3.micro Firewall security group: EC2-5G Storage (Volume): 1 volumes - 8 GiB

Console Launch instance Preview code

ap-south-1.console.aws.amazon.com/ec2/home?region=ap-south-1#LaunchInstances:

Amazon EC2 allows you to create virtual machines, or instances, that run on the AWS Cloud. Quickly get started by following the simple steps below.

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Instance type: t3.micro (Free tier eligible) All generations Compare instance types Additional costs apply for AMIs with pre-installed software

Key pair (login)

Key pair name: vegeta\_2 Create new key pair

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VPC required: vpc-01111111111111111111111111111111 (Default) Create new subnet

Subnet: subnet-02f281fa303645745 Owner: EIP00000000 Availability Zone: sa-east-1a Create new subnet

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Common security groups: sg-02a0a0a0a0a0a0a0a0a0a0a0a0a0a0a0 Select security group Compare security group rules

Advanced network configuration

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Root volume: 1x 8 GiB gp3 3000 IOPS, Not encrypted Advanced Add new volume

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Number of instances: 1

Software image (AMI): Amazon Linux 2023.07.1 AMI (ami-09f908ef1d32fe41) (Free tier eligible) am-09f908ef1d32fe41

Virtual server type (instance type): t3.micro Firewall security group: EC2-5G Storage (Volume): 1 volumes - 8 GiB

Console Launch instance Preview code

## Wait & confirm instance state

EC2 → Instances → wait for **Instance state** = running and **Status checks** = 2/2 checks passed.

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The screenshot shows the AWS Management Console with the URL [ap-south-1.console.aws.amazon.com/ec2/home?region=ap-south-1#Instances](https://ap-south-1.console.aws.amazon.com/ec2/home?region=ap-south-1#Instances). The page displays a single EC2 instance named "web-server-1". Key details include:

- Instance ID:** i-0262343731cb52fe8
- Public IPv4 address:** 13.127.60.98
- VPC ID:** vpc-02d2343731cb52fe8
- Subnet ID:** subnet-02d2343731cb52fe8
- Security Group:** web-server-1
- Launch Time:** 2023/10/01 12:48 GMT+5:30

The "Details" tab is selected, showing the following configuration:

- AMI:** ami-02d2343731cb52fe8
- AMI name:** i-02023-ami-2023.3.20230925.0-kernel-6.1-88.64
- Step protection:** Enabled
- InstanceState:** running
- Instance reboot migration:** Default (DV)
- Step-hibernate behavior:** Enabled
- State transition reason:** -
- State transition message:** -
- Owner:** Shaikh Ateeb Ahmed

The "Monitoring" tab indicates monitoring is disabled.

## SSH in and install Apache (quick verification)

On your workstation:

```
# replace path and address
```

```
chmod 400 /path/to/your-key.pem
```

```
ssh -i /path/to/your-key.pem ec2-user@<EC2-Public-IP>
```

```
ec2-user@ip-172-31-38-55: ~ + 
Microsoft Windows [Version 10.0.26100.6584]
(c) Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

C:\Users\Hope Foundation\Downloads>ssh -i "keypair_2.pem" ec2-user@ec2-13-127-60-98.ap-south-1.compute.amazonaws.com
The authenticity of host 'ec2-13-127-60-98.ap-south-1.compute.amazonaws.com (13.127.60.98)' can't be established.
ED25519 key fingerprint is SHA256:YpHlx+jb27BWYdwskhSwy7CilsiCqNuJ70t752/YrA.
This key is not known by any other names.
Are you sure you want to continue connecting (yes/no/[fingerprint])? yes
Warning: Permanently added 'ec2-13-127-60-98.ap-south-1.compute.amazonaws.com' (ED25519) to the list of known hosts.

# 
# Amazon Linux 2023
# 
# https://aws.amazon.com/linux/amazon-linux-2023
# 
# 
[ec2-user@ip-172-31-38-55 ~]$ |
```

