

Background

When you have created and launched an AWS Linux EC2 instance, you can connect to it from your computer using the SSH protocol. PuTTY is a free SSH client that allows you to do this from a local computer running Windows. Once the connection has been established, you work within the EC2 instance just like you would on a local computer running Linux.

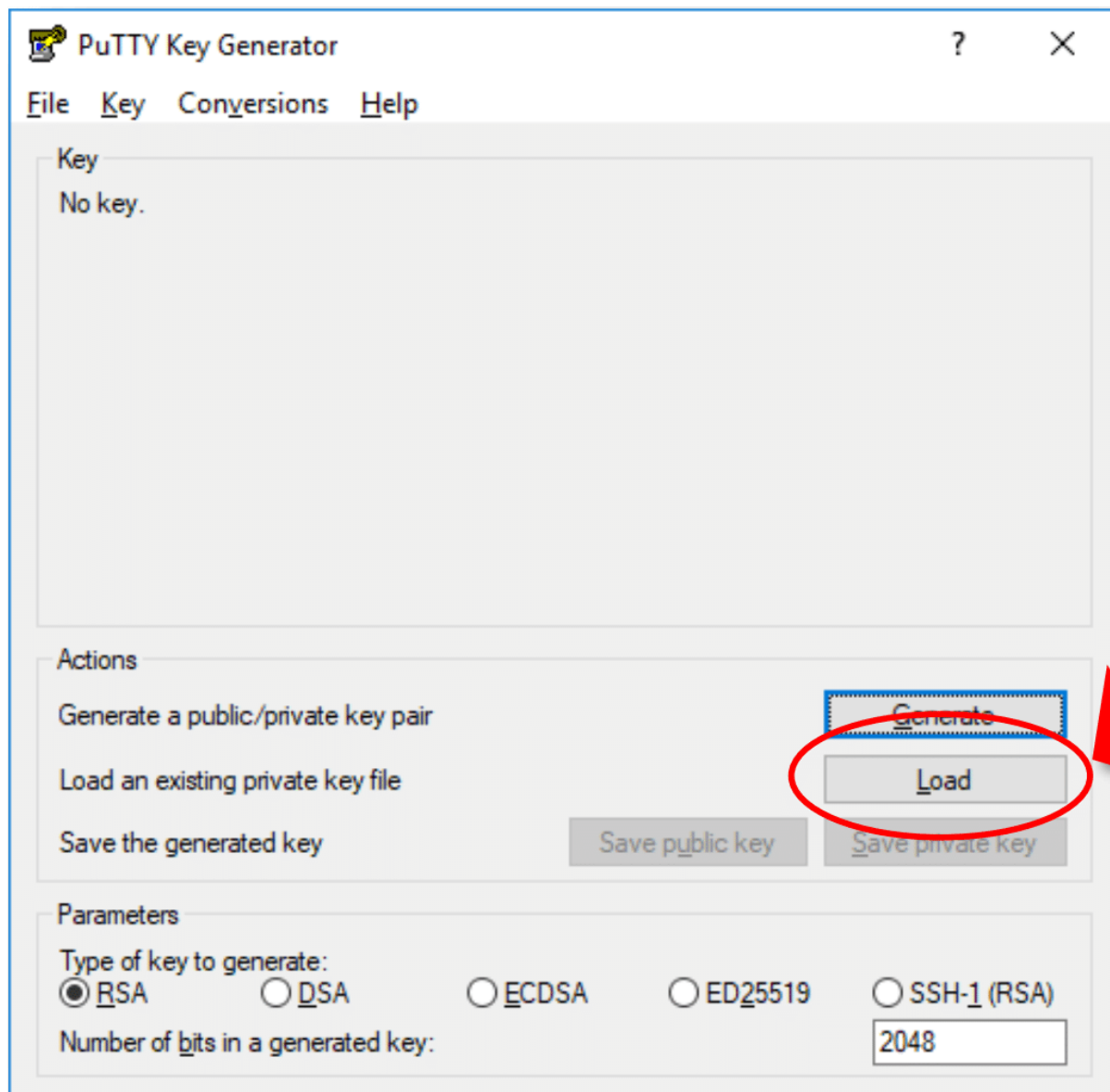
Prerequisites

- You must have an AWS account. If you don't have an account, [create one now](#).

