

# Revision Guide

AWS Cloud Practitioner

Certification CLF-C02



**Complete Preparation**

All essential concepts for success

November 12, 2025

# Contents

<b>1 Cloud Computing Concepts</b>	<b>4</b>
1.1 Introduction to Cloud Computing . . . . .	4
1.1.1 Infrastructure as Software . . . . .	4
1.1.2 Traditional vs Cloud Model . . . . .	4
1.1.3 Cloud Service Models . . . . .	4
1.1.4 Deployment Models . . . . .	5
1.1.5 Similarities between AWS and Traditional IT . . . . .	5
1.2 Advantages of Cloud Computing . . . . .	5
1.2.1 1. Trade Capital Expense for Variable Expense . . . . .	5
1.2.2 2. Massive Economies of Scale . . . . .	5
1.2.3 3. Stop Guessing Capacity . . . . .	6
1.2.4 4. Increase Speed and Agility . . . . .	6
1.2.5 5. Stop Spending Money on Running Data Centers . . . . .	6
1.2.6 6. Go Global in Minutes . . . . .	6
1.3 Introduction to Amazon Web Services (AWS) . . . . .	6
1.3.1 What are Web Services? . . . . .	6
1.3.2 What is AWS? . . . . .	6
1.3.3 Three Ways to Interact with AWS . . . . .	7
1.4 AWS Cloud Adoption Framework (CAF) . . . . .	7
1.4.1 The 6 CAF Perspectives . . . . .	7
<b>2 Cloud Economics and Billing</b>	<b>8</b>
2.1 Fundamentals of AWS Pricing . . . . .	8
2.1.1 The 3 Cost Drivers . . . . .	8
2.1.2 AWS Payment Models . . . . .	8
2.1.3 AWS Free Tier . . . . .	9
2.2 Total Cost of Ownership (TCO) . . . . .	9
2.2.1 Using TCO . . . . .	9
2.2.2 TCO Considerations . . . . .	10
2.2.3 AWS Pricing Calculator . . . . .	10
2.2.4 Additional Benefit Considerations . . . . .	10
2.3 AWS Organizations . . . . .	11
2.3.1 Key Features . . . . .	11
2.3.2 Security with AWS Organizations . . . . .	11
2.3.3 Accessing AWS Organizations . . . . .	11
2.4 Billing and Cost Management . . . . .	11
2.4.1 AWS Cost Management Tools . . . . .	11
2.5 AWS Technical Support . . . . .	12
2.5.1 Support Plans . . . . .	12

2.5.2	Proactive Guidance . . . . .	12
<b>3</b>	<b>AWS Global Infrastructure</b>	<b>13</b>
3.1	Overview of AWS Global Infrastructure . . . . .	13
3.1.1	Key Components . . . . .	13
3.2	AWS Regions . . . . .	13
3.2.1	Region Characteristics . . . . .	13
3.2.2	Factors for Selecting a Region . . . . .	14
3.3	Availability Zones (AZs) . . . . .	14
3.3.1	AZ Characteristics . . . . .	14
3.4	Edge Locations and Regional Edge Caches . . . . .	15
3.4.1	Points of Presence . . . . .	15
3.4.2	Edge Locations vs Regional Edge Caches . . . . .	15
3.5	Infrastructure Features . . . . .	15
3.5.1	Elasticity and Scalability . . . . .	15
3.5.2	Fault Tolerance . . . . .	15
3.5.3	High Availability . . . . .	15
<b>4</b>	<b>AWS Cloud Security</b>	<b>17</b>
4.1	AWS Shared Responsibility Model . . . . .	17
4.1.1	AWS Responsibilities: Security OF the Cloud . . . . .	17
4.1.2	Customer Responsibilities: Security IN the Cloud . . . . .	17
4.1.3	Responsibility by Service Type . . . . .	18
4.2	AWS Identity and Access Management (IAM) . . . . .	18
4.2.1	IAM Components . . . . .	18
4.2.2	IAM Authentication Methods . . . . .	18
4.2.3	IAM Policy Example . . . . .	18
4.2.4	IAM Best Practices . . . . .	19
4.3	Securing a New AWS Account – Best Practices . . . . .	20
4.3.1	Step-by-Step Hardening . . . . .	20
4.4	AWS Compliance & Security Services . . . . .	20
<b>5</b>	<b>Networking and Content Delivery</b>	<b>21</b>
5.1	Amazon Virtual Private Cloud (VPC) . . . . .	21
5.1.1	VPC Fundamentals . . . . .	21
5.1.2	Key VPC Components . . . . .	21
5.2	Amazon Route 53 . . . . .	22
5.2.1	Routing Policies . . . . .	22
5.3	Amazon CloudFront . . . . .	22
5.3.1	Key Features . . . . .	22
<b>6</b>	<b>Compute Services</b>	<b>23</b>
6.1	Amazon EC2 (Elastic Compute Cloud) . . . . .	23
6.1.1	EC2 Instance Types . . . . .	23
6.1.2	EC2 Pricing Models . . . . .	23
6.2	Container Services . . . . .	23
6.3	AWS Lambda . . . . .	24
6.3.1	Key Features . . . . .	24
6.4	Elastic Beanstalk . . . . .	24
6.4.1	Supported Platforms . . . . .	24

