

# Tutorial: Launch and configure a LAMP instance in Amazon Lightsail

*Last updated: July 26, 2019*

Amazon Lightsail is the easiest way to get started with Amazon Web Services (AWS) if you just need virtual private servers. Lightsail includes everything you need to launch your project quickly – a virtual machine, SSD-based storage, data transfer, DNS management, and a static IP – for a low, predictable price.

This tutorial shows you how to launch and configure a LAMP instance on Lightsail. It includes steps to connect to your instance via SSH, get the application password for your instance, create a static IP and attach it to your instance, and create a DNS zone and map your domain. When you're done with this tutorial, you have the fundamentals to get your instance up and running on Lightsail.

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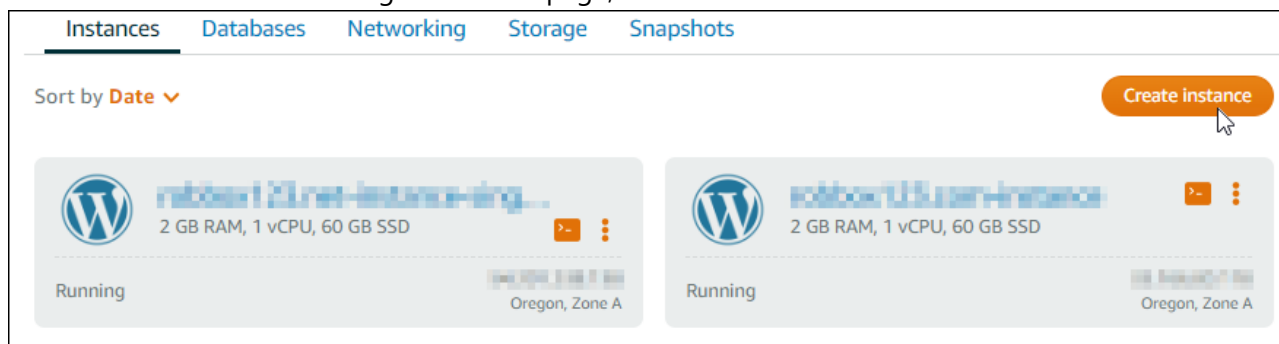
## Step 1: Sign up for AWS

This tutorial requires an AWS account. [Sign up for AWS](#), or [sign in to AWS](#) if you already have an account.

## Step 2: Create a LAMP instance in Lightsail

Get your LAMP instance up and running in Lightsail. For more information about creating an instance in Lightsail, see [Creating an Amazon Lightsail instance in the Lightsail documentation](#).

1. Sign in to the [Lightsail console](#).
2. On the **Instances** tab of the Lightsail home page, choose **Create instance**.
















3. Choose the AWS Region and Availability Zone for your instance.

**Select your instance location**




Select a Region

The closer your instance is to your users, the less latency they will experience.  
[Learn more about Regions](#)

 <b>Oregon</b> us-west-2	 <b>Ohio</b> us-east-2	 <b>Virginia</b> us-east-1	 <b>Montreal</b> ca-central-1
 <b>Tokyo</b> ap-northeast-1	 <b>Seoul</b> ap-northeast-2	 <b>Ireland</b> eu-west-1	 <b>Sydney</b> ap-southeast-2
 <b>London</b> eu-west-2	 <b>Paris</b> eu-west-3	 <b>Frankfurt</b> eu-central-1	 <b>Singapore</b> ap-southeast-1
 <b>Mumbai</b> ap-south-1			

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Select an Availability Zone ?



 <b>Zone A</b> us-west-2a	 <b>Zone B</b> us-west-2b	 <b>Zone C</b> us-west-2c
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4. Choose your instance image.

1. Choose **Linux/Unix** as the platform.
2. Choose **LAMP (PHP 7)** as the blueprint.













**Pick your instance image ?**

Select a platform

 <b>Linux/Unix</b> 20 blueprints	 <b>Microsoft Windows</b> 3 blueprints
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Select a blueprint

**Apps + OS** OS Only

 <b>WordPress</b> 5.1.1-2	 <b>WordPress Multisite</b> 5.1.1-2	 <b>LAMP (PHP 7)</b> 7.1.28	 <b>Node.js</b> 12.1.0
 <b>Joomla</b> 3.9.5	 <b>Magento</b> 2.3.1-1	 <b>MEAN</b> 4.0.9	 <b>Drupal</b> 8.6.15
 <b>GitLab CE</b> 11.10.4	 <b>Redmine</b> 4.0.3-2	 <b>Nginx</b> 1.16.0	 <b>Plesk Hosting Stack on Ubuntu</b> 17.8.11

