Connecting to your Instance

> **Important**
>
> - Please **connect to your own network** not to company WiFi
> - Please **Disconnect from VPN** If Any

Follow these steps to connect to your EC2 instance from a Windows machine using Command Prompt or PowerShell.

Prerequisites

- Ensure you have the `.pem` key pair file downloaded when you launched your EC2 instance.
- Ensure your EC2 instance is running. (We've Taken Care)
- Ensure the security group associated with your EC2 instance has an inbound rule allowing SSH (port 22) from your IP address. (We've Taken Care)

Steps to Connect

Step 1: Open Command Prompt or PowerShell

- Press `Win + R`, type `cmd`, and press Enter to open Command Prompt.
- Alternatively, press `Win + X` and select `Windows PowerShell` to open PowerShell.

Step 2: Navigate to the Directory Containing Your `.pem` File

Use the `cd` command to navigate to the directory where your `.pem` file is located. For example, if your `.pem` file is in the `Downloads` folder, run:

```
cd %USERPROFILE%\Download
```

Step 3: Change the Permissions of the `.pem` File [Windows Users Can Skip]

Ensure that the `.pem` file has the correct permissions. Although Windows does not require you to change file permissions, if you later transfer the `.pem` file to a Unix-based system, you might need to set permissions using:

```
chmod 400 your-key-pair.pem
```

Step 4: Use the SSH Command to Connect

Use the `ssh` command with the `-i` option to specify the path to your `.pem` file, followed by the username and public DNS of your EC2 instance. Replace `your-key-pair.pem` with the name of your key pair file and `your-instance-public-dns` with the public DNS name of your EC2 instance.

```
ssh -i your-key-pair.pem ec2-user@your-instance-public-dns
```

For example, if your key pair file is named `my-key-pair.pem` and your instance's public DNS is `12.17.88.12`, the command would be:

```
ssh -i my-key-pair.pem ec2-user@12.17.88.12
```

Step 5: Accept the SSH Key Fingerprint

The first time you connect, you will be prompted to confirm the authenticity of the host. Type `yes` and press Enter.

Step 6: Enter Your SSH Key Passphrase (if any)

If your key pair has a passphrase, you will be prompted to enter it. Enter the passphrase and press Enter.