<b>7 Storage Services</b>	<b>25</b>
7.1 Storage Types Comparison . . . . .	25
7.2 Amazon S3 . . . . .	25
7.2.1 Storage Classes . . . . .	25
7.3 Amazon EBS . . . . .	25
7.4 Amazon EFS . . . . .	26
<b>8 Database Services</b>	<b>27</b>
8.1 RDS vs DynamoDB . . . . .	27
8.2 Amazon RDS . . . . .	27
8.3 Amazon Aurora . . . . .	27
8.4 Amazon DynamoDB . . . . .	27
8.5 Amazon Redshift . . . . .	28
<b>9 Scaling, Load Balancing &amp; Monitoring</b>	<b>29</b>
9.1 Elastic Load Balancing (ELB) . . . . .	29
9.2 EC2 Auto Scaling . . . . .	29
9.3 Amazon CloudWatch . . . . .	29
9.3.1 Features . . . . .	29
<b>10 AWS Well-Architected Framework</b>	<b>30</b>
10.1 The Six Pillars . . . . .	30
10.1.1 Reliability Pillar . . . . .	30
10.2 AWS Trusted Advisor . . . . .	30
<b>11 Sample Exam Questions</b>	<b>31</b>
11.1 Question 1 . . . . .	31
11.2 Question 2 . . . . .	31
11.3 Question 3 . . . . .	31
11.4 Question 4 . . . . .	31
<b>12 Final Exam Tips</b>	<b>32</b>

# Chapter 1

## Cloud Computing Concepts

### 1.1 Introduction to Cloud Computing

#### Definition

**Cloud computing** is the on-demand delivery of compute power, database, storage, applications, and other IT resources via the internet with pay-as-you-go pricing.

#### 1.1.1 Infrastructure as Software

Cloud computing enables you to stop thinking of your infrastructure as hardware, and instead think of (and use) it as software.

#### 1.1.2 Traditional vs Cloud Model

awsblue!20 Traditional Infrastructure	Cloud Infrastructure
Infrastructure as hardware	Infrastructure as software
Requires space, staff, physical security	Flexible and scalable
Long hardware procurement cycle	Instant provisioning
Provision by guessing theoretical peaks	Scale on demand
High capital expenditure	Pay-as-you-go pricing

Table 1.1: Traditional vs Cloud Infrastructure Comparison

#### 1.1.3 Cloud Service Models

- **IaaS (Infrastructure as a Service)**
  - More control over IT resources
  - Example: Amazon EC2
  - You manage: OS, applications, data
- **PaaS (Platform as a Service)**
  - Moderate control
  - AWS manages infrastructure

- Example: AWS Elastic Beanstalk
- You manage: Applications and data
- **SaaS (Software as a Service)**
  - Less control
  - Complete application managed by provider
  - Example: Amazon Chime
  - You manage: User access

