Hello! As a first time certification recipient, I thought now would be a good time to be a first time blogger as well. A couple months ago I decided I want to get some certs, but where do I start. I started looking into some Vmware certs (will try some of these soon) because that is what I’m most familiar with. But I started playing with AWS and thought I’d like to know more about it.

I started reading some whitepapers then to AWS Training site. I ended up using <https://acloud.guru> for my training. Started off great, was flying through the course but things come up… work, family, etc. During the time not keeping up with the training I thought I would forget half of what I just learned. What I did when I started was take notes through out the training videos, made an outline, and highlighted important parts. Having done that, it didn’t take long for me to refresh what I had learned. So, back to the training. I schedule it 2 weeks out from when I started studying again to give myself a hard deadline (afraid I may never do it if I don’t find a way to force myself).

Now it’s test time! Having all my notes, reading the whitepapers, and taking test exams (A Cloud Guru’s Exam Simulator is great) and a little hands on, I felt I was ready. Needless to say, as I start taking the exam there are questions with features I’ve never heard of, new stuff. No worries, I get through the exam flagging 23 of the 65 questions to go back and check. I felt confident I knew enough of the content that I passed. Went back and checked all 23 questions I flagged, changed a few and not sure if that helped or hurt.

I click the End Test button super anxious to see what the result is… Congratulations! You passed the exam. WHAT A RELIEF. But I still want confirmation from AWS as I had read some who took the exam didn’t hear for hours or days. The next morning, I check my AWS Training account and there is my badge & certificate. I am already looking forward to my next cert… loved the feeling of accomplishment!