Linux Academy

Hands-on Lab

Creating an S3 Bucket with CloudFormation

Contents

Lab Connection Information

- Labs may take up to five minutes to build
- Access to an AWS Console is provided on the Hands-on Lab page, along with your login credentials
- Ensure you are using the N. Virginia region
- Labs will automatically end once the alloted amount of time finishes

Related Courses

AWS Certified Solutions Architect - Associate

Related Videos

CloudFormation Essentials

Need Help?

Linux Academy Community

... and you can always send in a support ticket on our website to talk to an instructor!

CloudFormation is a service that allows efficient deployment of infrastructure by reading template code to create and configure new instances. In this lab, we'll use CloudFormation to create an S3 bucket.

To begin, log in to the AWS console with the credentials provided on the Hands-On Lab page. Once logged in, we'll navigate to the **CloudFormation** service page, which can be found under **Management Tools**.

Create a Stack

On the CloudFormation page, we may see either a set of actions to get started, or a list of stacks left over in this environment. We'll create a stack of our own by clicking the **Create Stack** button at the top of the page.

On the next screen, we can either design a template or choose one. For this lab, we've provided a template to make things easy. To download the template, open a new tab and navigate to the **AWS Certified Solutions Architect - Associate** course page. At the top of the page, click **Downloads**, and in the resulting list, look for **CloudFormation Lab Template**. Click Download Now! to begin the download.

Once it's been downloaded, open the template file in a text editor. For the template to work properly in this lab, we'll need to modify the value of *BucketName* so it is unique across the entire S3 service. Creating a unique bucket name can be as simple as adding a string of random letters or numbers to the end of the existing value.

After making this change, save the file with the *.template* extension.

Back in the browser, on the **Create Stack** page, we'll select **Upload a template to Amazon S3** and use the **Choose File** button to select our template file. Click **Next**.

We'll be asked to give our new stack a name. For this lab, we'll call it *MyCFbucketCreator*. Click **Next**.

On the **Options** page, we can leave all fields blank for the purposes of this lab and click **Next**.

Finally, click **Create** after reviewing the final page to be returned to the list of available stacks. We'll see our *MyCFbucketCreator* stack in the list with an initial status of *CREATE_IN_PROGRESS*. From here, we can select our stack and use the menu in the bottom half of the page to view its statistics and other useful information.

Check S3 Bucket Configuration

Now that our S3 bucket has been created, we can compare its settings to the template file to understand a bit more about how CloudFormation works.

Open the main **AWS Services Console** in a new browser tab and navigate to the **S3 Dashboard**. In our list of available buckets, we'll see one with the name we provided in our template file.

Also in that template file was an *AccessControl* field, which was set to *PublicRead*. We can verify that these permissions were set properly by clicking the name of the bucket we created and selecting the **Permissions** tab from the top of the page.

We'll see on the permissions page that **Object Access** has been set to *Read* for the *Everyone* group. This is exactly what was meant by *PublicRead* in the template file, so our permissions have been set correctly.

Review

CloudFormation is useful for creating infrastructure from code, which can be faster than using the AWS web interface. It can be much faster still when that code is generated rather than typed manually, and after this lab, you can begin to see how CloudFormation fits into the big picture of systems configuration and management.

Congratulations! You've completed the lab on creating an S3 bucket with CloudFormation!