#### 1.1.4 Deployment Models

1. **Cloud:** All resources in AWS cloud
2. **Hybrid:** Combination of cloud + on-premises infrastructure
3. **On-premises (Private cloud):** Virtualized local infrastructure

#### 1.1.5 Similarities between AWS and Traditional IT

awsblue!20 Traditional IT	AWS Equivalent
Security	Security groups, Network ACLs, IAM, Firewalls
Networking	Elastic Load Balancing, Amazon VPC, Router, Switch
Compute servers	Amazon EC2 instances, AMI
Storage & Database	Amazon EBS, Amazon EFS, Amazon S3, Amazon RDS

Table 1.2: AWS vs Traditional IT Components

## 1.2 Advantages of Cloud Computing

### 💡 Key Point

AWS offers 6 main advantages of cloud computing:

#### 1.2.1 1. Trade Capital Expense for Variable Expense

- Datacenter investment based on forecasts → Pay only for what you consume
- No large upfront costs
- Pay-as-you-go model
- Convert fixed costs to variable costs

#### 1.2.2 2. Massive Economies of Scale

- AWS aggregates usage from all customers
- Higher economies of scale achieved
- Lower prices passed on to customers
- Since 2006, AWS has lowered prices over 75 times

### 1.2.3 3. Stop Guessing Capacity

- Avoid underestimating (performance issues)
- Avoid overestimating (wasted resources)
- Scale on demand
- Access resources as needed

### 1.2.4 4. Increase Speed and Agility

#### ⚠ Important

Reduce time between resource need and availability: from weeks to minutes!

### 1.2.5 5. Stop Spending Money on Running Data Centers

- Focus on your business, not infrastructure
- AWS manages physical infrastructure
- Eliminate undifferentiated heavy lifting

### 1.2.6 6. Go Global in Minutes

- Deploy in multiple regions worldwide
- Reduced latency for end users
- Better global user experience
- Applications deployed globally with a few clicks

## 1.3 Introduction to Amazon Web Services (AWS)

### 1.3.1 What are Web Services?

A web service is any piece of software that makes itself available over the internet and uses a standardized format—such as XML or JSON—for API requests and responses.

### 1.3.2 What is AWS?

- Secure cloud platform offering a broad set of global cloud-based products
- On-demand access to compute, storage, network, database, and other IT resources
- Flexibility: pay only for the services you use
- Services work together like building blocks

### 1.3.3 Three Ways to Interact with AWS

#### 1. AWS Management Console

- Easy-to-use graphical interface
- Web-based interface

#### 2. Command Line Interface (AWS CLI)

- Access services by discrete commands or scripts
- Automation-friendly

#### 3. Software Development Kits (SDKs)

- Access services directly from your code
- Available for: Java, Python, JavaScript, .NET, Ruby, Go, etc.

## 1.4 AWS Cloud Adoption Framework (CAF)

### Definition

The **AWS CAF** provides guidance and best practices for a comprehensive approach to cloud computing across the organization.

### 1.4.1 The 6 CAF Perspectives

awsblue!20 Perspective	Focus	Stakeholders
<b>Business</b>	Align IT with business needs, trace IT investments to business results	Business managers, finance, budget owners, strategy stakeholders
<b>People</b>	Training, staffing, organizational change management	HR, people managers, staffing
<b>Governance</b>	Align IT and business strategy, maximize business value	CIO, architects, analysts, portfolio managers
<b>Platform</b>	IT systems and target architecture, describe technical capabilities	CTO, IT managers, solutions architects
<b>Security</b>	Security objectives, identity management, protective controls	CISO, IT security managers, analysts
<b>Operations</b>	Daily and long-term operations, service monitoring	IT operations managers, IT support managers

Table 1.3: The 6 Perspectives of AWS CAF

### Exam Tip

For the exam, remember that CAF is organized into 6 perspectives divided into business capabilities (Business, People, Governance) and technical capabilities (Platform, Security, Operations).

