Launching an EC2 instance into your default VPC

When you launch an EC2 instance without specifying a subnet, it's automatically launched into a default subnet in your default VPC. By default, we select an Availability Zone for you and launch the instance into the corresponding subnet for that Availability Zone. Alternatively, you can select the Availability Zone for your instance by selecting its corresponding default subnet in the console, or by specifying the subnet or the Availability Zone in the AWS CLI.

Launching an EC2 instance using the console

To launch an EC2 instance into your default VPC

1. Open the Amazon EC2 console at https://console.aws.amazon.com/ec2/.
2. From the EC2 dashboard, choose **Launch Instance**.
3. Follow the directions in the wizard. Select an AMI, and choose an instance type. You can accept the default settings for the rest of the wizard by choosing **Review and Launch**. This takes you directly to the **Review Instance Launch** page.
4. Review your settings. In the **Instance Details** section, the default for **Subnet** is **No preference (default subnet in any Availability Zone)**. This means that the instance is launched into the default subnet of the Availability Zone that we select. Alternatively, choose **Edit instance details** and select the default subnet for a particular Availability Zone.
5. Choose **Launch** to choose a key pair and launch the instance.

Launching an EC2 instance using the command line

You can use one of the following commands to launch an EC2 instance:

- run-instances (AWS CLI)
- New-EC2Instance (AWS Tools for Windows PowerShell)

To launch an EC2 instance into your default VPC, use these commands without specifying a subnet or an Availability Zone.

To launch an EC2 instance into a specific default subnet in your default VPC, specify its subnet ID or Availability Zone.

Deleting your default subnets and default VPC

You can delete a default subnet or default VPC just as you can delete any other subnet or VPC. For more information, see Working with VPCs and subnets (p. 93). However, if you delete your default subnets or default VPC, you must explicitly specify a subnet in another VPC in which to launch your instance, because you can't launch instances into EC2-Classic. If you do not have another VPC, you must create a nondefault VPC and nondefault subnet. For more information, see Creating a VPC (p. 93).

If you delete your default VPC, you can create a new one. For more information, see Creating a default VPC (p. 109).

If you delete a default subnet, you can create a new one. For more information, see Creating a default subnet (p. 110). Alternatively, you can create a nondefault subnet in your default VPC and contact