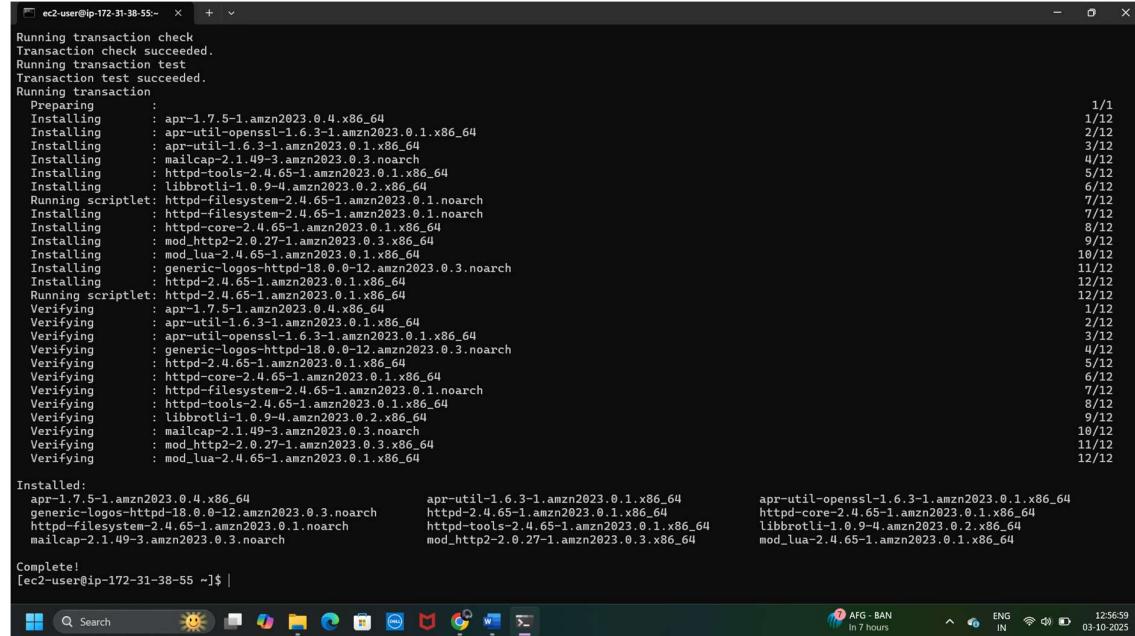
On the instance, run:

```
sudo yum update -y
```

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```
sudo yum install -y httpd
```

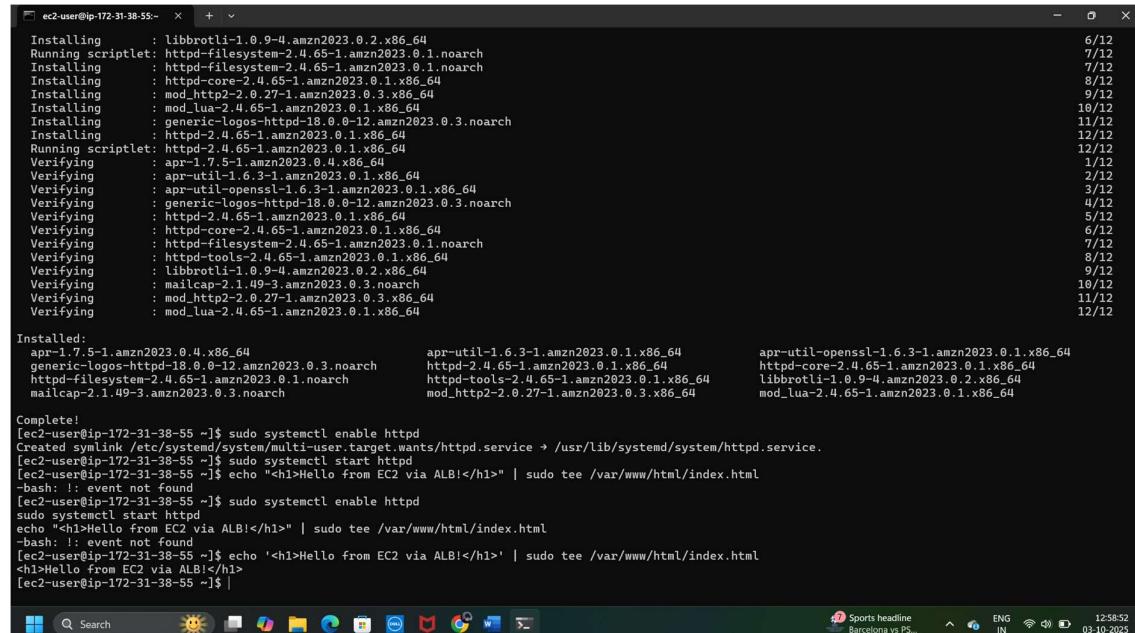