# Chapter 2

## Cloud Economics and Billing

### 2.1 Fundamentals of AWS Pricing

#### 2.1.1 The 3 Cost Drivers

##### 1. Compute

- Charged per hour/second (Linux only)
- Varies by instance type

##### 2. Storage

- Typically charged per GB

##### 3. Data Transfer

- Outbound is charged
- Inbound generally free
- Charged per GB

#### 2.1.2 AWS Payment Models

##### Key Point

4 ways to pay for AWS:

##### 1. Pay for What You Use

- No large upfront expenses
- Maximum flexibility
- Pay only for consumed services

##### 2. Pay Less When You Reserve

- Reserved Instances (RI): up to 75% savings
- Options: All Upfront (largest discount), Partial Upfront, No Upfront (smallest discount)
- 1 or 3 year commitment

### 3. Pay Less by Using More

- Volume-based discounts
- Tiered pricing (S3, EBS, EFS)
- The more you use, the less you pay per GB

### 4. Pay Even Less as AWS Grows

- AWS passes savings from economies of scale to customers
- Since 2006, AWS has lowered prices over 75 times

### 5. Custom Pricing

- Available for high-volume projects
- Unique requirements

#### 2.1.3 AWS Free Tier

##### ⚠ Important

The Free Tier allows new customers to gain hands-on experience with AWS services free for 1 year.

##### Services with no charge:

- Amazon VPC
- AWS IAM
- AWS CloudFormation\*
- AWS Elastic Beanstalk\*
- Auto Scaling\*

\* Charges may apply for other AWS services used in conjunction

## 2.2 Total Cost of Ownership (TCO)

##### ☰ Definition

**Total Cost of Ownership (TCO)** helps estimate both direct and indirect costs of a system.

#### 2.2.1 Using TCO

- Compare costs of on-premises infrastructure vs AWS
- Budget and justify cloud migration
- Make informed decisions

awsblue!20 Category	Elements
Servers	Hardware, software, maintenance
Storage	Disks, SAN/FC, administration
Network	LAN switches, bandwidth, load balancers
IT Labor	Server, storage, network administration
Facilities	Space, power, cooling

Table 2.1: TCO Components

## 2.2.2 TCO Considerations

### 🎓 Exam Tip

Remember that migrating to AWS can save up to 96% annually over 3 years, including business-level support and EC2 Reserved Instances.

## 2.2.3 AWS Pricing Calculator

Use the calculator to:

- Estimate monthly costs
- Identify cost reduction opportunities
- Model solutions before building
- Explore contract terms and instance types
- Name and group your estimates

## 2.2.4 Additional Benefit Considerations

**Hard Benefits:**

- Reduced spending on compute, storage, networking, security
- Lower hardware/software purchase (capex)
- Reduced operational costs, backup, disaster recovery
- Fewer operations personnel

**Soft Benefits:**

- Reuse of services and apps for flexible solutions
- Increased developer productivity
- Improved customer satisfaction
- Agile business processes for new opportunities
- Greater global reach

## 2.3 AWS Organizations

### Definition

**AWS Organizations** enables policy-based and group-based management of multiple AWS accounts.

### 2.3.1 Key Features

- Policy-based and group-based account management
- APIs for automation
- Consolidated billing

### 2.3.2 Security with AWS Organizations

#### 1. IAM Policies

- Allow/deny access to AWS services
- For users, groups, and roles

#### 2. Service Control Policies (SCPs)

- Allow/deny access in Organizational Units (OUs)
- Define maximum permissions
- Never grant permissions, only restrict

### 2.3.3 Accessing AWS Organizations

- AWS Management Console
- AWS CLI tools
- SDKs
- HTTPS Query APIs

## 2.4 Billing and Cost Management

### 2.4.1 AWS Cost Management Tools

#### 1. AWS Budgets

- Set custom budgets
- Alerts when thresholds exceeded
- Track costs and usage

#### 2. AWS Cost and Usage Report

- Detailed cost and usage report
- Exportable to S3

- Comprehensive billing data

### 3. AWS Cost Explorer

- Visualize and analyze costs
- Identify trends and anomalies
- Forecast future costs

## 2.5 AWS Technical Support

### 2.5.1 Support Plans

awsblue!20 Plan	Features
<b>Basic</b>	Resource Center, Service Health Dashboard, FAQs, forums, health check support
<b>Developer</b>	Support for early development on AWS
<b>Business</b>	For production workloads, 24/7 support
<b>Enterprise</b>	For mission-critical workloads, includes TAM

