

How to Open Remote EC2 Instances on VS Code with Host IP and .pem File Only

[OK] Prerequisites:

- You have VS Code installed.
- You have the Remote - SSH extension installed (ms-vscode-remote.remote-ssh).
- You have the EC2 instance's public IP and `.pem` file.

[Fast] Steps (Minimal and Direct):

1. Open VS Code Command Palette (Ctrl+Shift+P or Cmd+Shift+P on Mac).
2. Select: "Remote-SSH: Open SSH Configuration File..."
3. Choose the config file (usually ~/.ssh/config).
4. Add this block to the config file:

Host my-ec2

HostName YOUR.EC2.IP.HERE

User ec2-user # or ubuntu, depending on the AMI

IdentityFile /path/to/your-key.pem

- Replace:
- YOUR.EC2.IP.HERE with the public IP
- User ec2-user (Amazon Linux), ubuntu (Ubuntu), etc.
- IdentityFile full path to your `.pem` file

5. Save the file and close it.
6. Open the Command Palette again: "Remote-SSH: Connect to Host..."
7. Choose my-ec2.

[OK] Done! VS Code will open a remote window into your EC2 instance directly.

[Note] One-liner Template (for SSH config):

Host my-ec2

HostName 12.34.56.78

User ubuntu

IdentityFile ~/.ssh/my-key.pem