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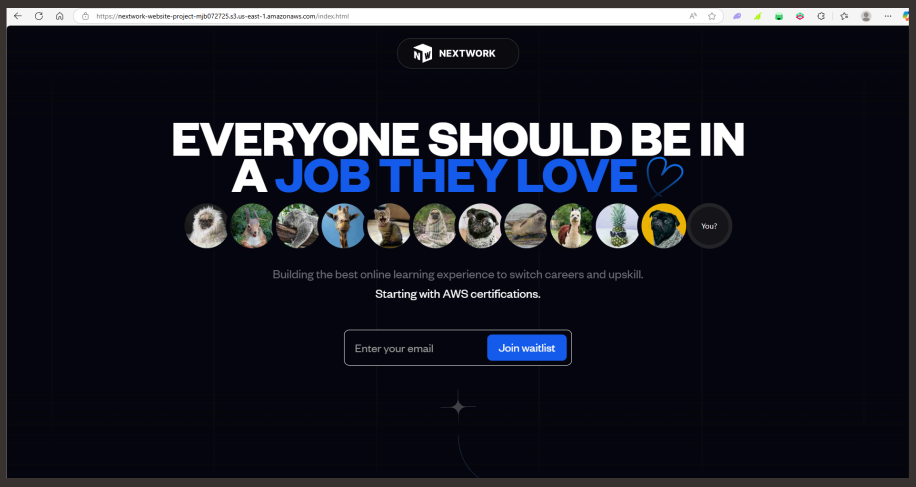
Host a Website on Amazon S3

ME Melvin J Bonner



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Introducing Today's Project!

In this project, I will demonstrate how powerful Amazon S3 is by hosting a website by uploading website content into S3 and then making it publicly accessible. I'm doing this project to get a better understanding of the capabilities of S3.

Tools and concepts

The service I used was Amazon S3. Key concepts I learned include bucket permissions, ACL, and objects.

Project reflection

This project took me approximately 1 hour to complete. The most challenging part was making the objects public. It was most rewarding to get the full website up and running.

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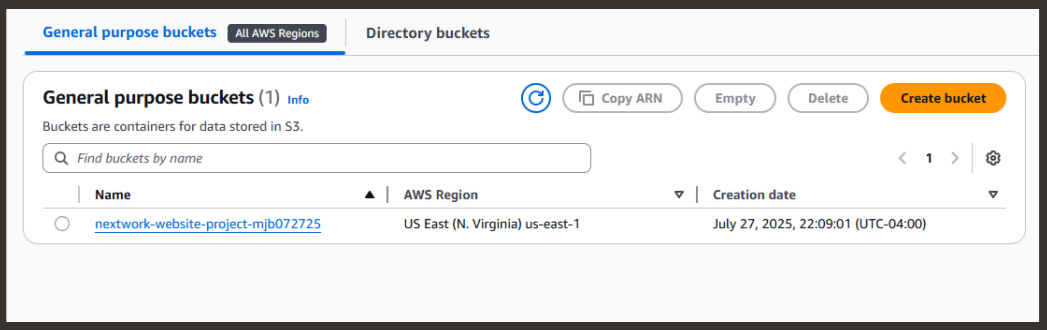
How I Set Up an S3 Bucket

Creating an S3 bucket took me less than 5 minutes.

The Region I picked for my S3 bucket was us-east-1 because that is the region closest to me.

S3 bucket names are globally unique! This means no other AWS account in the entire world can use your bucket's name.



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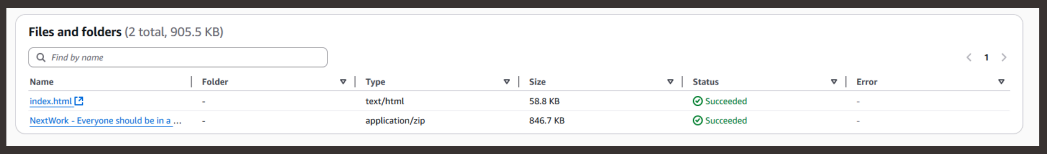
Upload Website Files to S3

index.html and image assets

I uploaded two files to my S3 bucket - they were the index.html file and the Nextwork - Everyone...loves_files.zip file.