Table 2.2: AWS Support Plans

#### ⚠ Important

Technical Account Manager (TAM) is only available with Enterprise Support

### 2.5.2 Proactive Guidance

- **Technical Account Manager (TAM)**: Enterprise support only
- **AWS Trusted Advisor**: Best practices recommendations
- **AWS Support Concierge**: Account assistance

# Chapter 3

## AWS Global Infrastructure

### 3.1 Overview of AWS Global Infrastructure

#### Definition

The **AWS Global Infrastructure** is designed to be flexible, reliable, scalable, and secure, providing high-quality global network performance.

#### 3.1.1 Key Components

1. Regions
2. Availability Zones (AZs)
3. Edge Locations
4. Regional Edge Caches

### 3.2 AWS Regions

#### Key Point

A Region is a geographic area consisting of multiple, isolated Availability Zones.

#### 3.2.1 Region Characteristics

- Fully independent and isolated from other Regions
- Data replication controlled by you
- Communication between Regions uses AWS backbone network
- Each Region has multiple Availability Zones

### 3.2.2 Factors for Selecting a Region

#### 1. Data Governance & Legal Requirements

- Compliance with local laws
- Data residency requirements

#### 2. Proximity to Customers (Latency)

- Reduce latency for better user experience
- Faster response times

#### 3. Services Available within the Region

- Not all services available in all Regions
- Check regional service availability

#### 4. Cost

- Pricing may vary by Region
- Consider budget constraints

## 3.3 Availability Zones (AZs)

### Definition

An **Availability Zone** is one or more discrete data centers with redundant power, networking, and connectivity.

### 3.3.1 AZ Characteristics

- Each Region contains multiple AZs (typically 3 or more)
- AZs are isolated partitions for fault tolerance
- Connected via high-speed, low-latency networking
- Physically separated by meaningful distance
- AWS recommends replicating resources across AZs
- Each data center typically has 50,000 to 80,000 physical servers

### Exam Tip

For high availability, always deploy resources across multiple Availability Zones!

## 3.4 Edge Locations and Regional Edge Caches

### 3.4.1 Points of Presence

- AWS operates a global network of Points of Presence (PoPs)
- Includes Edge Locations and Regional Edge Caches
- Used by Amazon CloudFront for content delivery
- Lower latency for end users

### 3.4.2 Edge Locations vs Regional Edge Caches

awsblue!20	Edge Locations	Regional Edge Caches
Purpose	Serve most popular content	Hold less popular content
Location	Globally distributed	Between origin and edge locations
Size	Smaller	Larger cache capacity

Table 3.1: Edge Locations vs Regional Edge Caches

## 3.5 Infrastructure Features

### 3.5.1 Elasticity and Scalability

- Dynamically adapt capacity
- Scale up or down as needed
- No upfront capacity planning required
- Grow as needed

### 3.5.2 Fault Tolerance

- Built-in redundancy
- Continues operating during component failures
- Automatic failover capabilities

### 3.5.3 High Availability

- Minimized downtime
- High operational performance
- Multiple AZ deployment

**⚠ Important****Key Distinction:**

- **Regions:** Geographic areas for compliance and redundancy
- **Availability Zones:** Fault tolerance and high availability
- **Edge Locations:** Content caching for improved delivery

# Chapter 4

## AWS Cloud Security

### 4.1 AWS Shared Responsibility Model

#### Definition

Security in the cloud is a **shared responsibility** between AWS and the customer.

