
Deploy Docker on Amazon Linux 2 EC2 and Run a Web App in a Docker Container

Step1: Launch EC2 Instance

1. Open the EC2 console

Sign in to the AWS Management Console.

Services → **EC2** → **Instances** → **Launch instances**.

Name: AmazonLinux2-Docker-Lab

2. Choose an AMI

AMI: Select **Amazon Linux 2 (64-bit x86)** (Amazon Linux 2 AMI (HVM), SSD).

3. Choose Instance Type

Instance type: t3.micro (Free Tier eligible).

4. Key pair

When prompted **Select a key pair**: Choose an existing key if you have one

5. Configure Instance Details

Number of instances: 1.

Network (VPC): select default VPC.

Subnet: choose a **public subnet** (one that auto-assigns a public IP).

Auto-assign Public IP: **Enable** (so you get a Public IPv4).

Create new security group named e.g. AmazonLinux2-Docker-Lab-sg.

Add inbound rules:

SSH — Type: SSH, Port: 22, Source: **My IP** (recommended).

HTTP — Type: HTTP, Port: 80, Source: 0.0.0.0/0.

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EC2

Security Groups

Create security group

Create security group

Basic details

Security group name

AmazonLinux2-Docker-Lab-sg

Description

ssh and http

VPC

vpc-07c17f0a0ed6d957

Inbound rules

Type

SSH

Protocol

TCP

Port range

22

Source

My IP

120.62.112.127/32

Description - optional

Delete

Type

HTTP

Protocol

TCP

Port range

80

Source

Anywhere...

0.0.0.0/0

Description - optional

Delete

Add rule

Rules with source of 0.0.0.0/0 or ::/0 allow all IP addresses to access your instance. We recommend setting security group rules to allow access from known IP addresses only.

Outbound rules

Type

All traffic

Protocol

All

Port range

All

Destination

Custom

0.0.0.0/0

Description - optional

Delete

Add rule

Rules with destination of 0.0.0.0/0 or ::/0 allow your instances to send traffic to any IPv4 or IPv6 address. We recommend setting security group rules to be more restrictive and to only allow traffic to specific known IP addresses.

Tags - optional

A tag is a label that you assign to an AWS resource. Each tag consists of a key and an optional value. You can use tags to search and filter your resources or track your AWS costs.

No tags associated with the resource.

Add new tag

You can add up to 50 more tags

6. Add Storage

Default root (e.g. 8 GiB gp2/gp3) is usually fine for a Docker lab. Change size if you need more disk.

7. Click Review and Launch.

EC2

Instances

Launch an instance

Launch an instance

Name and tags

Name

AmazonLinux2-Docker-Lab

Add additional tags

Application and OS Images (Amazon Machine Image)

Search our full catalog including 1000s of application and OS images

Amazon Linux

macOS

Ubuntu

Windows

Red Hat

SUSE Linux

Debian

Amazon Machine Image (AMI)

Amazon Linux 2023 kernel-6.1 AMI

ami-07b6d8bf129620a6 (64-bit x86_64, self-preferred) / ami-07b6d8bf129620a6 (64-bit x86_64, self)

Description

Amazon Linux 2023 (kernel-6.1) is a modern, general purpose Linux-based OS that comes with 5 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.

Architecture

64-bit (x86_64)

Boot mode

uefi-preferred

AMI ID

ami-07b6d8bf129620a6

Publication Date

2025-09-10

Username

ec2-user

Verified provider

Instance type

t3.micro

Free tier eligible

All generations

Summary

Number of instances

1

Software image (AMI)

Amazon Linux 2023 AMI 2025.8.2...read more

Virtual server type (instance type)

t3.micro

Firewall (security group)

AmazonLinux2-Docker-Lab-sg

Storage (volumes)