Note: You will need to provide credit card information for your new account.

Generate a PuTTY Private Key (.ppk) File

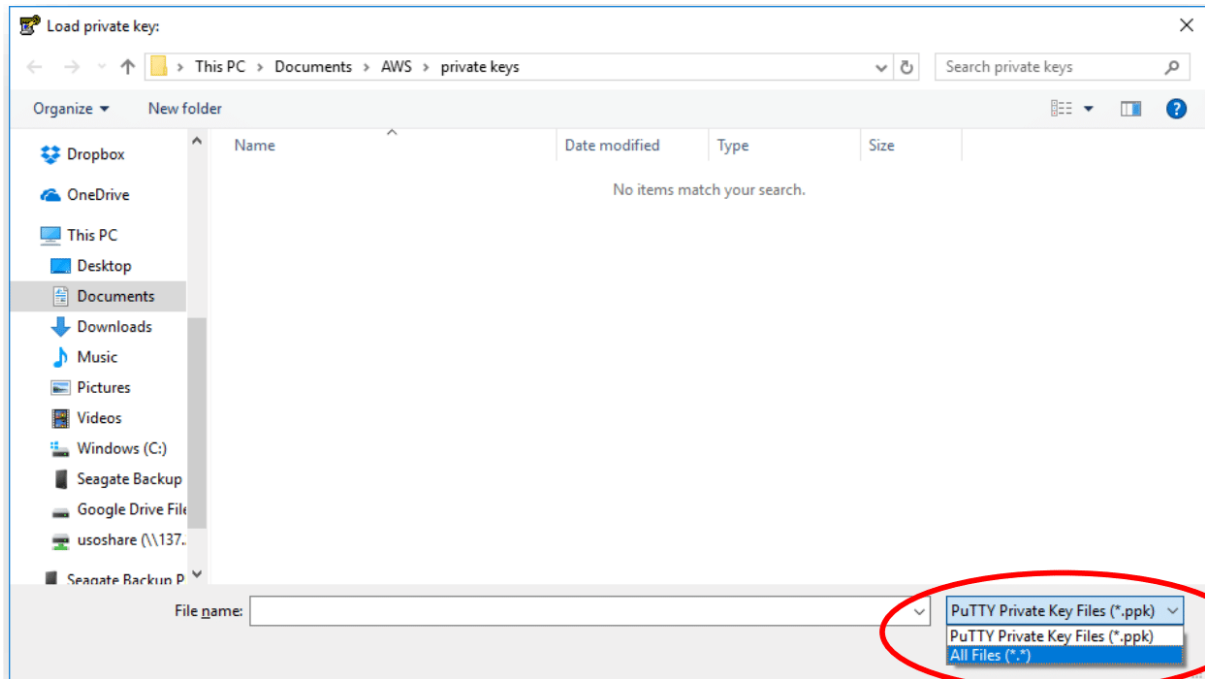
1.
 1. Download and install [PuTTY](#).
 2. Open the folder that PuTTY was installed to (default path is *C: > Program Files > PuTTY*).
 3. Double-click on the file **puttygen.exe**.
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 4. In *PuTTY Key Generator*, click the **Load** button and navigate to the folder that contains the private key file (.pem) created during the EC2 configuration process.



Click Load in the PuTTY Key Generator.

