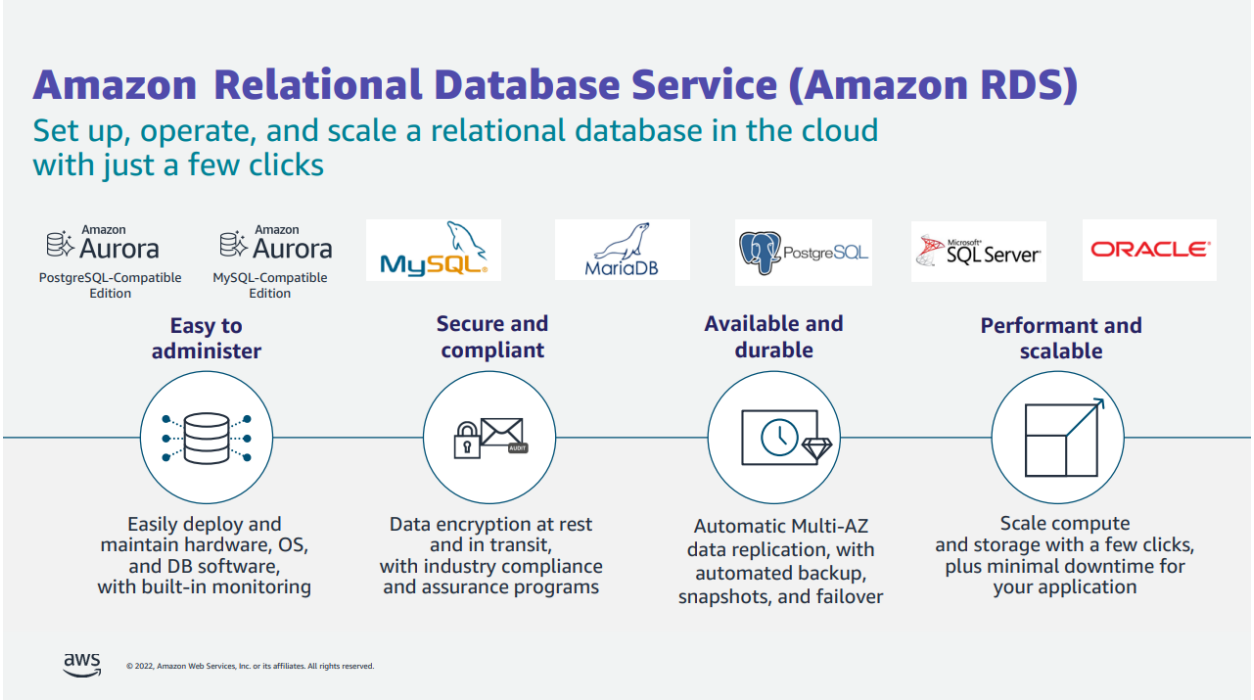
Relation Database Service (RDS)

Managing and maintaining the infrastructure required to run SQL servers can often be a troublesome task (to say the least). Amazon Relational Database Service (RDS) is a **managed SQL database service** provided by Amazon Web Services (AWS) which makes this task easier, allowing you to set up and operate SQL servers using AWS infrastructure, abstracting away a great deal of the headaches associated with having a relational database. Many organizations in fact, prefer managed database services like RDS over self-managed databases because of how hassle-free they make a lot of the database-adjacent tasks such as data migration, backup, recovery and patching.



Source: AWS

Boasting support for a whole host of database engines (listed above), Amazon RDS is considered an industry standard for storing and organizing data in the cloud using databases for reasons mentioned in the illustration. Additionally, though this fact is probably clear to the reader by this point, it is widespread enough of a misunderstanding that I find it necessary to clearly re-iterate: **Amazon RDS itself is not a database; It is a service used to manage relational databases.**

The main allure of RDS and its popularity in my personal opinion is that once we adopt and get used to the features of managed services such as Automatic scaling, encryption, Read Replicas, Multi-AZ databases, proxies, etc (Mentioned features will be discussed in later sections), the convenience factor is so great that it becomes hard to decouple entirely and go back to being self-managed.