```
Running transaction check
Transaction check succeeded.
Running transaction test
Transaction test succeeded.
Running transaction
Preparing : 1/12
Installing : apr-1.7.5-1.amzn2023.0.4.x86_64 1/12
Installing : apr-util-openssl-1.6.3-1.amzn2023.0.1.x86_64 2/12
Installing : apr-util-1.6.3-1.amzn2023.0.1.x86_64 3/12
Installing : mailcap-2.1.49-3.amzn2023.0.3.noarch 4/12
Installing : httpd-tools-2.4.65-1.amzn2023.0.1.x86_64 5/12
Installing : libbrotli-1.0.9-4.amzn2023.0.2.x86_64 6/12
Running scriptlet: httpd-filesystem-2.4.65-1.amzn2023.0.1.noarch 7/12
Installing : httpd-filesystem-2.4.65-1.amzn2023.0.1.noarch 7/12
Installing : httpd-core-2.4.65-1.amzn2023.0.1.x86_64 8/12
Installing : mod_http2-2.0.27-1.amzn2023.0.3.x86_64 9/12
Installing : mod_lua-2.4.65-1.amzn2023.0.1.x86_64 10/12
Installing : generic-logos-httdp-18.0.0-12.amzn2023.0.3.noarch 11/12
Installing : httpd-2.4.65-1.amzn2023.0.1.x86_64 12/12
Running scriptlet: httpd-2.4.65-1.amzn2023.0.1.x86_64 12/12
Verifying : apr-1.7.5-1.amzn2023.0.4.x86_64 1/12
Verifying : apr-util-1.6.3-1.amzn2023.0.1.x86_64 2/12
Verifying : apr-util-openssl-1.6.3-1.amzn2023.0.1.x86_64 3/12
Verifying : generic-logos-httdp-18.0.0-12.amzn2023.0.3.noarch 4/12
Verifying : httpd-2.4.65-1.amzn2023.0.1.x86_64 5/12
Verifying : httpd-core-2.4.65-1.amzn2023.0.1.x86_64 6/12
Verifying : mod_http2-2.0.27-1.amzn2023.0.3.x86_64 7/12
Verifying : mod_lua-2.4.65-1.amzn2023.0.1.x86_64 8/12
Verifying : libbrotli-1.0.9-4.amzn2023.0.2.x86_64 9/12
Verifying : mailcap-2.1.49-3.amzn2023.0.3.noarch 10/12
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apr-util-1.6.3-1.amzn2023.0.1.x86_64
httpd-2.4.65-1.amzn2023.0.1.x86_64
httpd-tools-2.4.65-1.amzn2023.0.1.x86_64
mod_http2-2.0.27-1.amzn2023.0.3.x86_64
apr-util-openssl-1.6.3-1.amzn2023.0.1.x86_64
httpd-core-2.4.65-1.amzn2023.0.1.x86_64
libbrotli-1.0.9-4.amzn2023.0.2.x86_64
mod_lua-2.4.65-1.amzn2023.0.1.x86_64
Complete!
[ec2-user@ip-172-31-38-55 ~]$
```

```
sudo systemctl enable httpd
```

```
sudo systemctl start httpd
```

```
echo '<h1>Hello from EC2 via ALB!</h1>' | sudo tee /var/www/html/index.html
```