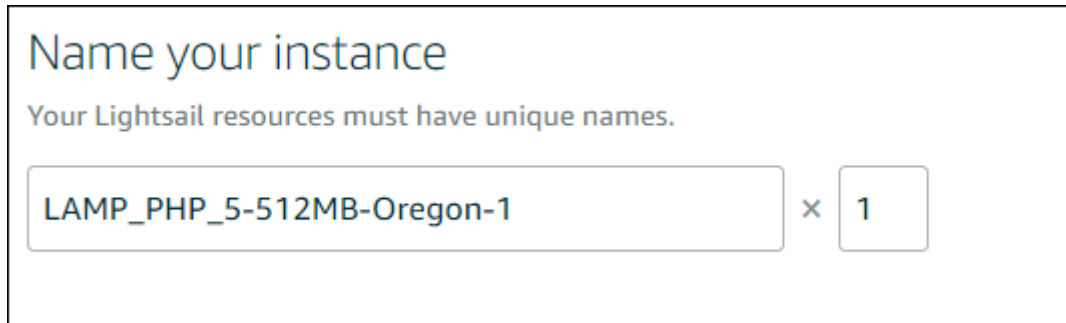
5. Choose an instance plan.

A plan includes a low, predictable cost, machine configuration (RAM, SSD, vCPU), and data transfer allowance. You can try the \$3.50 USD Lightsail plan without charge for one month (up to 750 hours). AWS credits one free month to your account.

6. Enter a name for your instance.

Resource names:

- Must be unique within each AWS Region in your Lightsail account.
- Must contain 2 to 255 characters.
- Must start and end with an alphanumeric character or number.
- Can include alphanumeric characters, numbers, periods, dashes, and underscores.



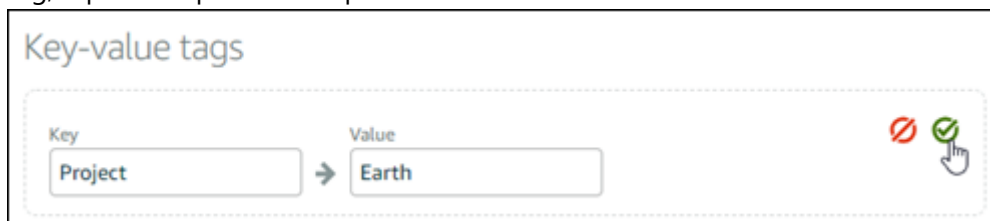
7. Choose one of the following options to add tags to your instance:

- **Add key-only tags** or **Edit key-only tags** (if tags have already been added). Enter your new tag into the tag key text box, and press **Enter**. Choose **Save** when you're done entering your tags to add them, or choose **Cancel** to not add them.



- **Create a key-value tag**, then enter a key into the **Key** text box, and a value into the **Value** text box. Choose **Save** when you're done entering your tags, or choose **Cancel** to not add them.

Key-value tags can only be added one at a time before saving. To add more than one key-value tag, repeat the previous steps.



**Note**

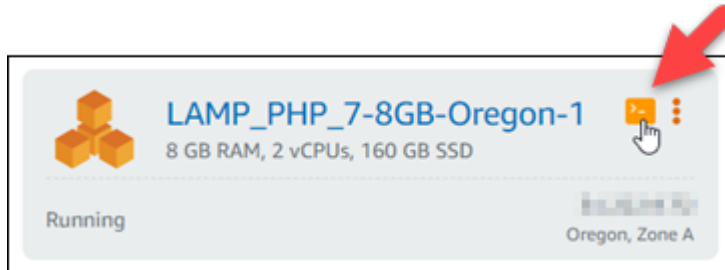
For more information about key-only and key-value tags, see [Tags in Amazon Lightsail](#).

8. Choose **Create instance**.

## Step 3: Connect to your instance via SSH and get the application password for your LAMP instance

The default password to sign in to your database in LAMP is stored on your instance. Retrieve it by connecting to your instance using the browser-based SSH terminal in the Lightsail console and running a special command. For more information, see [Getting the application user name and password for your Powered by Bitnami' instance in Amazon Lightsail](#) in the Lightsail documentation.