Both files are necessary for this project as the HTML file will be used to create and design and it tells the website where I want to display my images that were in the zip file.



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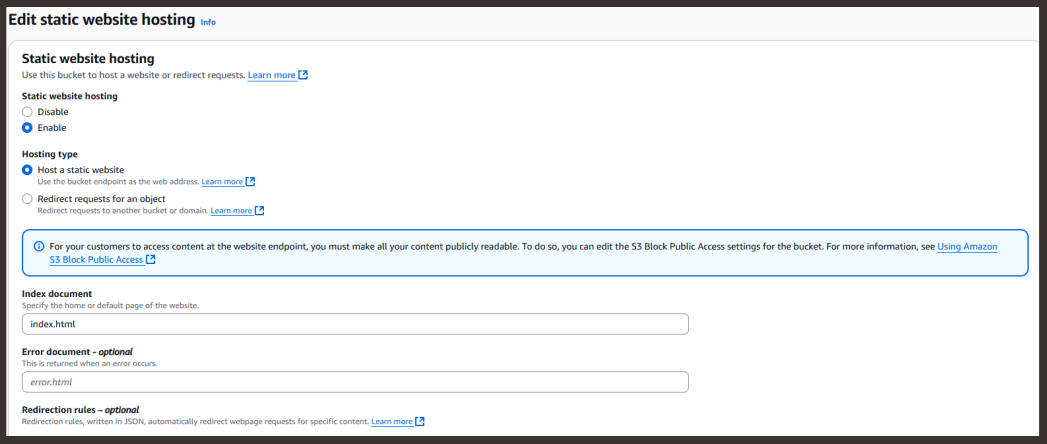
Static Website Hosting on S3

Website hosting is what makes my website public on the internet. Website hosting = storing my HTML file (and the other files for my website) on a web server, so it's accessible online.

To enable website hosting with my S3 bucket, I had to enable static website hosting in the properties section of my S3 bucket.

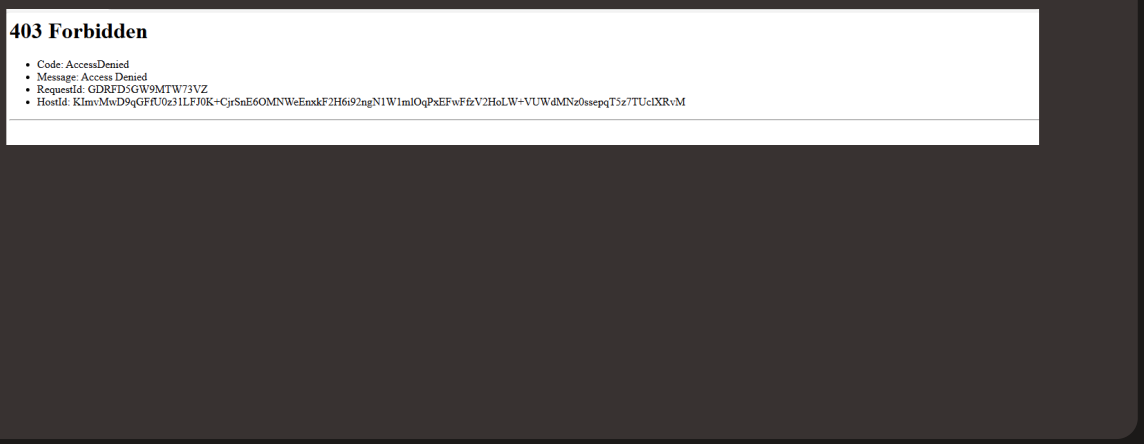
An ACL is a set of rules that decides who can get access to a resource. I enabled ACLs. Enabling ACLs in this S3 setup lets me control who can access and do things with the objects I upload into the bucket.