1 volume(s) - 8 GiB

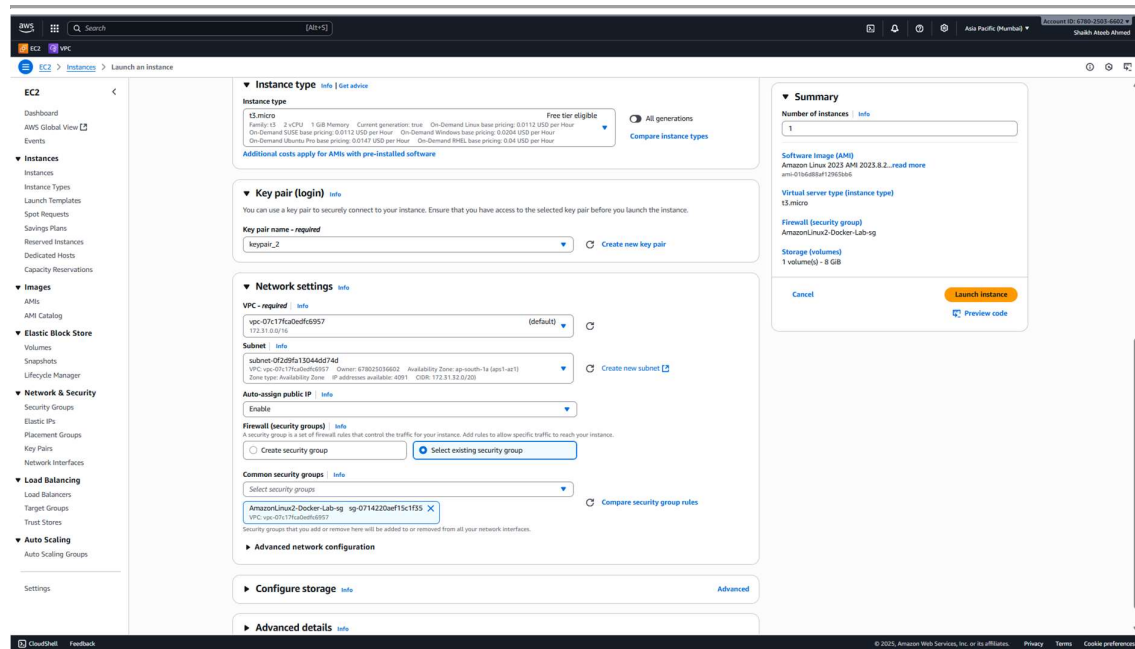
Cancel

Launch instance

Preview code

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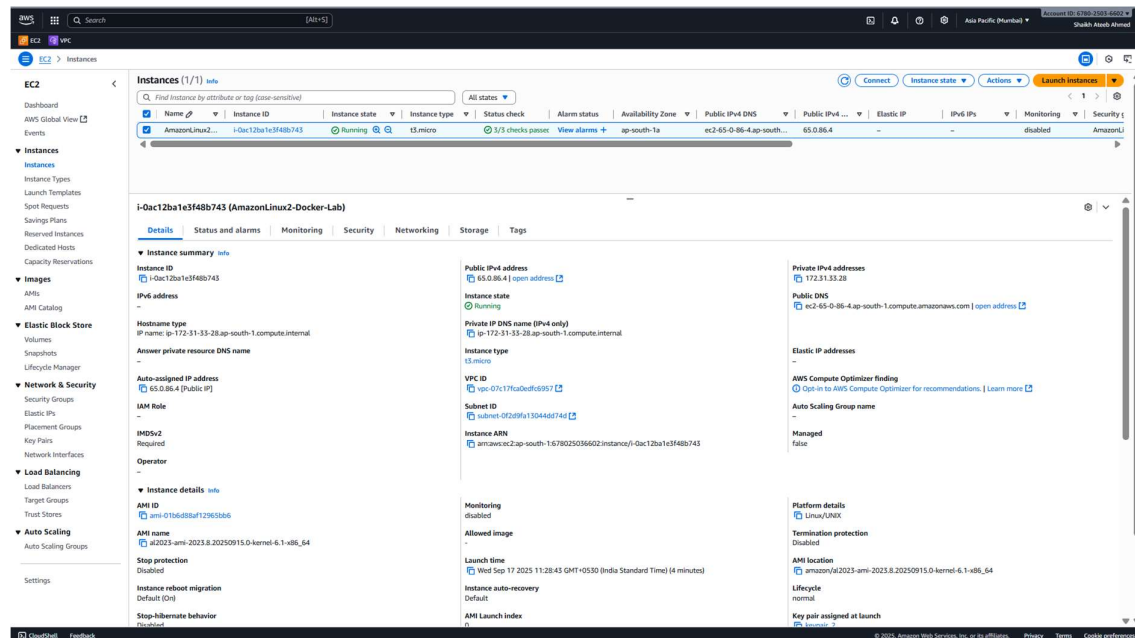
17-09-2025



8. Verify the instance

Go to **Instances** page. Select your AmazonLinux2-Docker-Lab instance.

