



AWS
re:Start
LAB

Managing Resources with Tagging



WEEK 11





Overview

Tagging in AWS is a powerful practice that enhances the organization and management of cloud resources. By applying tags, you can categorize resources based on various attributes, such as environment, project, or owner, making it easier to identify and manage them. This organizational strategy is crucial for large-scale environments where tracking and maintaining numerous resources can become complex. Effective tagging allows for streamlined resource management, improved cost allocation, and enhanced operational efficiency.

Leveraging tags, you can efficiently locate and manage resources, enabling actions such as stopping or terminating EC2 instances based on specific criteria. Using tools like the AWS CLI or SDKs, these actions can be automated, ensuring that resources are used optimally and cost-effectively. Tagging thus plays a critical role in maintaining a well-organized and cost-efficient AWS environment, ensuring that resources are easily accessible and manageable for operational tasks and automated processes.

Topics covered

- Apply tags to existing AWS resources.
- Find resources based on tags.
- Use the AWS CLI or AWS SDK for PHP to stop and terminate Amazon EC2 instances based on certain attributes of the resource.



Task 1

Using Tags to Manage Resources

Step 1: Connect to the Command Host

Connect to the **Command Host** instance using SSH.

```
support@HP-Pavilion-Laptop:~/Downloads$ ssh -i labsuser.pem ec2-user@35.92.246.41
#
##### Amazon Linux 2
#####\
AL2 End of Life is 2025-06-30.
#####|
\###/
\#/
V~' '->
A newer version of Amazon Linux is available!
Amazon Linux 2023, GA and supported until 2028-03-15.
https://aws.amazon.com/linux/amazon-linux-2023/
[ec2-user@ip-10-5-0-136 ~]$
```

Step 2: Find tagged instances

Find all instances in your account that are tagged with a tag of **Project** and a value of **ERPSystem**.

```
[ec2-user@ip-10-5-0-136 ~]$ aws ec2 describe-instances \
> --filter "Name=tag:Project,Values=ERPSystem"
{
  "Reservations": [
    {
      "Instances": [
        {
          "Monitoring": {
            "State": "disabled"
          },
          "PublicDnsName": "",
          "State": {
            "Code": 16,
            "Name": "running"
          },
          "EbsOptimized": false,
          "LaunchTime": "2024-06-02T23:33:03.000Z",
          "PrivateIpAddress": "10.5.1.103",
          "ProductCodes": [],
          "VpcId": "vpc-0634b6ecadecbc5b9",
          "CpuOptions": {
            "CoreCount": 1,
            "ThreadsPerCore": 2
          }
        }
      ]
    }
  ]
}
```



Task 1

Using Tags to Manage Resources

Step 3: Limit the output

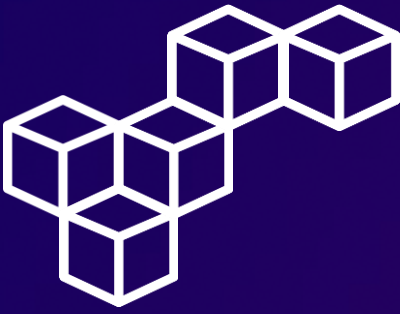
Use the `--query` parameter to limit the output of the previous command to only the instance ID of the discovered instance.

```
[ec2-user@ip-10-5-0-136 ~]$ aws ec2 describe-instances \
> --filter "Name=tag:Project,Values=ERPSysytem" \
> --query 'Reservations[*].Instances[*].InstanceId' \
[
  [
    "i-0d89071c1d6ad4e87"
  ],
  [
    "i-0c403f2bd8dcf2b2a"
  ],
  [
    "i-02d785f546afb6c58"
  ],
]
```

Step 4: Include availability zones

Include both the instance ID and the Availability Zone of each instance in your return result.

```
[ec2-user@ip-10-5-0-136 ~]$ aws ec2 describe-instances \
> --filter "Name=tag:Project,Values=ERPSysytem" \
> --query 'Reservations[*].Instances[*].{ID:InstanceId,AZ:Placement.AvailabilityZone}' \
[
  [
    {
      "AZ": "us-west-2a",
      "ID": "i-0d89071c1d6ad4e87"
    }
  ],
  [
    {
      "AZ": "us-west-2a",
      "ID": "i-0c403f2bd8dcf2b2a"
    }
  ],
]
```



