

Lab-1

Implement user authentication in AWS using IAM.

Group-1

(AP25122050002,AP25122050004,AP25122050005)

Introduction

This document describes the implementation of user authentication in AWS using IAM with mandatory Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA) enforced for all users.

The implementation uses a laptop-based passkey (FIDO2 security key / platform authenticator) as the second authentication factor.

The objective is to prevent unauthorized access by ensuring that no IAM user can access AWS resources without MFA.

Scope of Implementation

The scope of this implementation includes:

- Creation of IAM users and groups
- Configuration of passkey-based MFA
- Enforcement of MFA using IAM policies
- Secure authentication flow validation
- Submission of implementation to a Git repository

System Architecture

AWS IAM is used to manage authentication and authorization. MFA enforcement is implemented using a deny-based IAM policy applied at the group level.

Architecture Components:

- IAM Users - “Alice”, “Bob”, “Cipher”
- IAM Group - “MFA-Users”
- IAM MFA Enforcement Policy
- FIDO2 Passkey (Laptop Platform Authenticator)

Authentication Mechanism

Primary Authentication Factor

Username and password (IAM user credentials)

Secondary Authentication Factor

Passkey (FIDO2 / WebAuthn)

Stored securely on the user’s laptop

Unlocked using device PIN or biometric authentication

Implementation Procedure:

IAM User Creation:

IAM users were created for individual users requiring access to AWS services.

Procedure:

- Navigate to IAM → Users
- Create user with console access
- Configure password authentication

Specify user details

User details

User name The user name can have up to 64 characters. Valid characters: A-Z, a-z, 0-9, and + = , . @ - (hyphen)

Provide user access to the AWS Management Console - optional
In addition to console access, users with SigninLocalDevelopmentAccess permissions can use the same console credentials for programmatic access without the need for access keys.

Console password Autogenerated password
You can view the password after you create the user.
 Custom password
Enter a custom password for the user.

- Must be at least 8 characters long
- Must include at least one uppercase letter (A-Z)
- Must include at least one lowercase letter (a-z)
- Must include at least one number (0-9)
- Must include at least one non-alphanumeric character (! @ # \$ % ^ & * () _ + = [] { } |)

 Show password

Users must create a new password at next sign-in - Recommended
Users automatically get the [IAMUserChangePassword](#) policy to allow them to change their own password.

If you are creating programmatic access through access keys or service-specific credentials for AWS CodeCommit or Amazon Keyspaces, you can generate them after you create this IAM user.
[Learn more](#)

Cancel **Next**

IAM Group Configuration:

A group named “MFA-Users” was created to manage permissions centrally.

Purpose:

- Simplified policy management

- Consistent security enforcement

All IAM users were added to this group.

The screenshot shows the AWS IAM User Groups page. At the top, a green banner displays the message "MFA-Users user group created." Below the banner, the title "User groups (1) Info" is shown. A sub-instruction "A user group is a collection of IAM users. Use groups to specify permissions for a collection of users." is present. A search bar labeled "Search" is available. To the right, there are buttons for "View group", "Delete", and "Create group". The main table lists one group: "MFA-Users". The table columns include "Group name", "Users", "Permissions", and "Creation time". The "MFA-Users" entry shows 0 users, "Not defined" permissions, and was created "Now".

MFA Enforcement Policy:

A custom IAM policy was created to deny all AWS actions unless MFA is present.

MFA Enforcement Policy (JSON)

```
{
  "Version": "2012-10-17",
  "Statement": [
    {
      "Sid": "DenyAccessWithoutMFA",
      "Effect": "Deny",
      "NotAction": [
        "iam>CreateVirtualMFADevice",
        "iam>EnableMFADevice",
        "iam GetUser",
        "iam>ListMFADevices",
        "iam>ListVirtualMFADevices",
        "iam>ResyncMFADevice",
        "sts GetSessionToken"
      ],
      "Resource": "*",
      "Condition": {
        "BoolIfExists": {
          "aws:MultiFactorAuthPresent": "true"
        }
      }
    }
  ]
}
```

```

        "aws:MultiFactorAuthPresent": "false"
    }
}
]
}

```

This policy was attached to the “MFA-Users” group.

The screenshot shows the AWS IAM 'Create policy' interface. The left sidebar indicates 'Step 1: Specify permissions' is selected. The main area is titled 'Specify permissions' with a 'JSON' tab selected. The JSON code is as follows:

```

1  {
2      "Version": "2012-10-17",
3      "Statement": [
4          {
5              "Sid": "DenyAccessWithoutMFA",
6              "Effect": "Deny",
7              "NotAction": [
8                  "iam:CreateVirtualMFADevice",
9                  "iam:EnableMFADevice",
10                 "iam:GetUser",
11                 "iam>ListMFADevices",
12                 "iam>ListVirtualMFADevices",
13                 "iam:ResyncMFADevice",
14                 "sts:GetSessionToken"
15             ],
16             "Resource": "*",
17             "Condition": {
18                 "BoolIfExists": {
19                     "aws:MultiFactorAuthPresent": "false"
20                 }
21             }
22         }
23     ]
24 }

```

The right panel shows a placeholder for adding statements with the text 'Select a statement' and a button '+ Add new statement'.