```
Installing : libbrotli-1.0.9-4.amzn2023.0.2.x86_64 6/12
Running scriptlet: httpd-filesystem-2.4.65-1.amzn2023.0.1.noarch 7/12
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Verifying : httpd-2.4.65-1.amzn2023.0.1.x86_64 5/12
Verifying : httpd-core-2.4.65-1.amzn2023.0.1.x86_64 6/12
Verifying : mod_http2-2.0.27-1.amzn2023.0.3.x86_64 7/12
Verifying : mod_lua-2.4.65-1.amzn2023.0.1.x86_64 8/12
Verifying : libbrotli-1.0.9-4.amzn2023.0.2.x86_64 9/12
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apr-util-1.6.3-1.amzn2023.0.1.x86_64
httpd-2.4.65-1.amzn2023.0.1.x86_64
httpd-tools-2.4.65-1.amzn2023.0.1.x86_64
mod_http2-2.0.27-1.amzn2023.0.3.x86_64
apr-util-openssl-1.6.3-1.amzn2023.0.1.x86_64
httpd-core-2.4.65-1.amzn2023.0.1.x86_64
libbrotli-1.0.9-4.amzn2023.0.2.x86_64
mod_lua-2.4.65-1.amzn2023.0.1.x86_64
Complete!
[ec2-user@ip-172-31-38-55 ~]$ sudo systemctl enable httpd
Created symlink /etc/systemd/system/multi-user.target.wants/httpd.service → /usr/lib/systemd/system/httpd.service.
[ec2-user@ip-172-31-38-55 ~]$ sudo systemctl start httpd
[ec2-user@ip-172-31-38-55 ~]$ echo '<h1>Hello from EC2 via ALB!</h1>' | sudo tee /var/www/html/index.html
[bash: !: event not found]
[ec2-user@ip-172-31-38-55 ~]$ sudo systemctl enable httpd
sudo systemctl start httpd
echo '<h1>Hello from EC2 via ALB!</h1>' | sudo tee /var/www/html/index.html
[bash: !: event not found]
[ec2-user@ip-172-31-38-55 ~]$ echo '<h1>Hello from EC2 via ALB!</h1>' | sudo tee /var/www/html/index.html
<h1>Hello from EC2 via ALB!</h1>
[ec2-user@ip-172-31-38-55 ~]$
```

Open your browser to <http://<EC2-Public-IP>> — you should see the test page.

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## **Step 2: Open EC2 console**

In the left menu → **Load Balancers** → **Create Load Balancer** → **Application Load Balancer**.

### **Configure Load Balancer**

**Name:** my-alb-lab

**Scheme:** Internet-facing (so it's accessible from the Internet)

**IP address type:** IPv4

**Listeners:** default HTTP 80

**Availability Zones / Subnets:** select your **VPC** and at least **2 public subnets** (recommended for redundancy)

Click **Next: Configure Security Settings** → skip HTTPS for now (HTTP only, lab purpose)

### **Configure Security Group for ALB**

**Select existing security group:**

Name: ALB-SG

Inbound rules: HTTP 80 from **0.0.0.0/0**

Outbound: leave default (allow all)

Click **Next: Configure Routing**