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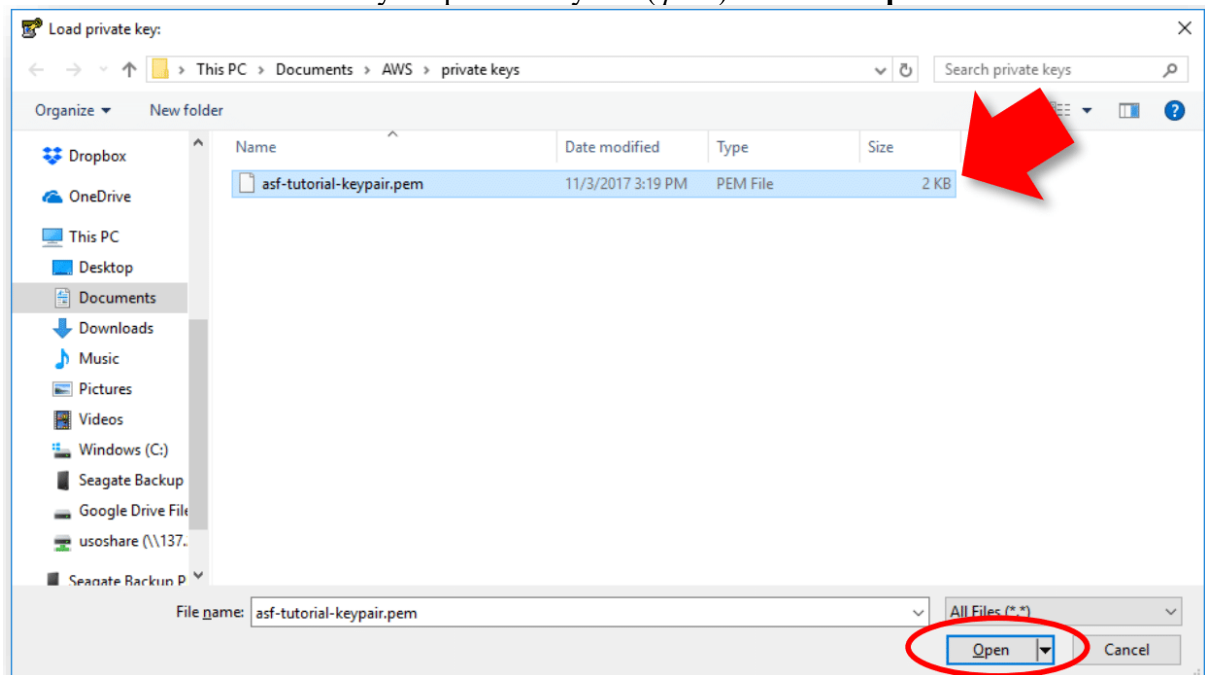
5. Click on the **PuTTY Private Key Files** button in the lower-right corner of the window and select *All Files (*.*)*.



Select All Files in PuTTY Private Key Files

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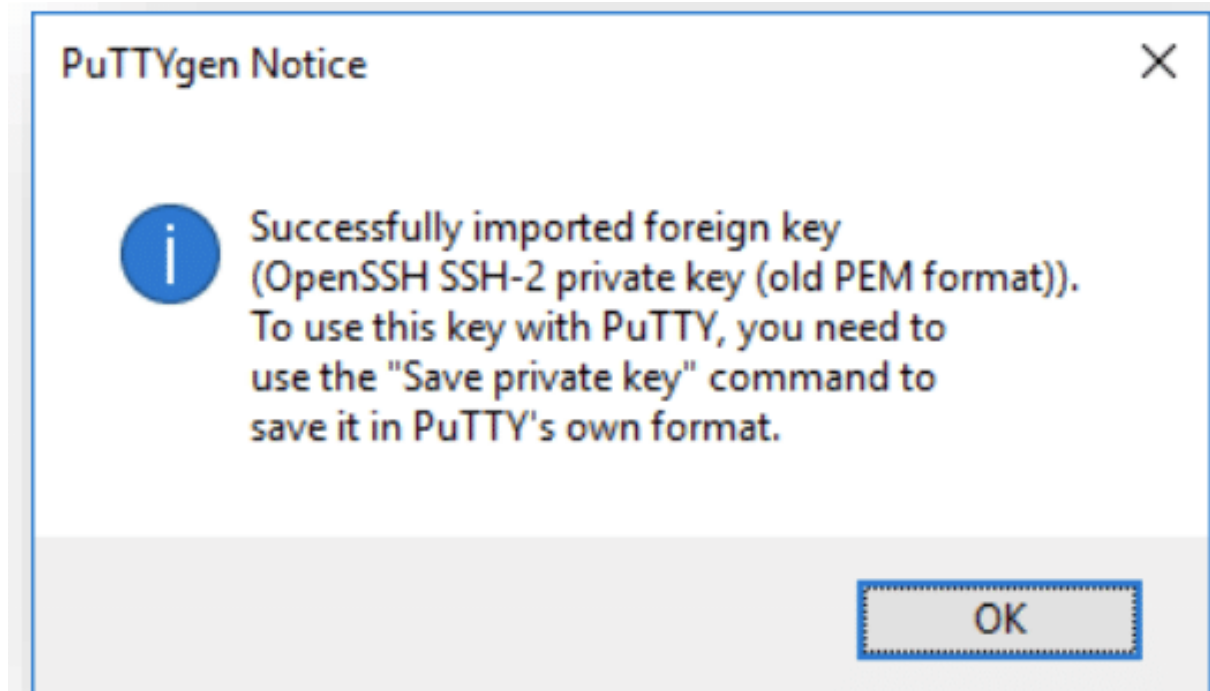
6. Select your private key file (.pem) and click **Open**.