#### 4.1.1 AWS Responsibilities: Security OF the Cloud

- Physical security of data centers
- Hardware and infrastructure
- Network infrastructure
- Virtualization infrastructure
- Software infrastructure
- Facilities and equipment

#### 4.1.2 Customer Responsibilities: Security IN the Cloud

- Customer data
- Applications
- Operating system
- Network and firewall configuration
- IAM (Identity and Access Management)
- Encryption (data at rest and in transit)
- Account management

#### Exam Tip

For the exam, remember: AWS = Security OF the cloud, Customer = Security IN the cloud

### 4.1.3 Responsibility by Service Type

awsblue!20 Service Type	Examples	Customer Responsibility
IaaS	EC2, EBS, VPC	More responsibility (OS, patches, firewall)
PaaS	RDS, Elastic Beanstalk	Moderate responsibility
SaaS	Lambda, Trusted Advisor	Less responsibility

Table 4.1: Shared Responsibility by Service Type

## 4.2 AWS Identity and Access Management (IAM)

### Definition

**AWS IAM** enables you to manage access to AWS services and resources securely.

### 4.2.1 IAM Components

#### 1. IAM User

- Person or application with credentials
- Unique name within AWS account

#### 2. IAM Group

- Collection of users
- Share common permissions
- Users can belong to multiple groups

#### 3. IAM Policy

- JSON document defining permissions
- Identity-based or resource-based
- Specifies actions, resources, and effects

#### 4. IAM Role

- Assumable identity for temporary access
- Not tied to a specific person
- Used by services, applications, or federated users

### 4.2.2 IAM Authentication Methods

### 4.2.3 IAM Policy Example

awsblue!20 Method	Components	Use Case
Programmatic Access	Access Key ID + Secret Access Key	CLI, SDK, APIs
Console Access	Account ID/Alias + Username + Password + MFA	Web console

Table 4.2: IAM Authentication Methods

```
{
  "Version": "2012-10-17",
  "Statement": [
    {
      "Effect": "Allow",
      "Action": ["s3:GetObject", "s3:PutObject"],
      "Resource": "arn:aws:s3:::my-bucket/*"
    },
    {
      "Effect": "Deny",
      "Action": "s3:DeleteObject",
      "Resource": "arn:aws:s3:::my-bucket/*"
    }
  ]
}
```

**⚠ Important****Explicit Deny always overrides Allow!**

#### 4.2.4 IAM Best Practices

**1. Principle of Least Privilege**

- Grant only necessary permissions
- Start with minimal permissions, add as needed

**2. Use Groups for Permissions**

- Assign permissions to groups, not individual users
- Easier management and consistency

**3. Enable MFA**

- Multi-Factor Authentication for root and privileged users
- Additional security layer

**4. Use Roles for Applications**

- Don't embed credentials in code
- Use IAM roles for EC2 instances and applications

**5. Rotate Credentials Regularly**

6. Rotate access keys and passwords regularly
7. Use AWS Secrets Manager or Parameter Store

### Monitor Activity

- Enable AWS CloudTrail
- Review IAM access reports

## 4.3 Securing a New AWS Account – Best Practices

### ⚠ Important

Never use the root user for daily tasks!

### 4.3.1 Step-by-Step Hardening

1. Delete root access keys
2. Enable MFA on root account
3. Create an IAM admin user and group
4. Enable strong password policy
5. Enable CloudTrail (all regions)
6. Set up billing alerts

## 4.4 AWS Compliance & Security Services

- **AWS Artifact:** Compliance reports (SOC, PCI, ISO)
- **AWS Config:** Track resource configuration
- **AWS Shield:** DDoS protection
- **AWS KMS:** Encryption key management
- **Amazon Inspector:** Automated security assessment

### 🎓 Exam Tip

**Shared Responsibility:** AWS secures the cloud; you secure your data and access.

# Chapter 5

## Networking and Content Delivery

### 5.1 Amazon Virtual Private Cloud (VPC)

#### Definition

**Amazon VPC** lets you provision a logically isolated section of the AWS Cloud where you define your own virtual network.