Wait until **Instance state: running** and **Status checks: 3/3 checks passed** (the console shows progress).



Step 2: Connect to EC2 via SSH

Navigate to the folder where you downloaded your **key pair (.pem)**. (or wherever your .pem file is saved)

Replace:

<EC2-Public-IP> → with your instance's **Public IPv4 address** (from the AWS console)

```
ssh -i "keypair_2.pem" ec2-user@ec2-65-0-86-4.ap-south-1.compute.amazonaws.com
```

[illegible]

1. Update and upgrade packages

```
sudo yum upgrade -y
```


You should see something like Docker version 20.x.x.

```
ec2-user@ip-172-31-33-28:~$ sudo amazon-linux-extras enable docker
Installing : libnftnl-1.2.2-2.amzn2023.0.2.x86_64 4/11
Installing : libnftnl-1.0.1-19.amzn2023.0.2.x86_64 5/11
Installing : libnetfilter_conntrack-1.0.8-2.amzn2023.0.2.x86_64 6/11
Installing : iptables-libs-1.8.8-3.amzn2023.0.2.x86_64 7/11
Installing : iptables-nft-1.8.8-3.amzn2023.0.2.x86_64 8/11
Running scriptlet: iptables-nft-1.8.8-3.amzn2023.0.2.x86_64 8/11
Installing : libgroup-3.0-1.amzn2023.0.1.x86_64 9/11
Running scriptlet: container-selinux-3:2.233.0-1.amzn2023.noarch 10/11
Installing : container-selinux-3:2.233.0-1.amzn2023.noarch 10/11
Running scriptlet: container-selinux-3:2.233.0-1.amzn2023.noarch 10/11
Installing : docker-25.0.8-1.amzn2023.0.6.x86_64 11/11
Running scriptlet: docker-25.0.8-1.amzn2023.0.6.x86_64 11/11
Installing : docker-25.0.8-1.amzn2023.0.6.x86_64 11/11
Running scriptlet: docker-25.0.8-1.amzn2023.0.6.x86_64 11/11
Created symlink /etc/systemd/system/sockets.target.wants/docker.socket → /usr/lib/systemd/system/docker.socket.

Running scriptlet: container-selinux-3:2.233.0-1.amzn2023.noarch 11/11
Running scriptlet: docker-25.0.8-1.amzn2023.0.6.x86_64 11/11
Verifying : container-selinux-3:2.233.0-1.amzn2023.noarch 1/11
Verifying : containerd-2.0.6-1.amzn2023.0.1.x86_64 2/11
Verifying : docker-25.0.8-1.amzn2023.0.6.x86_64 3/11
Verifying : iptables-libs-1.8.8-3.amzn2023.0.2.x86_64 4/11
Verifying : iptables-nft-1.8.8-3.amzn2023.0.2.x86_64 5/11
Verifying : libgroup-3.0-1.amzn2023.0.1.x86_64 6/11
Verifying : libnetfilter_conntrack-1.0.8-2.amzn2023.0.2.x86_64 7/11
Verifying : libnftnl-1.0.1-19.amzn2023.0.2.x86_64 8/11
Verifying : libnftnl-1.2.2-2.amzn2023.0.2.x86_64 9/11
Verifying : pigz-2.5-1.amzn2023.0.3.x86_64 10/11
Verifying : runc-1.2.6-1.amzn2023.0.1.x86_64 11/11

Installed:
container-selinux-3:2.233.0-1.amzn2023.noarch containerd-2.0.6-1.amzn2023.0.1.x86_64 docker-25.0.8-1.amzn2023.0.6.x86_64
iptables-libs-1.8.8-3.amzn2023.0.2.x86_64 iptables-nft-1.8.8-3.amzn2023.0.2.x86_64 libgroup-3.0-1.amzn2023.0.1.x86_64
libnetfilter_conntrack-1.0.8-2.amzn2023.0.2.x86_64 libnftnl-1.0.1-19.amzn2023.0.2.x86_64 libnftnl-1.2.2-2.amzn2023.0.2.x86_64
pigz-2.5-1.amzn2023.0.3.x86_64 runc-1.2.6-1.amzn2023.0.1.x86_64

Complete!
[ec2-user@ip-172-31-33-28 ~]$ docker --version
Docker version 25.0.8, build 0bab0807
[ec2-user@ip-172-31-33-28 ~]$ sudo amazon-linux-extras enable docker
sudo: amazon-linux-extras: command not found
[ec2-user@ip-172-31-33-28 ~]$
```