Task 1

Using Tags to Manage Resources

Step 5: Include a tag

Include the value of the **Project** tag in your output.

```
[ec2-user@ip-10-5-0-136 ~]$ aws ec2 describe-instances \
> --filter "Name=tag:Project,Values=ERPSYSTEM" \
> --query 'Reservations[*].Instances[*].{ID:InstanceId,AZ:Placement.AvailabilityZone,
> Project:Tags[?Key==`Project`] | [0].Value}'
[
  [
    {
      "Project": "ERPSYSTEM",
      "AZ": "us-west-2a",
      "ID": "i-0d89071c1d6ad4e87"
    }
  ],
  [
    {
      "Project": "ERPSYSTEM",
      "AZ": "us-west-2a",
      "ID": "i-0c403f2bd8dcf2b2a"
    }
  ],
  [

```

Step 6: Include more tags

Include the **Environment** and **Version** tags in your output.

```
[ec2-user@ip-10-5-0-136 ~]$ aws ec2 describe-instances \
> --filter "Name=tag:Project,Values=ERPSYSTEM" \
> --query 'Reservations[*].Instances[*].{ID:InstanceId,AZ:Placement.AvailabilityZone,
> Project:Tags[?Key==`Project`] | [0].Value,
> Environment:Tags[?Key==`Environment`] | [0].Value,
> Version:Tags[?Key==`Version`] | [0].Value}'
[
  [
    {
      "Project": "ERPSYSTEM",
      "Environment": "production",
      "AZ": "us-west-2a",
      "Version": "1.0",
      "ID": "i-0d89071c1d6ad4e87"
    }
  ],
  [
    {

```



Task 1

Using Tags to Manage Resources

Step 7: Add a second tag filter

Add a second tag filter to see only the instances associated with the **project** named **ERPSystem** that belong to the **Environment** named **development**.

```
[ec2-user@ip-10-5-0-136 ~]$ aws ec2 describe-instances \
> --filter "Name=tag:Project,Values=ERPSystem" "Name=tag:Environment,Values=development" \
> --query 'Reservations[*].Instances[*].{ID:InstanceId,AZ:Placement.AvailabilityZone,
> Project:Tags[?Key==`Project`] | [0].Value,
> Environment:Tags[?Key==`Environment`] | [0].Value,
> Version:Tags[?Key==`Version`] | [0].Value}'
{
  [
    {
      {
        "Project": "ERPSystem",
        "Environment": "development",
        "AZ": "us-west-2a",
        "Version": "1.0",
        "ID": "i-0c403f2bd8dcf2b2a"
      }
    },
    [
      {

```

Step 8: Review the Shell script

Examine the contents of the **change-resource-tags.sh** script.

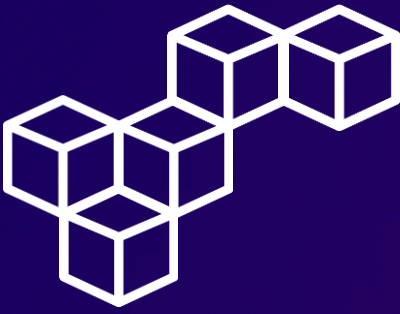
```
[ec2-user@ip-10-5-0-136 ~]$ nano change-resource-tags.sh
[ec2-user@ip-10-5-0-136 ~]$
```

```
GNU nano 2.9.8 change-resource-tags.sh

#!/bin/bash

ids=$(aws ec2 describe-instances \
--filter "Name=tag:Project,Values=ERPSystem" "Name=tag:Environment,Values=development" \
--query 'Reservations[*].Instances[*].InstanceId' \
--output text)

aws ec2 create-tags \
--resources $ids \
--tags 'Key=Version,Value=1.1'
```



Task 1

Using Tags to Manage Resources

Step 9: Run the Shell script

Run the **change-resource-tags.sh** script to overwrite tags.

```
[ec2-user@ip-10-5-0-136 ~]$ ./change-resource-tags.sh
[ec2-user@ip-10-5-0-136 ~]$
```

Step 10: Verify version numbers

Verify that the version number on these instances has been incremented and that other non-development boxes in the **ERPSys**tem project have been unaffected.

```
[ec2-user@ip-10-5-0-136 ~]$ aws ec2 describe-instances \
> --filter "Name=tag:Project,Values=ERPSys" \
> --query 'Reservations[*].Instances[*].{ID:InstanceId, AZ:Placement.AvailabilityZone,
> Project:Tags[?Key==`Project`] | [0].Value,
> Environment:Tags[?Key==`Environment`] | [0].Value,
> Version:Tags[?Key==`Version`] | [0].Value}'
[
  [
    {
      "Project": "ERPSys",
      "Environment": "production",
      "AZ": "us-west-2a",
      "Version": "1.0",
      "ID": "i-0d89071c1d6ad4e87"
    }
  ],
  [
    {
      "Project": "ERPSys",
      "Environment": "development",
      "AZ": "us-west-2a",
      "Version": "1.1",
      "ID": "i-0c403f2bd8dcf2b2a"
    }
  ],
  [
    {

