AWS CodePipeline ⌄

    Overview

    Features

    Pricing

    Getting Started

    FAQs

    Product Integrations

General

Q: What is AWS CodePipeline?

AWS CodePipeline is a continuous delivery service that enables you to model, visualize, and automate the steps required to release your software. With AWS CodePipeline, you model the full release process for building your code, deploying to pre-production environments, testing your application and releasing it to production. AWS CodePipeline then builds, tests, and deploys your application according to the defined workflow every time there is a code change. You can integrate partner tools and your own custom tools into any stage of the release process to form an end-to-end continuous delivery solution.

Q: Why should I use AWS CodePipeline?

By automating your build, test, and release processes, AWS CodePipeline enables you to increase the speed and quality of your software updates by running all new changes through a consistent set of quality checks.

Q: What is continuous delivery?

Continuous delivery is a software development practice where code changes are automatically built, tested, and prepared for a release to production. AWS CodePipeline is a service that helps you practice continuous delivery. Learn more about continuous delivery here.

Concepts

The diagram below represents the concepts discussed in this section.

Q: What is a pipeline?

A pipeline is a workflow construct that describes how software changes go through a release process. You define the workflow with a sequence of stages and actions.

Q: What is a revision?

A revision is a change made to the source location defined for your pipeline. It can include source code, build output, configuration, or data. A pipeline can have multiple revisions flowing through it at the same time.

Q: What is a stage?

A stage is a group of one or more actions. A pipeline can have two or more stages.

Q: What is an action?

An action is a task performed on a revision. Pipeline actions occur in a specified order, in serial or in parallel, as determined in the configuration of the stage. For more information, see Edit a Pipeline and Action Structure Requirements in AWS CodePipeline.

Q: What is an artifact?

When an action runs, it acts upon a file or set of files. These files are called artifacts. These artifacts can be worked upon by later actions in the pipeline. For example, a source action will output the latest version of the code as a source artifact, which the build action will read in. Following the compilation, the build action will upload the build output as another artifact, which will be read by the later deployment actions.

AWS CodePipeline ⌄

Overview

Features

Pricing

Getting Started

FAQs

Product Integrations

Jenkins build server using an AWS CloudFormation template.

Q: How do I start a pipeline?

After you create a pipeline, it will automatically trigger a run to release the latest revision of your source code. From then on, every time you make a change to your source location, a new run is triggered. In addition, you can re-run the last revision through a pipeline using the Release Change button in the pipeline console.

Q: How do I stop a pipeline?

To stop a pipeline, you can disable a transition from one stage to another. Once disabled, your pipeline will continue to run revisions through the actions, but it will not promote revisions through the disabled transition to later stages. For more details, see Disable or Enable Transitions in AWS CodePipeline.

Q: Can I edit an existing pipeline?

Yes. You can use the AWS CodePipeline console or AWS CLI to add or remove stages in a pipeline as well as to add, edit, or remove actions in a stage.

Q: Can I create a copy of an existing pipeline?

Yes. You can use the get-pipeline AWS CLI command to get the JSON structure of your existing pipeline. You can then use that JSON and the create-pipeline AWS CLI command to create a new pipeline with the same structure as the existing one.

Q: Can actions run in parallel?

Yes. You can configure one or more actions to run in parallel for any given stage.

AWS CodePipeline ⌄

    Overview

    Features

    Pricing

    Getting Started

    FAQs

    Product Integrations

to production stacks. This release process lets you rapidly and reliably make changes to your AWS infrastructure. You can extend your workflow with additional actions such as manual approvals, test actions, or invoke AWS Lambda actions. For more details, see Continuous Delivery with AWS CloudFormation page.

Q: What product integrations are available with AWS CodePipeline?

AWS CodePipeline integrates with AWS services such as AWS CodeCommit, Amazon S3, AWS CodeBuild, AWS CodeDeploy, AWS Elastic Beanstalk, AWS CloudFormation, AWS OpsWorks, Amazon ECS, and AWS Lambda. In addition, AWS CodePipeline integrates with a number of partner tools. For details see the product integrations page. Finally, you can write your own custom actions and integrate any existing tool with CodePipeline. For more details on custom actions, see the Create and Add a Custom Action in AWS CodePipeline page.

Q: Can I get a history of AWS CodePipeline API calls?

Yes. To receive a history of AWS CodePipeline API calls made on your account for security analysis and operational troubleshooting purposes, you simply turn on AWS CloudTrail in the AWS Management Console. For more information, see Logging AWS CodePipeline API calls by Using AWS CloudTrail.

Q: What are the service limits when using AWS CodePipeline?

For information on the service limits, see Limits.

pipeline, if you want them to see the pipeline status but not modify the pipeline. You can also set permissions for any stage or action within a pipeline. For more information on using IAM with AWS CodePipeline, see Access Permissions Reference.

Q: Can I enable the pipeline in one AWS account to be accessed by an IAM user in another AWS account?
Yes. You can create an IAM role in the AWS account that owns the pipeline to delegate access to the pipeline and any related resources to an IAM user in another account. For a walkthrough on enabling such a cross account access, see Walkthrough: Delegating Access Across AWS Accounts For Accounts You Own Using IAM Roles and Configure Cross-Account Access to a Pipeline.

Regions

Q: Which regions does AWS CodePipeline support?
Please refer to Regional Products and Services for details of CodePipeline availability by region.

Billing

Q: How much does AWS CodePipeline cost?
For details on AWS CodePipeline cost, see the pricing page.

AWS CodePipeline ⌄

Overview

Features

Pricing

Getting Started

FAQs

Product Integrations

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What is Caching?

What is NoSQL?

What is DevOps?

What is Docker?

Products & Services

Customer Success

Economics Center

Architecture Center

Security Center

AWS CodePipeline ∨

Overview

Features

Pricing

Getting Started

FAQs

Product Integrations

DevOps

Serverless Computing

Big Data

High Performance Computing

Mobile Services

Digital Marketing

Game Development

Digital Media

Government & Education

Health

Financial Services

Windows on AWS

Retail

Power & Utilities

Oil & Gas

Automotive

Blockchain

Manufacturing

Resources & Training

Developers

Java on AWS

JavaScript on AWS

Mobile on AWS

PHP on AWS

Python on AWS

Ruby on AWS

.NET on AWS

SDKs & Tools

🔍 ☰

AWS CodePipeline ⌄

Overview

Features

Pricing

Getting Started

FAQs

Product Integrations

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Security Credentials

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