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The screenshot shows the 'Create Application Load Balancer' wizard in the AWS Management Console. The current step is 'Basic configuration'. It includes fields for 'Load balancer name' (with a note about character limits), 'Scheme' (set to 'Internet-facing'), 'IP address type' (set to 'IPV4'), and 'Network mapping' (specifying VPCs and subnets). Below these are sections for 'Security groups' (ALB-SG selected) and 'Listeners and routing' (HTTP port 80, default action to forward to target group). Other tabs like 'IP pools', 'Availability Zones and subnets', and 'Load balancer tags' are visible.

## Create Target Group

**Target group name:** my-alb-target

**Target type:** Instance

**Protocol / Port:** HTTP / 80

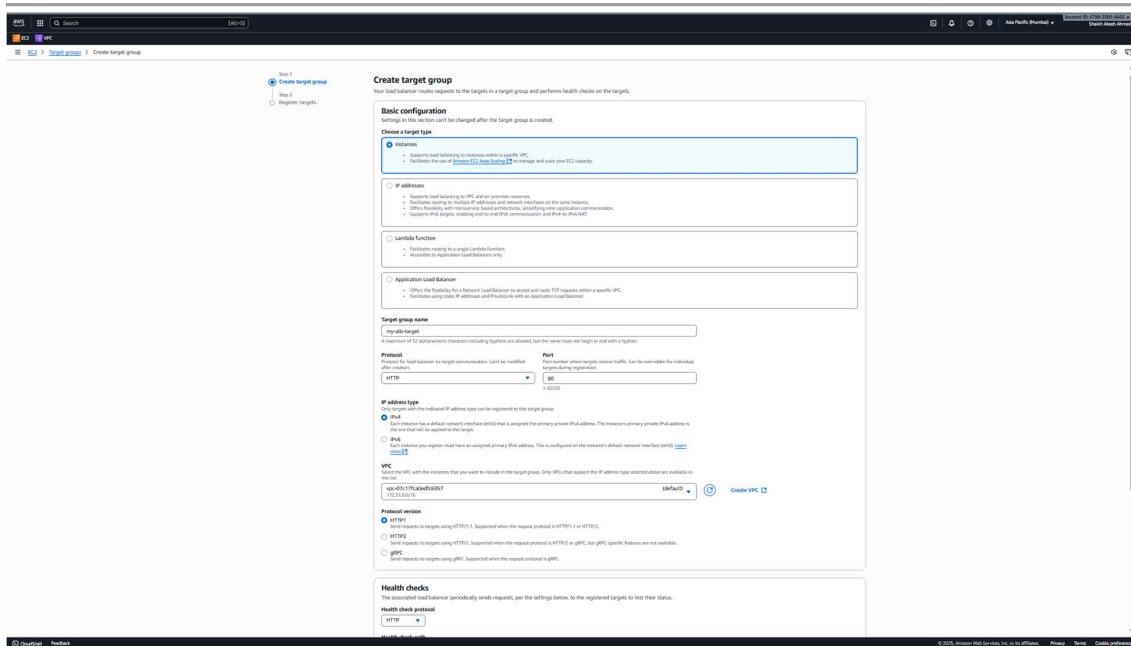
**VPC:** choose the same VPC as your EC2 instance

**Health checks:** default path /

**Click Next: Register Targets**

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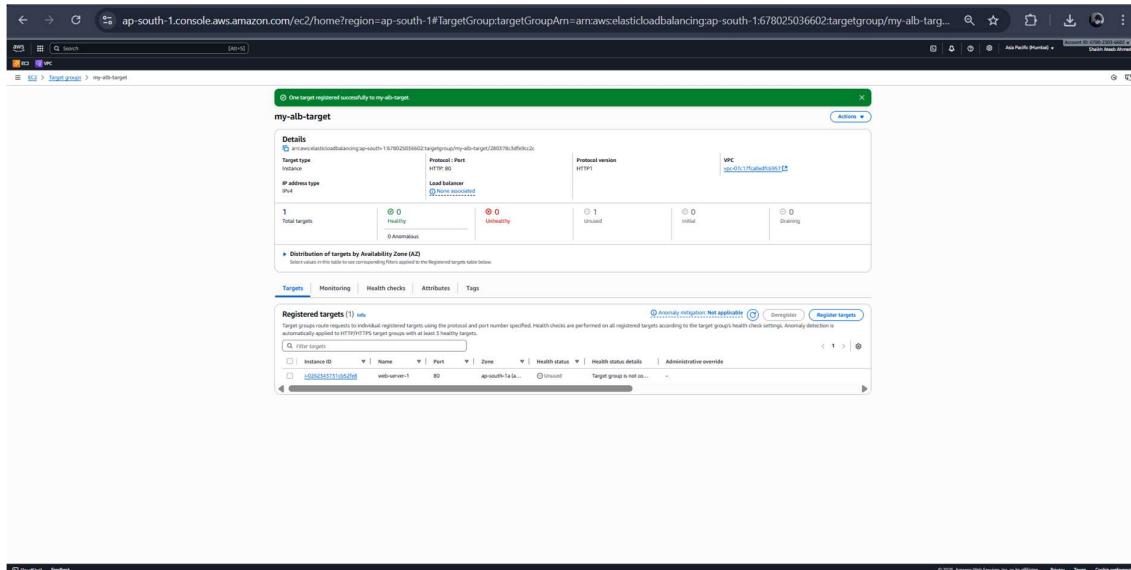


## Register EC2 instance

From the list of instances, select your **EC2 instance**.

Click **Add to registered** → it should appear in **Registered targets**

Click **Next: Review** → **Create Load Balancer**



**Wait for ALB to be active**

After creation, in **Load Balancers** → select **my-alb-lab** → check **DNS name**:

Example: **my-alb-lab-123456.ap-south-1.elb.amazonaws.com**

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The screenshot shows the AWS CloudWatch Metrics Insights interface. A complex query is being constructed to filter metrics from multiple AWS services. The query includes filters for 'aws.elasticloadbalancing.\*' and specific metric names like 'Latency', 'HTTPCode\_2xx', and 'HTTPCode\_4xx'. It also uses logical operators like AND, OR, and NOT to refine the search results.

## Verify Target Health

Load Balancers → select your ALB → Target Groups → Targets tab

Your EC2 instance should show **healthy** (green).

The screenshot shows the AWS CloudWatch Metrics Insights interface. A complex query is being constructed to filter metrics from multiple AWS services. The query includes filters for 'aws.elasticloadbalancing.\*' and specific metric names like 'Latency', 'HTTPCode\_2xx', and 'HTTPCode\_4xx'. It also uses logical operators like AND, OR, and NOT to refine the search results.

## Test the ALB in Browser

Open browser → enter the **ALB DNS name**:

<http://my-alb-lab-123456.ap-south-1.elb.amazonaws.com>

You should see the Apache test page:

<h1>Hello from EC2 via ALB!</h1>



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### **Step 3: Open CloudFront console**