Select and open your private key.

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7. Click **OK** to close the *PuTTYgen Notice* pop-up window.



PuTTYgen Notice

1.
 8. In *PuTTY Key Generator*, make sure *Type of key to generate* value is set to **RSA**.

PuTTY Key Generator

File Key Conversions Help

Key

Public key for pasting into OpenSSH authorized_keys file:

```
ssh-rsa
AAAAB3NzaC1yc2EAAAADAQABAAQCNvv9A7jx67Kr3lShsFIERgBAAhxmeqszyd
oD3tnRDU2l/4Ra6anx
+ZX6gKjtXVtweOlBW83zPnEArXYgGyAsVa3AkXJdeVnHCgwME5gZOI7urKyGoOZ2b
H6hul4B04O//xAGCvb4HQ5TuLY6ASzvu+
```

Key fingerprint: ssh-rsa 2048 aa:01:76:92:a4:2d:44:45:42:c0:bf:07:d3:dd:7d:07

Key comment: imported-openssh-key

Key passphrase:

Confirm passphrase:

Actions

Generate a public/private key pair Generate

Load an existing private key file Load

Save the generated key Save public key Save private key

Parameters

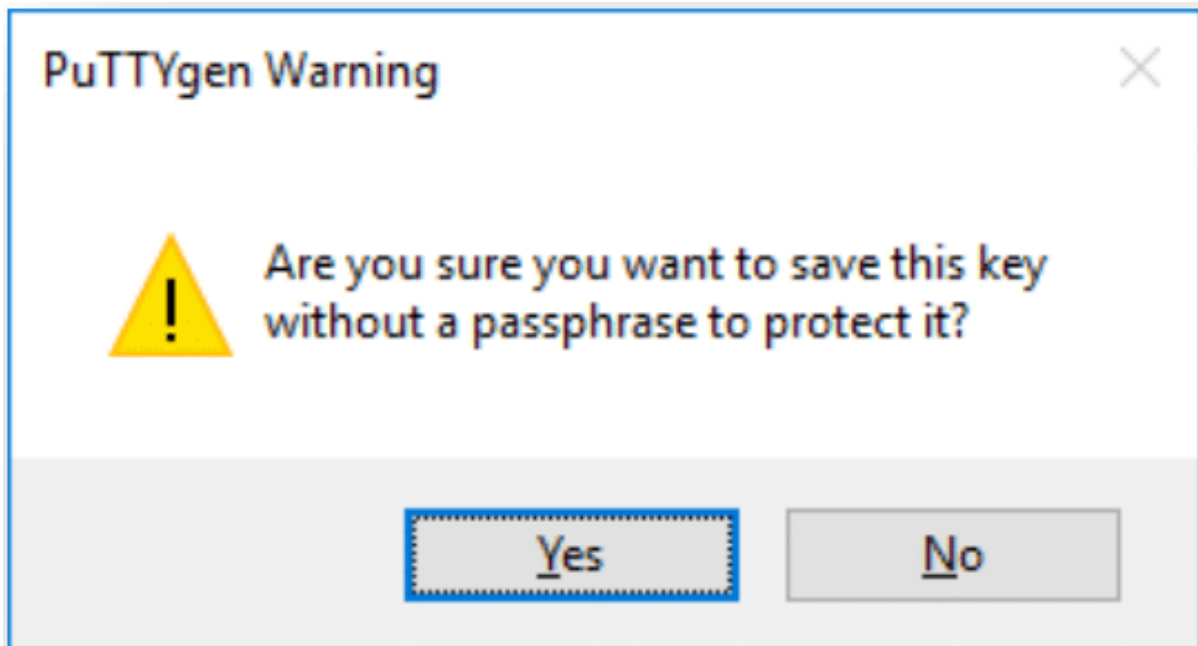
Type of key to generate: ☒ RSA ☐ DSA ☐ ECDSA ☐ ED25519 ☐ SSH-1 (RSA)

Number of bits in a generated key: 2048

Generate RSA key.