1. On the **Instances** tab of the Lightsail home page, choose the SSH quick-connect icon for your LAMP instance.



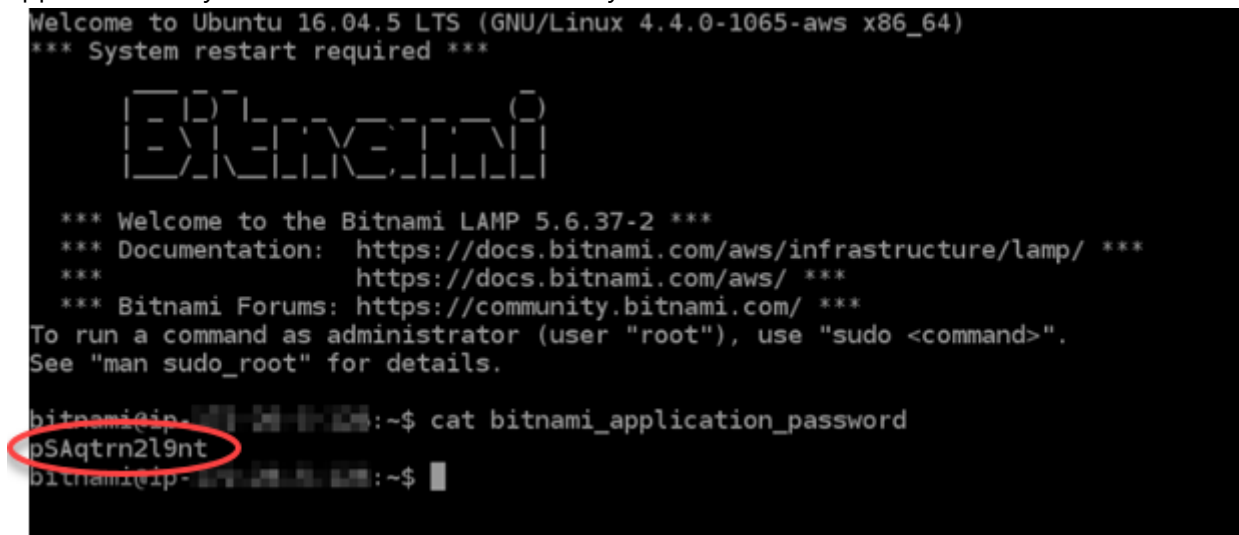
2. After the browser-based SSH client window opens, enter the following command to retrieve the default application password:

```
cat bitnami_application_password
```

#### Note

If you're in a directory other than the user home directory, then enter `cat $HOME/bitnami_application_password`.

1. Make note of the password displayed on the screen. You use this password later to install Bitnami applications on your instance, or to access the MySQL database with the user name of `user`.



## Step 4: Install an application on top of your LAMP instance

Deploy your PHP application on top of your LAMP instance, or install a Bitnami application. The main directory to deploy your PHP application is `/opt/bitnami/apache2/htdocs`. Copy your PHP application files to that directory and access the application by browsing to your instance's public IP address.

You can also install a Bitnami application using module installers. Download WordPress, Drupal, Magento, Moodle among other applications from the [Bitnami website](#) and extend the functionality of your server. For

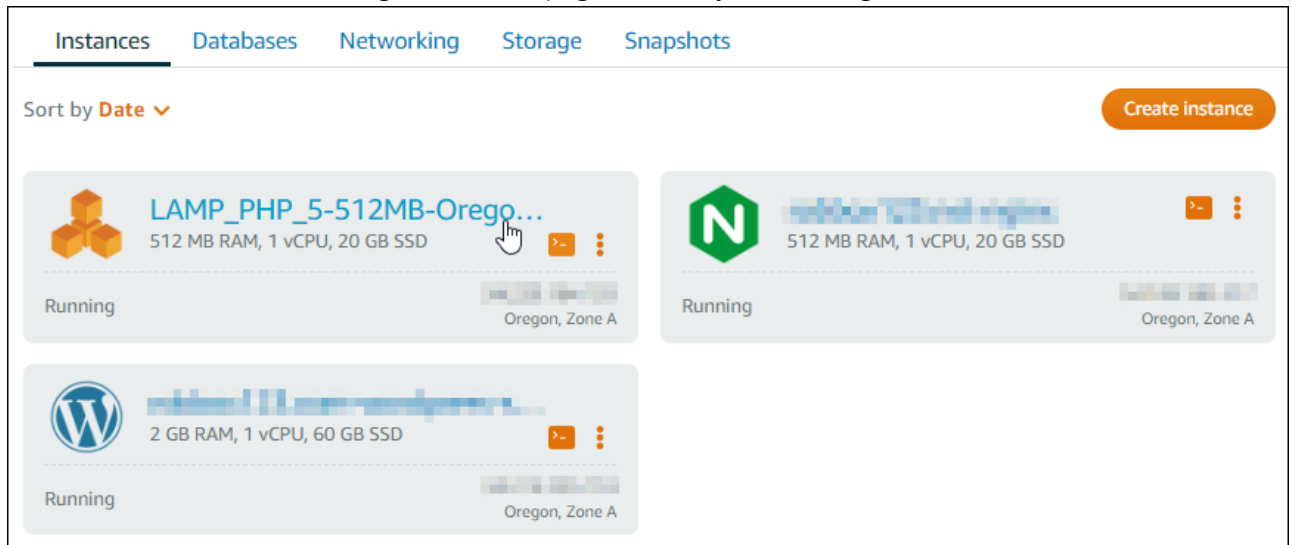
more information about installing Bitnami applications, see [Add applications on top of LAMP](#) in the Bitnami documentation.