```




Task 2

Stop and Start Resources by Tag

Step 1: Review the PHP script

Examine the contents of the **stopinator.php** script.

```
[ec2-user@ip-10-5-0-136 ~]$ cd aws-tools/  
[ec2-user@ip-10-5-0-136 aws-tools]$ nano stopinator.php  
[ec2-user@ip-10-5-0-136 aws-tools]$
```

```
GNU nano 2.9.8 stopinator.php  
#!/usr/bin/php  
<?php  
# A simple PHP script to start all Amazon EC2 instances and Amazon RDS  
# databases within all regions.  
#  
# USAGE: stopinator.php [-t stop-tags] [-nt exclude-tags]  
#  
# If no arguments are supplied, stopinator stops every Amazon EC2 and  
# Amazon RDS instance running in an account.  
#  
# -t stop-tag: The tags to inspect to determine if a resource should be  
# shut down. Format must follow the same format used by the AWS CLI.  
#  
# -e exclude-id: The instance ID of an Amazon EC2 instance NOT to terminate. Useful  
# when running the stopinator from an Amazon EC2 instance.  
#  
# -p profile-name: The name of the AWS configuration section to use for  
# credentials. Configuration sections are defined in your .aws/credentials file.  
# If not supplied, will use the default profile.  
#  
# -s start: If present, starts instead of stops instances.
```

Step 2: Review EC2 instances

In the EC2 Management Console, review EC2 instances state.

Instances (13) Info			
Find Instance by attribute or tag (case-sensitive)			
<input type="checkbox"/>	Name	Instance ID	Instance state
<input type="checkbox"/>	Command Host	i-085c1e96e446fed64	Running
<input type="checkbox"/>	web server	i-0d89071c1d6ad4e87	Running
<input type="checkbox"/>	app server	i-0c403f2bd8dcf2b2a	Running
<input type="checkbox"/>	web server	i-02d785f546afb6c58	Running
<input type="checkbox"/>	web server	i-0f7d6a1057d30765e	Running
<input type="checkbox"/>	web server	i-00c6766b95845b41b	Running
<input type="checkbox"/>	app server	i-0303e0c82cb43315f	Running
<input type="checkbox"/>	web server	i-08f60caa6cea88312	Running
<input type="checkbox"/>	NAT	i-065a288fdb4e2704c	Running



Task 2

Stop and Start Resources by Tag

Step 3: Run the PHP script

Run the **stopinator.php** script to stop tagged instances.

```
[ec2-user@ip-10-5-0-136 aws-tools]$ ./stopinator.php -t"Project=ERPSystem;Environment=development"
Region is ap-south-1
PHP Notice: Array to string conversion in /home/ec2-user/aws-tools/stopinator.php on line 120

    No instances to stop in Array.
Region is eu-north-1
PHP Notice: Array to string conversion in /home/ec2-user/aws-tools/stopinator.php on line 120

    No instances to stop in Array.
Region is eu-west-3
PHP Notice: Array to string conversion in /home/ec2-user/aws-tools/stopinator.php on line 120

    No instances to stop in Array.
Region is eu-west-2
```

Step 4: Review stopped instances

In the EC2 Management Console, verify that two instances are stopping or have already been stopped.

Instances (13) Info						Refresh	Connect
<input type="text" value="Find Instance by attribute or tag (case-sensitive)"/>						All states ▾	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Name ✎	Instance ID	Instance state			Status check	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Command Host	i-085c1e96e446fed64	Running	🔍	🔍	✔ 2/2 checks passed	
<input type="checkbox"/>	web server	i-0d89071c1d6ad4e87	Running	🔍	🔍	✔ 2/2 checks passed	
<input type="checkbox"/>	app server	i-0c403f2bd8dcf2b2a	Stopped	🔍	🔍	-	
<input type="checkbox"/>	web server	i-02d785f546afb6c58	Running	🔍	🔍	✔ 2/2 checks passed	
<input type="checkbox"/>	web server	i-0f7d6a1057d30765e	Running	🔍	🔍	✔ 2/2 checks passed	
<input type="checkbox"/>	web server	i-00c6766b95845b41b	Running	🔍	🔍	✔ 2/2 checks passed	
<input type="checkbox"/>	app server	i-0303e0c82cb43315f	Running	🔍	🔍	✔ 2/2 checks passed	
<input type="checkbox"/>	web server	i-08f60caa6cea88312	Stopped	🔍	🔍	-	
<input type="checkbox"/>	NAT	i-065a288fdb4e2704c	Running	🔍	🔍	✔ 2/2 checks passed	