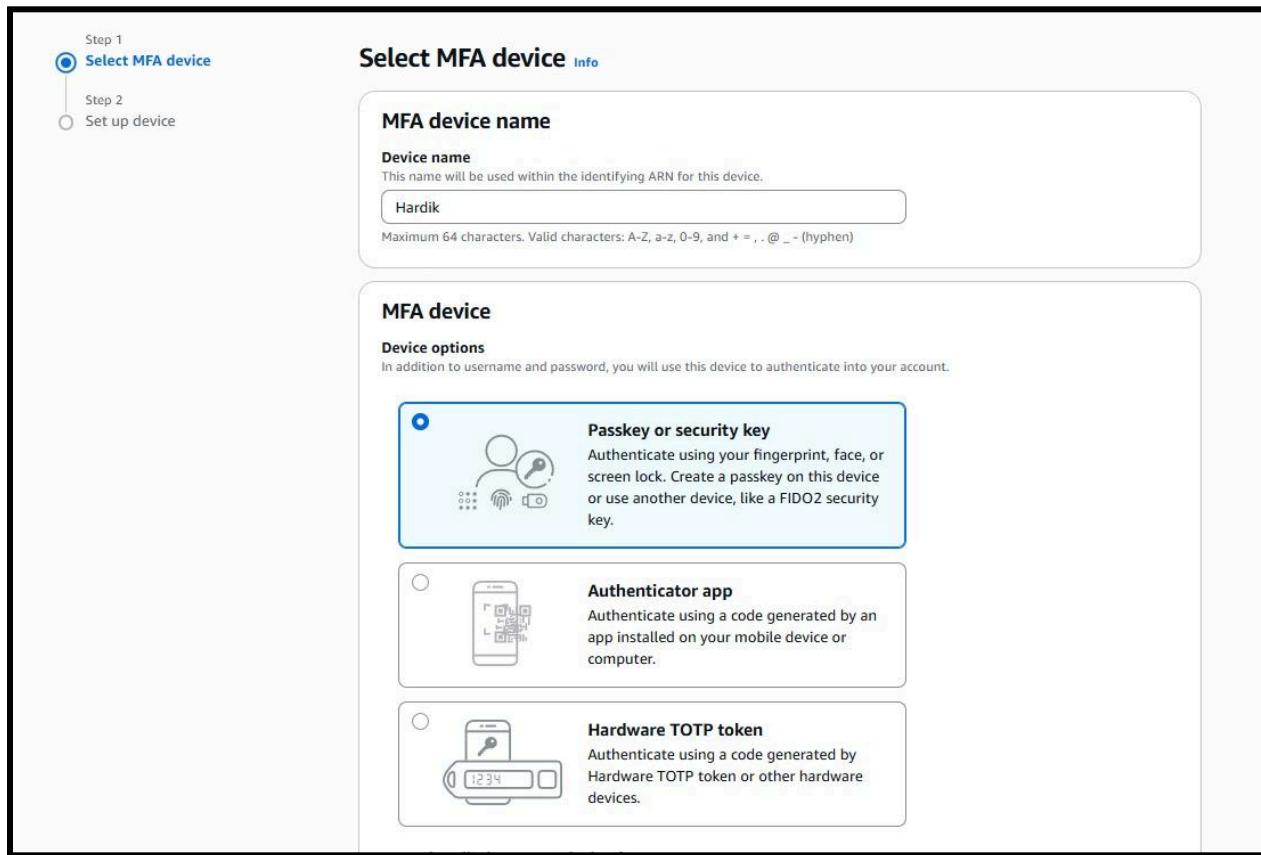
Passkey (FIDO2) MFA Configuration:

Each IAM user was assigned a passkey-based MFA device.

Procedure:

- IAM → User → Security credentials
- Assign MFA device
- Select **Security key (FIDO2)**
- Register laptop passkey

- Verify using device authentication



The image shows two screenshots related to AWS authentication.

The top screenshot is titled "Set up device" and "Passkey or security key". It displays a "Save your passkey" dialog from "Windows Security". The dialog shows a passkey identifier "615167489817-Hardik-Alice" and a note that it will be saved to the Windows device. There are "Continue" and "Cancel" buttons. Below the dialog, there are steps for creating a passkey: "Step 1 of 2 Create a passkey on this device" and "Step 2 of 2 Follow instructions from your device".

The bottom screenshot shows the "Bob" IAM user summary page. It includes a green header message about MFA devices. The "Security credentials" tab is selected, showing details like ARN, Created date (January 10, 2026), and access key information. Navigation buttons at the bottom include "Permissions", "Groups", "Tags", "Security credentials", and "Last Accessed".