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9. Click **Save private key** and then **Yes** to close the *PuTTYgen* *Warning* pop-up.



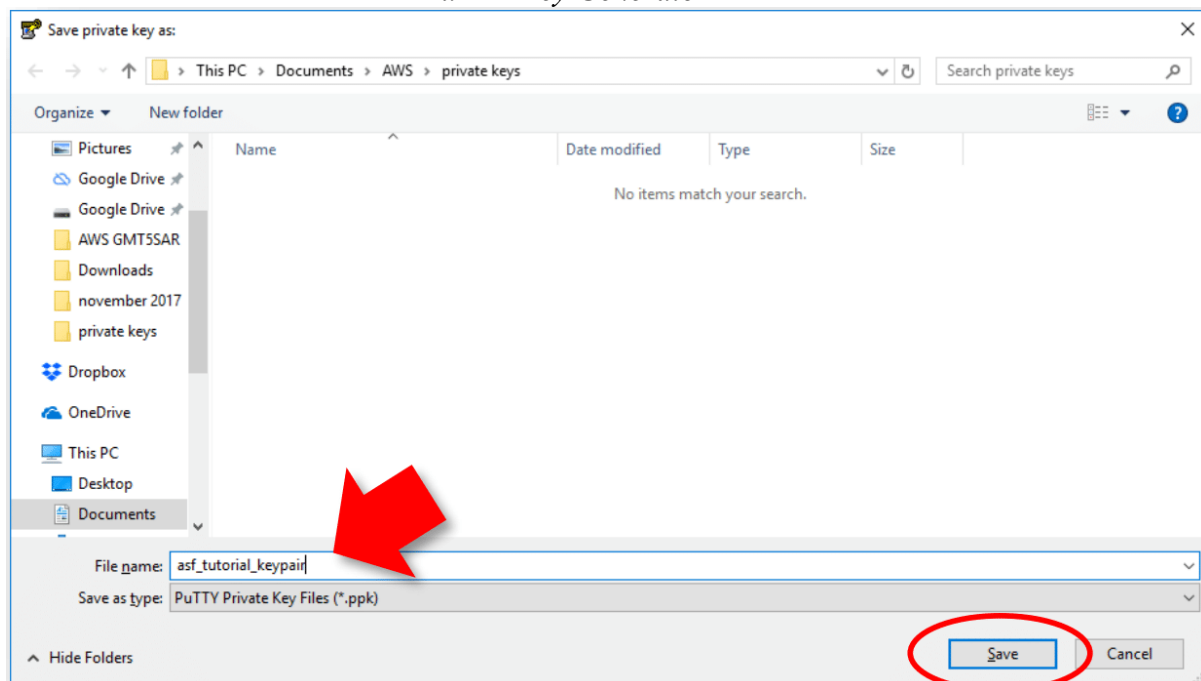
PuTTYgen Warning

1.

10. Navigate to the location you want to store your PuTTY Private Key file (.ppk) and give it a name.

11. Click **Save**.

12. Close the *PuTTY Key Generator* window.



Give your PuTTY Private Key file a name

Connect to EC2

1.

1. Open PuTTY by clicking on the desktop icon or the **putty.exe** file in the PuTTY folder.
2. In the *Host Name (or IP address)* box, type
“ubuntu@your_public_DNS” **(1)**.

Note: The Public DNS for your instance is displayed in AWS in the EC2 Management Console Instance Description in the middle of the screen.