#### 5.1.1 VPC Fundamentals

- Belongs to one region, spans multiple AZs
- CIDR block (e.g., 10.0.0.0/16)
- Subnets: public or private, one AZ each
- Route tables control traffic

#### 5.1.2 Key VPC Components

awsblue!20 Component	Description
Internet Gateway (IGW)	Enables internet access for public subnets
NAT Gateway	Allows private subnets to access internet (out-bound only)
Security Groups	Instance-level firewall (stateful)
Network ACLs	Subnet-level firewall (stateless)
VPC Peering	Connect two VPCs (same or different accounts/regions)
VPC Endpoints	Private access to S3 and DynamoDB

#### Exam Tip

Security Groups: Allow only, stateful | NACLs: Allow/Deny, stateless

## 5.2 Amazon Route 53

### Definition

**Amazon Route 53** is a highly available and scalable DNS web service.

### 5.2.1 Routing Policies

- **Simple:** Standard DNS
- **Weighted:** Traffic distribution
- **Latency:** Route to lowest latency region
- **Geolocation:** Route by user location
- **Failover:** Active-passive HA
- **Multivalue Answer:** Return multiple healthy IPs

## 5.3 Amazon CloudFront

### Definition

**Amazon CloudFront** is a global CDN that accelerates delivery of websites, APIs, video, and other web assets.

### 5.3.1 Key Features

- Edge Locations (300+) for low-latency delivery
- Regional Edge Caches for less popular content
- Integrates with S3, EC2, ALB, Lambda@Edge
- Supports HTTPS, field-level encryption, WAF

### Exam Tip

CloudFront = **CDN** | Route 53 = **DNS**

# Chapter 6

## Compute Services

### 6.1 Amazon EC2 (Elastic Compute Cloud)

#### Definition

**EC2** provides resizable compute capacity in the cloud via virtual servers.

#### 6.1.1 EC2 Instance Types

awsblue!20 Family	Example	Use Case
T (Burstable)	t3.micro	Web servers, dev environments
M (General Purpose)	m6g.large	App servers, gaming
C (Compute Optimized)	c6g.medium	High-performance web, batch
R/X (Memory Optimized)	r6g.xlarge	Databases, in-memory caches
I/D (Storage Optimized)	i3en.3xlarge	NoSQL, data warehousing
P/G (Accelerated)	p4d.24xlarge	ML training, graphics

#### 6.1.2 EC2 Pricing Models

- **On-Demand:** Pay per hour/second
- **Reserved:** 1–3 year commitment (up to 75% off)
- **Spot:** Bid on spare capacity (up to 90% off)
- **Dedicated Hosts:** Physical server compliance

#### Exam Tip

Use **Spot** for fault-tolerant, flexible workloads (e.g., batch jobs).

### 6.2 Container Services

- **ECR:** Docker container registry
- **ECS:** Orchestrate Docker containers

- **EKS:** Managed Kubernetes
- **Fargate:** Serverless containers (no EC2 management)

## 6.3 AWS Lambda

### Definition

**Lambda** is a serverless compute service that runs code in response to events.

### 6.3.1 Key Features

- No servers to manage
- Pay per millisecond
- Auto-scales
- Event-driven (S3, DynamoDB, API Gateway, etc.)

### Exam Tip

Lambda = **serverless, event-driven, pay-per-use**

## 6.4 Elastic Beanstalk

### Definition

**Elastic Beanstalk** is a PaaS for deploying and scaling web apps.

### 6.4.1 Supported Platforms

Java, .NET, PHP, Node.js, Python, Ruby, Go, Docker

# Chapter 7

## Storage Services

### 7.1 Storage Types Comparison

awsblue!20 Service	Type	Durability	Use Case
EBS	Block	99.999%	EC2 boot volumes, databases
S3	Object	99.999999999% (11 9s)	Static websites, backups
EFS	File	High	Shared file systems
S3 Glacier	Archive	11 9s	Long-term, low-cost archive

### 7.2 Amazon S3

#### 7.2.1 Storage Classes

- **Standard:** General purpose
- **Intelligent-Tiering:** Auto cost optimization
- **Standard-IA:** Infrequent access
- **One Zone-IA:** Lower cost, less resilient
- **Glacier:** Archival (minutes to hours retrieval)
- **Deep Archive:** Years-long retention

#### 🎓 Exam Tip

S3 = 11 9s durability, unlimited scale, object storage

### 7.3 Amazon EBS

- Persistent block storage for EC2
- Snapshots stored in S3
- Encrypted by default (optional)
- Types: SSD (gp3, io2), HDD (st1, sc1)