5. Start and enable Docker service

sudo service docker start

sudo systemctl enable docker

sudo systemctl status docker

status should show **active (running)**.

```
ec2-user@ip-172-31-33-28:~$ sudo systemctl status docker
Verifying : libnftnl-1.2.2-2.amzn2023.0.2.x86_64 9/11
Verifying : pigz-2.5-1.amzn2023.0.3.x86_64 10/11
Verifying : runc-1.2.6-1.amzn2023.0.1.x86_64 11/11

Installed:
container-selinux-3:2.233.0-1.amzn2023.noarch containerd-2.0.6-1.amzn2023.0.1.x86_64 docker-25.0.8-1.amzn2023.0.6.x86_64
iptables-libs-1.8.8-3.amzn2023.0.2.x86_64 iptables-nft-1.8.8-3.amzn2023.0.2.x86_64 libgroup-3.0-1.amzn2023.0.1.x86_64
libnetfilter_conntrack-1.0.8-2.amzn2023.0.2.x86_64 libnftnl-1.0.1-19.amzn2023.0.2.x86_64 libnftnl-1.2.2-2.amzn2023.0.2.x86_64
pigz-2.5-1.amzn2023.0.3.x86_64 runc-1.2.6-1.amzn2023.0.1.x86_64

Complete!
[ec2-user@ip-172-31-33-28 ~]$ docker --version
Docker version 25.0.8, build 0bab0807
[ec2-user@ip-172-31-33-28 ~]$ sudo amazon-linux-extras enable docker
sudo: amazon-linux-extras: command not found
[ec2-user@ip-172-31-33-28 ~]$ sudo service docker start
Redirecting to /bin/systemctl start docker.service
[ec2-user@ip-172-31-33-28 ~]$ sudo systemctl enable docker
Created symlink /etc/systemd/system/multi-user.target.wants/docker.service → /usr/lib/systemd/system/docker.service.
● docker.service - Docker Application Container Engine
   Loaded: loaded (/usr/lib/systemd/system/docker.service; enabled; preset: disabled)
   Active: active (running) since Wed 2025-09-17 06:19:28 UTC; 9s ago
     TriggeredBy: ● docker.socket
     Docs: https://docs.docker.com
    Main PID: 27548 (dockerd)
      Tasks: 9
     Memory: 30.7M
        CPU: 349ms
     CGroup: /system.slice/docker.service
             └─27548 /usr/bin/dockerd -H fd:// --containerd=/run/containerd/containerd.sock --default-ulimit nofile=32768:65536

Sep 17 06:19:27 ip-172-31-33-28.ap-south-1.compute.internal systemd[1]: Starting docker.service - Docker Application Container Engine...
Sep 17 06:19:27 ip-172-31-33-28.ap-south-1.compute.internal dockerd[27548]: time="2025-09-17T06:19:27.609073857Z" level=info msg="Starting up"
Sep 17 06:19:27 ip-172-31-33-28.ap-south-1.compute.internal dockerd[27548]: time="2025-09-17T06:19:27.678956647Z" level=info msg="Loading containers: start"
Sep 17 06:19:28 ip-172-31-33-28.ap-south-1.compute.internal dockerd[27548]: time="2025-09-17T06:19:28.159121934Z" level=info msg="Loading containers: done."
Sep 17 06:19:28 ip-172-31-33-28.ap-south-1.compute.internal dockerd[27548]: time="2025-09-17T06:19:28.183352013Z" level=info msg="Docker daemon" commit="719"
Sep 17 06:19:28 ip-172-31-33-28.ap-south-1.compute.internal dockerd[27548]: time="2025-09-17T06:19:28.183360083Z" level=info msg="Daemon has completed initialization"
Sep 17 06:19:28 ip-172-31-33-28.ap-south-1.compute.internal dockerd[27548]: time="2025-09-17T06:19:28.237665679Z" level=info msg="API listen on /run/docker.sock"
Sep 17 06:19:28 ip-172-31-33-28.ap-south-1.compute.internal systemd[1]: Started docker.service - Docker Application Container Engine.
lines 1-20/20 (END)
```