## Step 5: Create a Lightsail static IP address and attach it to your LAMP instance

The default public IP for your LAMP instance changes if you stop and start the instance. A static IP address, attached to an instance, stays the same even if you stop and start your instance.

Create a static IP address and attach it to your LAMP instance. For more information, see [Create a static IP and attach it to an instance in Amazon Lightsail](#) in the Lightsail documentation.

1. On the **Instances** tab of the Lightsail home page, choose your running LAMP instance.




2. Choose the **Networking** tab, then choose **Create static IP**.




3. The static IP location, and attached instance are pre-selected based on the instance that you chose earlier in this tutorial.

### Static IP location ?




You are creating this static IP in **Oregon, all zones** (us-west-2)

 [Change AWS Region and Availability Zone](#)

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### Attach to an instance

Attaching a static IP replaces that instance's dynamic IP address.



LAMP\_PHP\_5-512MB-Oregon-1

512 MB RAM, 1 vCPU, 20 GB SSD  
LAMP (PHP 5)

[Cancel](#) 

4. Name your static IP, then choose **Create**.

### Name your static IP

Your Lightsail resources must have unique names.

StaticIp-Oregon-1

Static IP addresses are free only while attached to an instance.  
You can manage five at no additional cost.

Create

## Step 6: Create a Lightsail DNS zone and map a domain to your LAMP instance


Transfer management of your domain's DNS records to Lightsail. This allows you to more easily map a domain to your LAMP instance, and manage all of your website's resources using the Lightsail console. For more information, see [Creating a DNS zone to manage your domain's DNS records in Amazon Lightsail](#) in the Lightsail documentation.

1. On the **Networking** tab of the Lightsail home page, choose **Create DNS zone**.

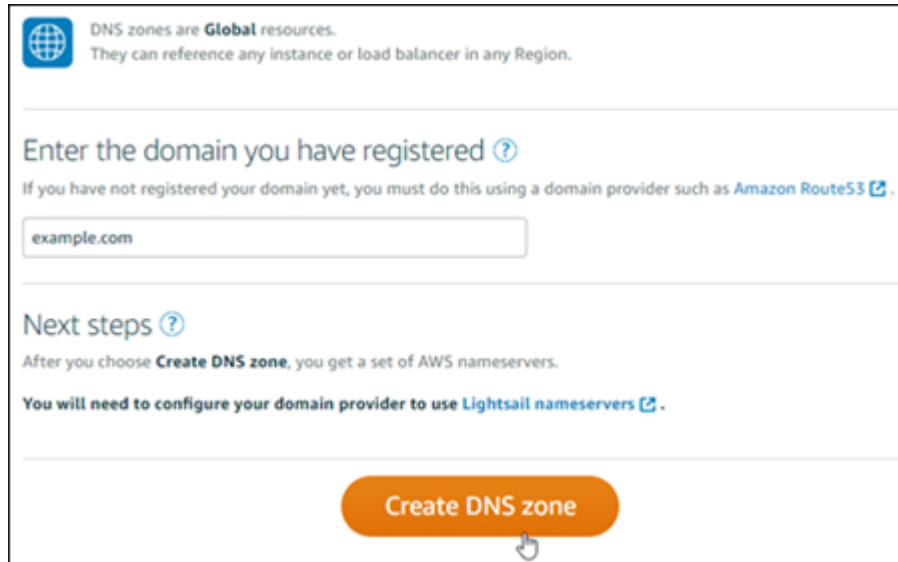
[Instances](#) [Databases](#) [Networking](#) [Storage](#) [Snapshots](#)

Sort by **Region** and then by **Type**

[Create static IP](#) [Create DNS zone](#) [Create VPC](#)

 Global

2. Enter your domain, then choose **Create DNS zone**.



DNS zones are **Global** resources.  
They can reference any instance or load balancer in any Region.