Authentication Flow

Flow Description:

1. User enters IAM username and password
2. AWS validates credentials

3. Passkey challenge is triggered
4. User authenticates using laptop PIN/biometric
5. IAM policy verifies MFA presence
6. Access is granted

IAM user sign in

Account ID or alias [\(Don't have?\)](#)

Remember this account

IAM username

Password

Show Password

[Having trouble?](#)

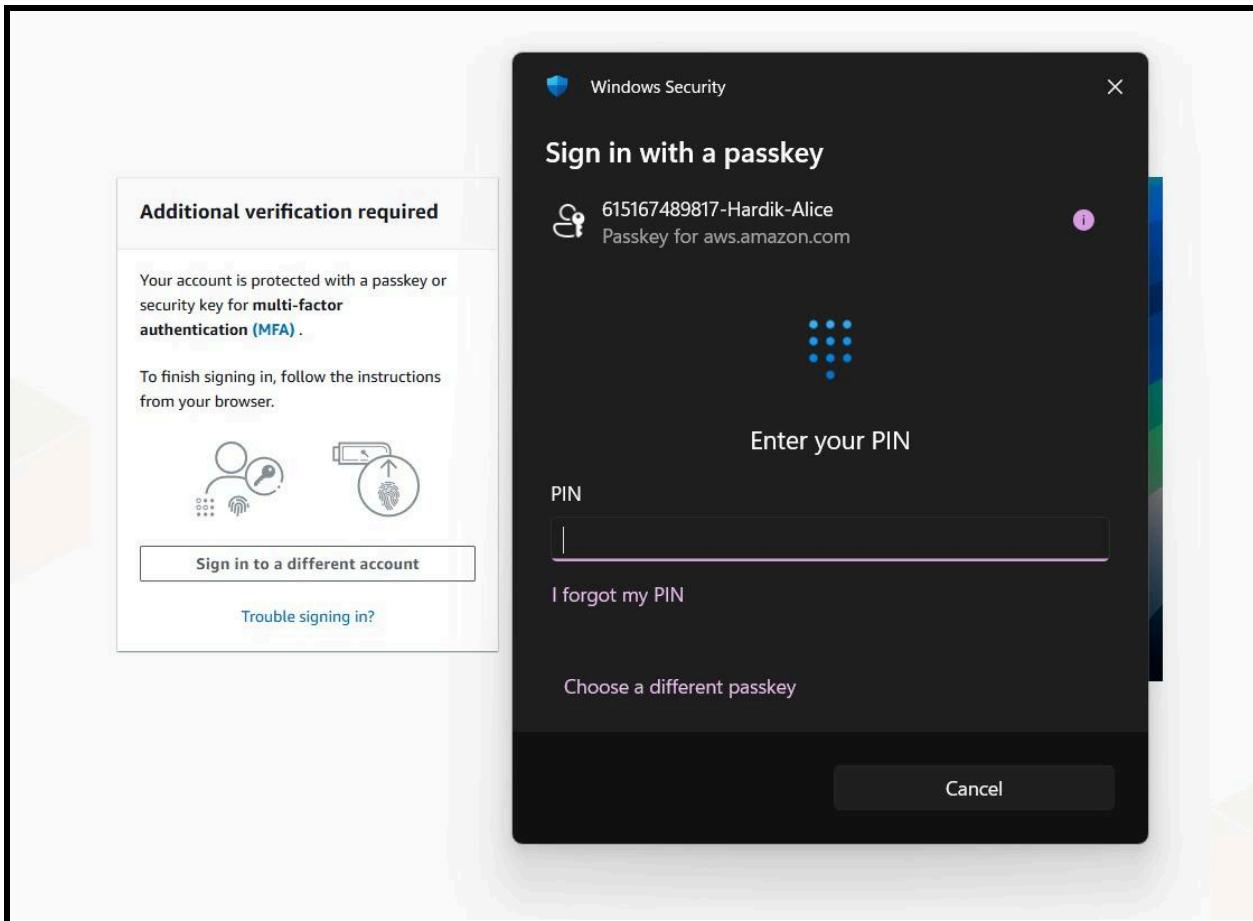
Sign in

[Sign in using root user email](#)

[Create a new AWS account](#)

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other agreement for AWS services, and the [Privacy Notice](#).

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more information.



Account ID: 6151-6748-9817 ▾
Alice

Europe (Stockholm) ▾

Reset to default layout + Add widgets

Applications (0) Info

Region: Europe (Stockholm)

Select Region eu-north-1 (Current Region) ▾

Find applications

Security Analysis

Scenario	Result
Login without MFA	Access denied
Login with passkey MFA	Access granted

Security Benefits

- Phishing-resistant authentication
- No OTP interception risk
- Hardware-backed credential storage
- Compliance with AWS security best practices

Conclusion

This implementation successfully enforces secure user authentication in AWS using IAM with passkey-based MFA.

By combining IAM authentication, FIDO2 passkeys, and deny-based policies, the system ensures strong access control and improved cloud security.