## 7.4 Amazon EFS

- Managed NFS for Linux
- Multi-AZ, scales automatically
- Pay for used storage

# Chapter 8

## Database Services

### 8.1 RDS vs DynamoDB

awsblue!20 Feature	RDS (Relational)	DynamoDB (NoSQL)
Data Model	Tables, rows, SQL	Key-value, document
Schema	Fixed	Flexible
Scaling	Vertical + Read Replicas	Horizontal (auto)
Use Case	Transactions, joins	High throughput, simple queries

### 8.2 Amazon RDS

- Managed relational DB
- Engines: MySQL, PostgreSQL, MariaDB, Oracle, SQL Server, Aurora
- Multi-AZ for HA, Read Replicas for scale

### 8.3 Amazon Aurora

- MySQL/PostgreSQL-compatible
- Up to 5x faster than standard MySQL
- Auto-scaling storage up to 128 TB
- Serverless v2 option

### 8.4 Amazon DynamoDB

- Fully managed NoSQL
- Single-digit ms latency
- Auto-scaling throughput
- DAX for in-memory caching

## 8.5 Amazon Redshift

- Data warehouse for analytics
- Columnar storage
- Integrates with BI tools
- Massively parallel processing (MPP)

 Exam Tip

**DynamoDB** = NoSQL, serverless, scale | **RDS** = SQL, managed relational

# Chapter 9

## Scaling, Load Balancing & Monitoring

### 9.1 Elastic Load Balancing (ELB)

- Distributes traffic across multiple targets
- Types:
  - **ALB**: Layer 7 (HTTP/HTTPS), path routing
  - **NLB**: Layer 4 (TCP/UDP), ultra-low latency
  - **CLB**: Legacy

### 9.2 EC2 Auto Scaling

- Automatically adjust EC2 capacity
- Uses launch templates/configurations
- Scaling policies: target tracking, step, scheduled

### 9.3 Amazon CloudWatch

#### Definition

CloudWatch monitors AWS resources and applications in real time.

#### 9.3.1 Features

- Metrics, logs, alarms
- Events and automation
- Dashboards
- Integrates with SNS for alerts

# Chapter 10

## AWS Well-Architected Framework

### 10.1 The Six Pillars

1. Operational Excellence
2. Security
3. Reliability
4. Performance Efficiency
5. Cost Optimization
6. Sustainability

#### 10.1.1 Reliability Pillar

- Recover from failures
- Horizontal scaling
- Stop guessing capacity
- Automate change management

### 10.2 AWS Trusted Advisor

- Real-time guidance
- Checks: Cost, Performance, Security, Fault Tolerance, Service Limits

#### Exam Tip

Trusted Advisor = best practice checker

# Chapter 11

## Sample Exam Questions

### 11.1 Question 1

Which service provides a fully managed NoSQL database? A) Amazon RDS B) Amazon DynamoDB C) Amazon Aurora D) Amazon Redshift

Answer: B

### 11.2 Question 2

A company needs low-latency global content delivery. Which service should they use? A) Amazon Route 53 B) Amazon CloudFront C) AWS Direct Connect D) Amazon VPC

Answer: B

### 11.3 Question 3

Under the shared responsibility model, who is responsible for patching the guest OS on EC2? A) AWS B) Customer C) Both D) Neither

Answer: B

### 11.4 Question 4

Which storage is best for long-term, infrequently accessed archival data? A) Amazon EBS B) Amazon S3 Standard C) Amazon S3 Glacier Deep Archive D) Amazon EFS

Answer: C

# Chapter 12

## Final Exam Tips

### 💡 Key Point

#### CLF-C02 Exam Blueprint Focus Areas:

- Cloud Concepts (24%)
- Security & Compliance (22%)
- Technology & Services (34%)
- Billing, Pricing & Support (20%)

### ⚠️ Important

#### Must-Know Services:

- EC2, S3, VPC, IAM, RDS, DynamoDB
- Lambda, CloudFront, Route 53
- CloudWatch, Auto Scaling, ELB
- Shared Responsibility, Well-Architected

### 🎓 Exam Tip

Read questions carefully — look for keywords like *serverless*, *global*, *highly available*, *cost-effective*.

# Bibliography