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Host a Website on Amazon S3



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Introducing Today's Project!

In this project, I will demonstrate how to host a website on AWS S3 Bucket. I'm doing this project to learn about cloud computing and to gain knowledge on S3 bucket by hosting a website using it.

Tools and concepts

Services I used were Amazon S3 Bucket. Key concepts I learnt include hosting my website on the S3 bucket and using ACL to make my files public, so that I can access my website from the internet.

Project reflection

This project took me approximately 2 hours. The most challenging part was figuring out how to make my files public with ACL. It was most rewarding to see my error message get resolved and my website to be successfully on the internet.



How I Set Up an S3 Bucket

Creating an S3 bucket took me about 5 minutes by following the step by step instructions.

The Region I picked for my S3 bucket was ap-south-2 because it is near to my location.

S3 bucket names are globally unique! This means no two buckets have the same name.

The screenshot shows the AWS S3 Buckets page. At the top, there is a green success message: "Successfully created bucket 'nextwork-website-project-karthikvadla'. To upload files and folders, or to configure additional bucket settings, choose View details." Below this, there are two tabs: "General purpose buckets" (selected) and "All AWS Regions". On the right, there is a "Create bucket" button. The main table lists one bucket:

Name	AWS Region	Creation date
nextwork-website-project-karthikvadla	Asia Pacific (Hyderabad) ap-south-2	November 22, 2025, 18:23:19 (UTC+05:30)

On the right side of the page, there are three informational boxes:

- Account snapshot** (Info) - Updated daily. Storage Lens provides visibility into storage usage and activity trends.
- External access summary - new** (Info) - Updated daily. External access findings help you identify bucket permissions that allow public access or access from other AWS accounts.



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Upload Website Files to S3

index.html and image assets

I uploaded two files to my S3 bucket - they were HTML file named index.html and a folder with the photos required for the website.

Both files are necessary for this project as HTML file is the website design and folder containing photos are required to add design to the website.

The screenshot shows the Amazon S3 console interface. The top navigation bar includes 'Amazon S3', 'Buckets', and the specific bucket name 'nextwork-website-project-karthikvadla'. Below the navigation is a toolbar with actions like 'Copy S3 URI', 'Copy URL', 'Download', 'Open', 'Delete', 'Actions', 'Create folder', and 'Upload'. The main area is titled 'Objects (2)' and displays two items:

Name	Type	Last modified	Size	Storage class
index.html	html	November 22, 2025, 18:56:59 (UTC+05:30)	58.8 KB	Standard
NextWork - Everyone should be in a job they love_files/	Folder	-	-	-



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Static Website Hosting on S3

Website hosting means to make my website public to be accessed from the internet.

To enable website hosting with my S3 bucket, I have changed the property Static web hosting to Enable and mentioned the index document as index.html.

An ACL is a set of rules which decide who can have access to the resources. I have enabled ACLs for my bucket.

The screenshot shows the 'Edit static website hosting' configuration page for a bucket named 'nextwork-website-project-karthikvadla'. The 'Static website hosting' section is enabled, and the 'Hosting type' is set to 'Host a static website'. The 'Index document' field contains 'index.html', and the 'Error document - optional' field contains 'error.html'. A note at the bottom of the page states: 'For your customers to access content at the website endpoint, you must make all your content publicly readable. To do so, you can edit the S3 Block Public Access settings for the bucket. For more information, see Using Amazon S3 Block Public Access.'



Bucket Endpoints

Once static website is enabled, S3 produces a bucket endpoint URL, which is the URL used to access files in S3 bucket as a website.

When I first visited the bucket endpoint URL, I saw a 403 error message. The reason for this error was by default my S3 bucket files have access set to private to ensure data security of the contents of the S3 bucket.

403 Forbidden

- Code: AccessDenied
- Message: Access Denied
- RequestId: S6ATW57SYY89GM7Y
- HostId: RTg+u2nb1o3N7mD8Wi6U8hxkiNQJXgrstCtQ8YYcNePNzL8z4Rv4wm6zPNKwfNqRH3XZfpau18LpUDbMjDcCRfJ+YdSsdTg

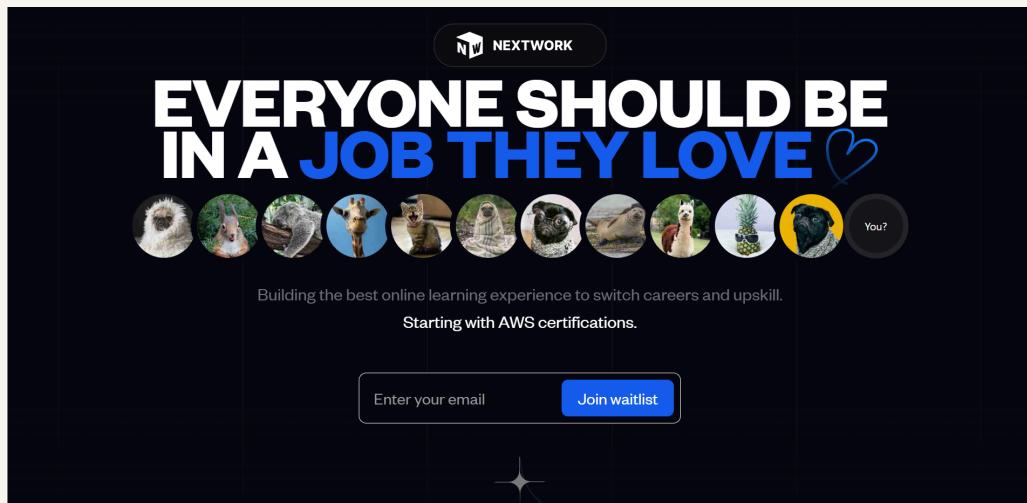


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Success!

To resolve this 403 Forbidden error, I have made the files in S3 bucket to public using ACL.





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