Task 2

Stop and Start Resources by Tag

Step 5: Re-run the PHP script

Run the **stopinator.php** script to restart tagged instances.

```
[ec2-user@ip-10-5-0-136 aws-tools]$ ./stopinator.php -t"Project=ERPSYSTEM;Environment=development" -s
Region is ap-south-1
PHP Notice: Array to string conversion in /home/ec2-user/aws-tools/stopinator.php on line 110

    No instances to start in Array
Region is eu-north-1
PHP Notice: Array to string conversion in /home/ec2-user/aws-tools/stopinator.php on line 110

    No instances to start in Array
Region is eu-west-3
PHP Notice: Array to string conversion in /home/ec2-user/aws-tools/stopinator.php on line 110

    No instances to start in Array
Region is eu-west-2
```

Step 6: Review restarted instances

In the EC2 Management Console, verify that the two instances that were previously shut down are now restarting.

Instances (13) Info

Find Instance by attribute or tag (case-sensitive)

All states

<input type="checkbox"/>	Name	Instance ID	Instance state	Status check
<input type="checkbox"/>	app server	i-0c403f2bd8dcf2b2a	Running	Initializing
<input type="checkbox"/>	web server	i-08f60caa6cea88312	Running	Initializing
<input type="checkbox"/>	Command Host	i-085c1e96e446fed64	Running	2/2 checks passed
<input type="checkbox"/>	web server	i-0d89071c1d6ad4e87	Running	2/2 checks passed
<input type="checkbox"/>	web server	i-02d785f546afb6c58	Running	2/2 checks passed
<input type="checkbox"/>	web server	i-0f7d6a1057d30765e	Running	2/2 checks passed
<input type="checkbox"/>	web server	i-00c6766b95845b41b	Running	2/2 checks passed
<input type="checkbox"/>	app server	i-0303e0c82cb43315f	Running	2/2 checks passed
<input type="checkbox"/>	NAT	i-065a288fdb4e2704c	Running	2/2 checks passed



Task 3

Challenge: Terminate Non-Compliant Instances

Step 1: Open the Tag-Or-Terminate script

Open the file **terminate-instances.php** with the nano editor.

```
[ec2-user@ip-10-5-0-136 aws-tools]$ nano terminate-instances.php
[ec2-user@ip-10-5-0-136 aws-tools]$
```

Step 2: Review the script

Examine the contents of the **terminate-instances.php** script.

```
GNU nano 2.9.8 terminate-instances.php

#!/usr/bin/php

<?php
require 'vendor/autoload.php';
use Aws\Ec2\Ec2Client;

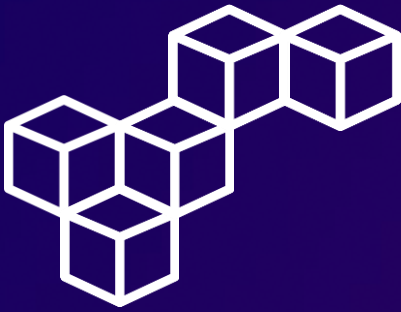
$region = "us-west-2";
$subnetid = "";
$profile = "default"; # Only needed if not using IAM roles

# Necessary to quell a PHP error.
date_default_timezone_set('America/Los_Angeles');

array_shift($argv);
if (count($argv>0)) {
    do {
        $elem = array_shift($argv);
        if ($elem == "-region") {
            $region = array_shift($argv);
        } elseif ($elem == "-subnetid") {
            $subnetid = array_shift($argv);
        }
    } while (count($argv) > 0);
}

# Iterate through all available AWS regions.
$ec2 = Ec2Client::factory(array(
    'profile' => $profile,
    'region' => $region
));

[ Read 81 lines ]
```



Task 3

Challenge: Terminate Non-Compliant Instances

Step 3: Manage tags

Select one of the instances in your private subnet. On the **Tags** tab for the instance, click [Manage tags](#).