Exit and reconnect to refresh groups:

Reconnect SSH:

Check groups:

You should now see docker in the list.

[illegible]

1. Pull the official Apache HTTP Server image

2. Run the Apache container on port 80

-d → detached mode (runs in background)

-p 80:80 → maps **container port 80** to **host EC2 port 80**

`--name my-apache-app` → names the container

3. Verify the container is running

sudo docker ps -a

You should see something like:

CONTAINER ID	IMAGE	COMMAND	STATUS	PORTS	NAMES
abc123456789	httpd:latest	"httpd-foreground"	Up 2 minutes	0.0.0.0:80->80/tcp	my-apache-app

```
ec2-user@ip-172-31-33-28:~$ exit
logout
Connection to ec2-65-0-86-4.ap-south-1.compute.amazonaws.com closed.

C:\Users\Hope Foundation\Downloads>ssh -i "keypair_2.pem" ec2-user@ec2-65-0-86-4.ap-south-1.compute.amazonaws.com

Amazon Linux 2023

Last login: Wed Sep 17 06:10:49 2025 from 120.62.112.127
ec2-user@ip-172-31-33-28:~$ groups
ec2-user adm wheel systemd-journal
ec2-user@ip-172-31-33-28:~$ docker pull httpd:latest
permission denied while trying to connect to the Docker daemon socket at unix:///var/run/docker.sock: Post "http://%2Fvar%2Frun%2Fdocker.sock/v1.44/images/create?fromImage=httpd&tag=latest": dial unix /var/run/docker.sock: connect: permission denied
ec2-user@ip-172-31-33-28:~$ sudo docker pull httpd:latest
latest: Pulling from library/httpd
ce1261c6d567: Pull complete
aeb6d226161f: Pull complete
4f4fb780ef5d: Pull complete
56926e6ce68f: Pull complete
4938abaf7b43: Pull complete
387fcc09c641: Pull complete
Digest: sha256:827c678f36d3cd3dd2b44ad1e963e81be66f9eba065381c1126d3819fffeb01a
Status: Downloaded newer image for httpd:latest
docker.io/library/httpd:latest
ec2-user@ip-172-31-33-28:~$ sudo docker run -d -p 80:80 --name my-apache-app httpd:latest
c41dba391b81dc912318dbd2ffdaef3119616aa414852a6887c1f91ef496e108
ec2-user@ip-172-31-33-28:~$ sudo docker ps -a
CONTAINER ID   IMAGE          COMMAND                  CREATED              STATUS              PORTS              NAMES
c41dba391b81   httpd:latest   "httpd-foreground"      About a minute ago   Up About a minute   0.0.0.0:80->80/tcp, :::80->80/tcp   my-apache-app
ec2-user@ip-172-31-33-28:~$
```

Step 5: Customize the Web Page

- 1. Enter the running container
sudo docker exec -it my-apache-app /bin/bash
- 2. Go to Apache's web root
cd /usr/local/apache2/htdocs
- 3. Create (or overwrite) index.html
echo "MyWebsite - Running on Apache inside Docker" > index.html
- 4. Verify the file
cat index.html
You should see:
MyWebsite - Running on Apache inside Docker

17-09-2025

[illegible]

5. Exit the container

Exit

Step 6: Test the Web App

1. Open in browser:

http://<public ip>

http://65.0.86.4

You should see: MyWebsite - Running on Apache inside Docker

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17-09-2025