Bucket Endpoints

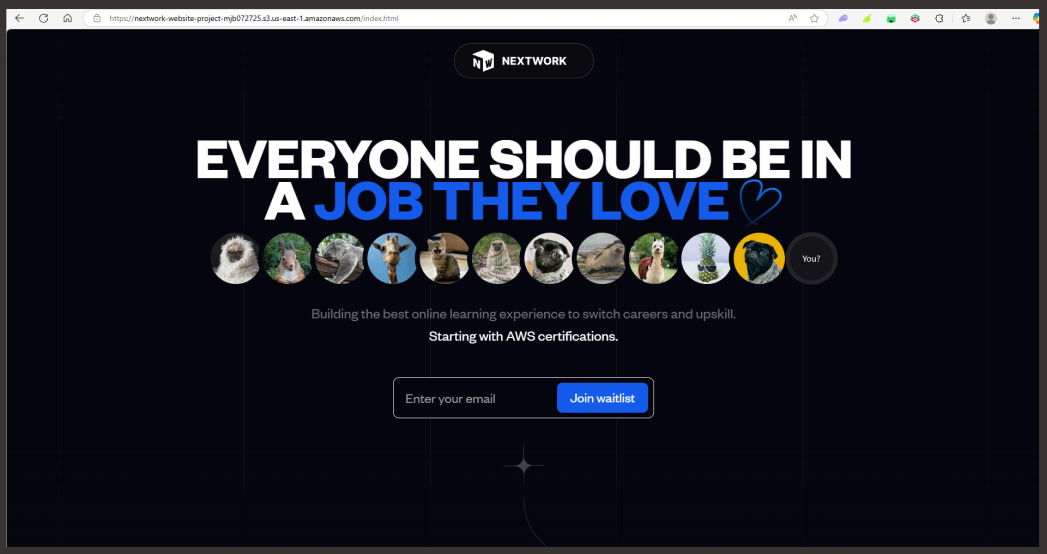
Once static website is enabled, S3 produces a bucket endpoint URL, which is the address for my public website.

When I first visited the bucket endpoint URL, I saw 403 Forbidden on the website. The reason for this error was that the contents of my S3 bucket are still private.



Success!

To resolve this 403 Forbidden error, I had to unzip the file on my computer and upload the folder again. After uploading the folder, I had to make the contents of the folder public using ACL.



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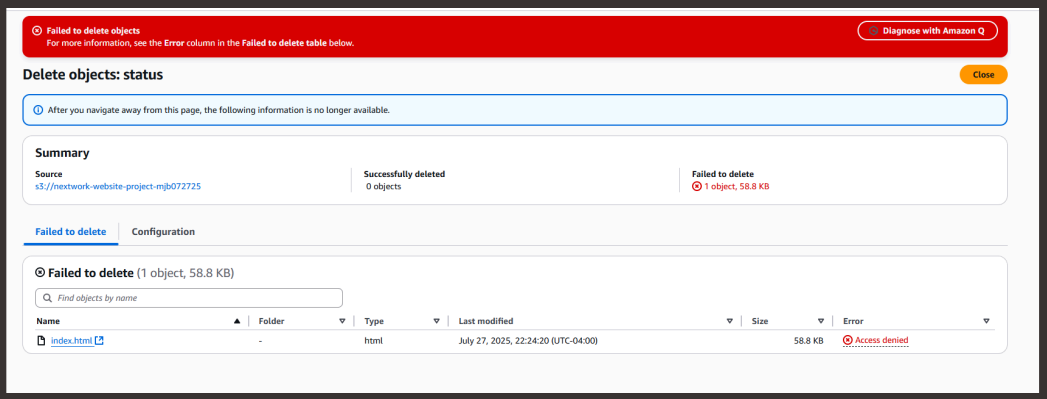
Bucket Policies

My bucket policy blocks the deletion of my index.html file. I tested this by trying to delete my index.html file and saw a failed to delete objects error at the top of the screen.



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