Tags

Manage tags

< 1 > ⚙

Key	Value
aws:cloudf...	arn:aws:cloudformation:us-west-2:058264316783:stack/c117085a279030616836034t1w058264316783/See7a7e0-2138-11ef-8c8e-06a5cfb511e1
cloudlab	c117085a279030616836034t1w058264316783
Department	HR
Environment	development
aws:cloudf...	Instance2
Application	portal
Version	1.1
aws:cloudf...	c117085a279030616836034t1w058264316783
Project	ERPSystem
Name	app server

Step 4: Remove tags

Find the **Environment** tag, and click [Remove](#). Repeat this process for one other instance in your private subnet.

Manage tags info

A tag is a custom label that you assign to an AWS resource. You can use tags to help organize and identify your instances.

Key	Value - optional	
<input type="text" value="cloudlab"/>	<input type="text" value="c117085a279030616836034t1w"/>	<button>Remove</button>
<input type="text" value="Department"/>	<input type="text" value="HR"/>	<button>Remove</button>
<input type="text" value="Environment"/>	<input type="text" value="development"/>	<button>Remove</button>
<input type="text" value="Application"/>	<input type="text" value="portal"/>	<button>Remove</button>
<input type="text" value="Version"/>	<input type="text" value="1.1"/>	<button>Remove</button>
<input type="text" value="Project"/>	<input type="text" value="ERPSystem"/>	<button>Remove</button>
<input type="text" value="Name"/>	<input type="text" value="app server"/>	<button>Remove</button>



Task 3

Challenge: Terminate Non-Compliant Instances

Step 5: Run the Tag-Or-Terminate script

Run the **terminate-instances.php** script. Provide the values for the **region** and **subnetid** parameters.

```
[ec2-user@ip-10-5-0-136 aws-tools]$ ./terminate-instances.php -region us-west-2 -subnetid subnet-0dcea2709d69cac70

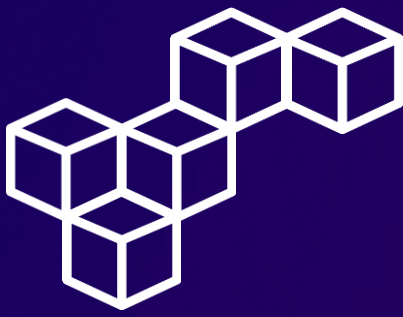
Checking i-0d89071c1d6ad4e87
Checking i-0c403f2bd8dcf2b2a
Checking i-02d785f546afb6c58
Checking i-0f7d6a1057d30765e
Checking i-00c6766b95845b41b
Checking i-0303e0c82cb43315f
Checking i-08f60caa6cea88312
Terminating instances...
Instances terminated.

[ec2-user@ip-10-5-0-136 aws-tools]$
```

Step 6: Review terminated instances

In the EC2 Management Console, verify that two instances are terminating or have already been terminated.

Instances (13) Info			
<input type="text" value="Find Instance by attribute or tag (case-sensitive)"/>			
<input type="checkbox"/>	Name ✎	Instance ID	Instance state ▼
<input type="checkbox"/>	app server	i-0c403f2bd8dcf2b2a	⊖ Terminated 🔍 🔍
<input type="checkbox"/>	web server	i-08f60caa6cea88312	⊖ Terminated 🔍 🔍
<input type="checkbox"/>	Command Host	i-085c1e96e446fed64	✔ Running 🔍 🔍
<input type="checkbox"/>	web server	i-0d89071c1d6ad4e87	✔ Running 🔍 🔍
<input type="checkbox"/>	web server	i-02d785f546afb6c58	✔ Running 🔍 🔍
<input type="checkbox"/>	web server	i-0f7d6a1057d30765e	✔ Running 🔍 🔍
<input type="checkbox"/>	web server	i-00c6766b95845b41b	✔ Running 🔍 🔍
<input type="checkbox"/>	app server	i-0303e0c82cb43315f	✔ Running 🔍 🔍
<input type="checkbox"/>	NAT	i-065a288fdb4e2704c	✔ Running 🔍 🔍



Conclusions

Tagging

Tagging helps organize and manage AWS resources efficiently, improving resource visibility and operational effectiveness.

aws ec2 describe-instances

The `aws ec2 describe-instances` command enables detailed retrieval of EC2 instance information, facilitating better resource management and monitoring.

--filter

The `--filter` parameter allows precise querying of EC2 instances based on tags, streamlining resource identification and management.

--query

The `--query` parameter provides a flexible way to extract specific information from `describe-instances` output, enhancing data analysis capabilities.

JMESPath syntax

JMESPath syntax enables powerful and flexible querying of JSON data, making it easier to extract and manipulate information in AWS CLI commands.



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