Sign in to AWS Management Console → **CloudFront**.

Click **Create distribution** → choose **Web** (or “Web” for new UI).

#### **Configure Origin Settings**

**Origin Domain Name:** paste your **ALB DNS name** (e.g., my-alb-lab-123456.ap-south-1.elb.amazonaws.com).

**Origin type:** choose **Elastic Load Balancer**.

**Origin settings:** Use recommended origin settings.

**Cache settings:** Use recommended cache settings tailored to serving Elastic Load Balancing content.

**Compress Objects Automatically:** Enable (optional, improves speed).

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The screenshot shows the 'Review and create' step of the CloudFront distribution creation wizard. It includes sections for General configuration, Origin, Cache settings, and Security. The 'General configuration' section shows a distribution name 'my-alb-lab-561280839.ap-south-1.elb.amazonaws.com'. The 'Origin' section lists an 'Elastic Load Balancing origin' with the URL 'my-alb-lab-561280839.ap-south-1.elb.amazonaws.com'. The 'Cache settings' section notes that CloudFront will apply default cache settings. The 'Security' section shows 'None' selected under 'Security protections'. At the bottom, there are 'Cancel', 'Previous', and 'Create distribution' buttons.

**WAF:** optional, leave default.

## Create Distribution

### Origin Protocol Policy mismatch

If your ALB only listens on **HTTP (80)** but in CloudFront you selected **HTTPS only**, CloudFront can't connect.

**Fix:** In CloudFront → Origins → select your origin → set Origin Protocol Policy to **HTTP Only** (or "Match Viewer" if you added **HTTPS** on ALB).

The screenshot shows the 'Edit origin' settings page for the origin 'my-alb-lab-561280839.ap-south-1.elb.amazonaws.com'. The 'Protocol' section is set to 'HTTP only'. Other settings include 'HTTP port' (80), 'Origin path - optional' (empty), 'Name' (the origin's DNS name), and 'Add custom header - optional' (disabled). The 'Enable Origin Shield' section has 'No' selected. At the bottom, there are 'Cancel' and 'Save changes' buttons.

Click **Create Distribution**.

CloudFront status will show **In Progress** (it usually takes ~10–15 minutes to deploy).

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### **Test CloudFront**

Wait until **Status = Deployed**.

Copy the **Domain Name** of the distribution (e.g., d12345abcdef.cloudfront.net).

Open in browser:

<https://d12345abcdef.cloudfront.net/>



You should see your test page:

Hello from EC2 via ALB!

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