Enter the domain you have registered ?  
If you have not registered your domain yet, you must do this using a domain provider such as [Amazon Route53](#).

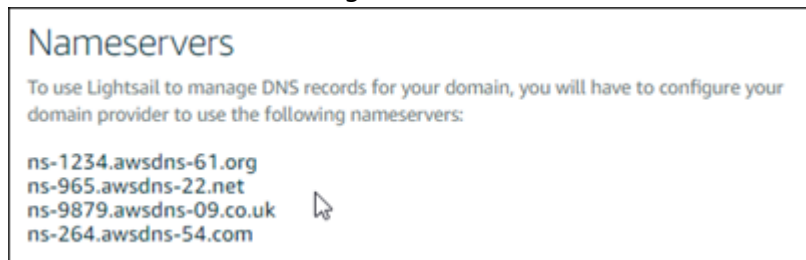
example.com

Next steps ?  
After you choose **Create DNS zone**, you get a set of AWS nameservers.  
You will need to configure your domain provider to use [Lightsail nameservers](#).

**Create DNS zone**

3. Make note of the name server addresses listed on the page.

You add these name server addresses to your domain name's registrar to transfer management of your domain's DNS records to Lightsail.



**Nameservers**

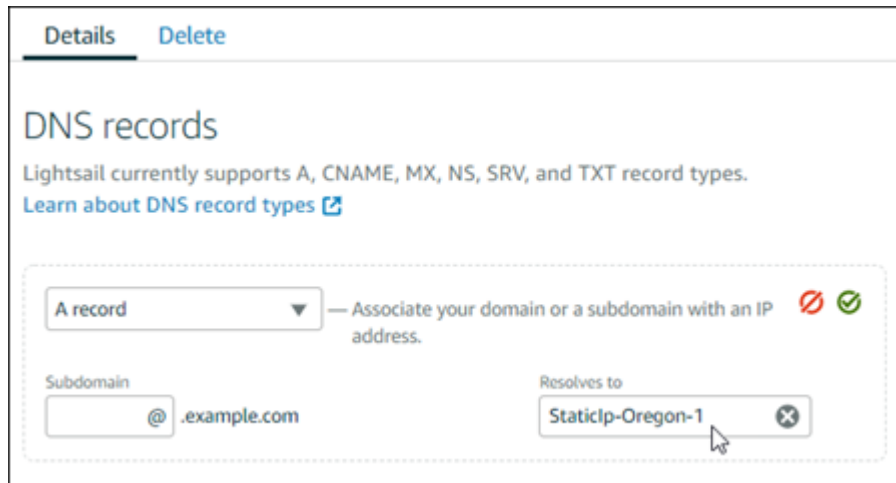
To use Lightsail to manage DNS records for your domain, you will have to configure your domain provider to use the following nameservers:

ns-1234.awsdns-61.org  
ns-965.awsdns-22.net  
ns-9879.awsdns-09.co.uk  
ns-264.awsdns-54.com

4. After management of your domain's DNS records are transferred to Lightsail, add an A record to point the apex of your domain to your LAMP instance, as follows:

1. In the DNS zone for your domain, choose **Add record**.
2. In the **Subdomain** box, enter an @ symbol to map the apex of your domain (such as example.com) to your instance. The @ symbol explicitly symbolizes that you're adding an apex record. It is not added as a subdomain.
3. In the **Maps to** box, choose the static IP that you attached to the LAMP instance in the previous step of this tutorial.



4. Choose the save icon.




Details Delete

### DNS records

Lightsail currently supports A, CNAME, MX, NS, SRV, and TXT record types.  
[Learn about DNS record types](#)

A record — Associate your domain or a subdomain with an IP address.  

Subdomain:  Resolves to:  

Allow time for the change to propagate through the internet's DNS before your domain begins routing traffic to your LAMP instance.

## Next steps

Here are a few additional steps you can perform after launching a LAMP instance in Amazon Lightsail:

- [Creating a snapshot of your Linux or Unix instance in Amazon Lightsail](#)
- [Create and attach additional block storage disks to your Linux-based Lightsail instances](#)