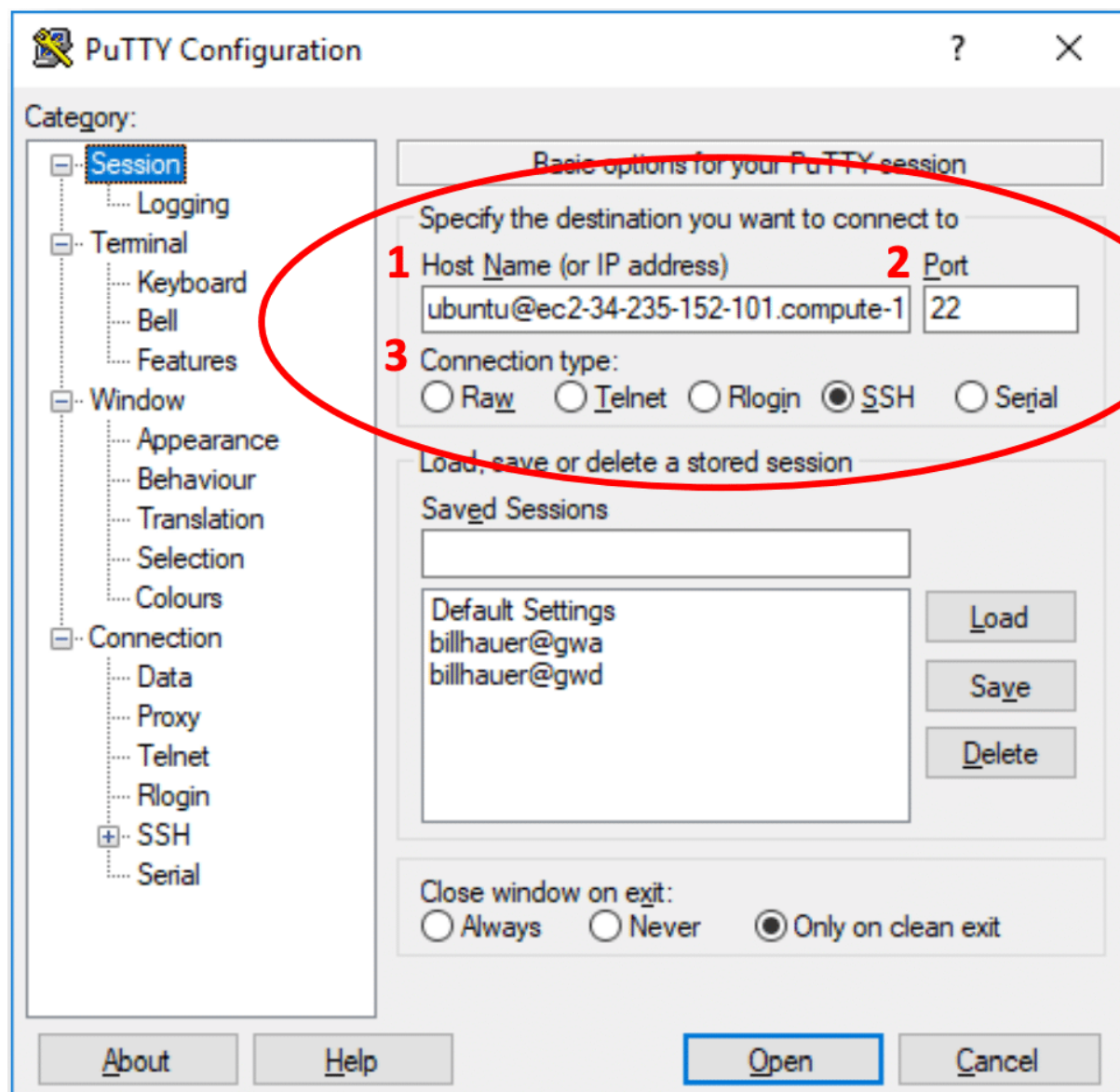
1.

3. Make sure:
 - *Port* is set to **22** **(2)**.
 - *Connection type* is **SSH** **(3)**.
4. In the *Category* pane on the left of the PuTTY Configuration window, under *Connection*, click on the + next to *SSH* to expand the choices **(4)**, then click on *Auth* **(5)**.
5. Under *Authentication parameters*, click **Browse** and navigate to the directory where your PuTTY Private Key (.ppk) file is located **(6)**.
 - Click on the (.ppk) file to select it.
6. Click **Open**.

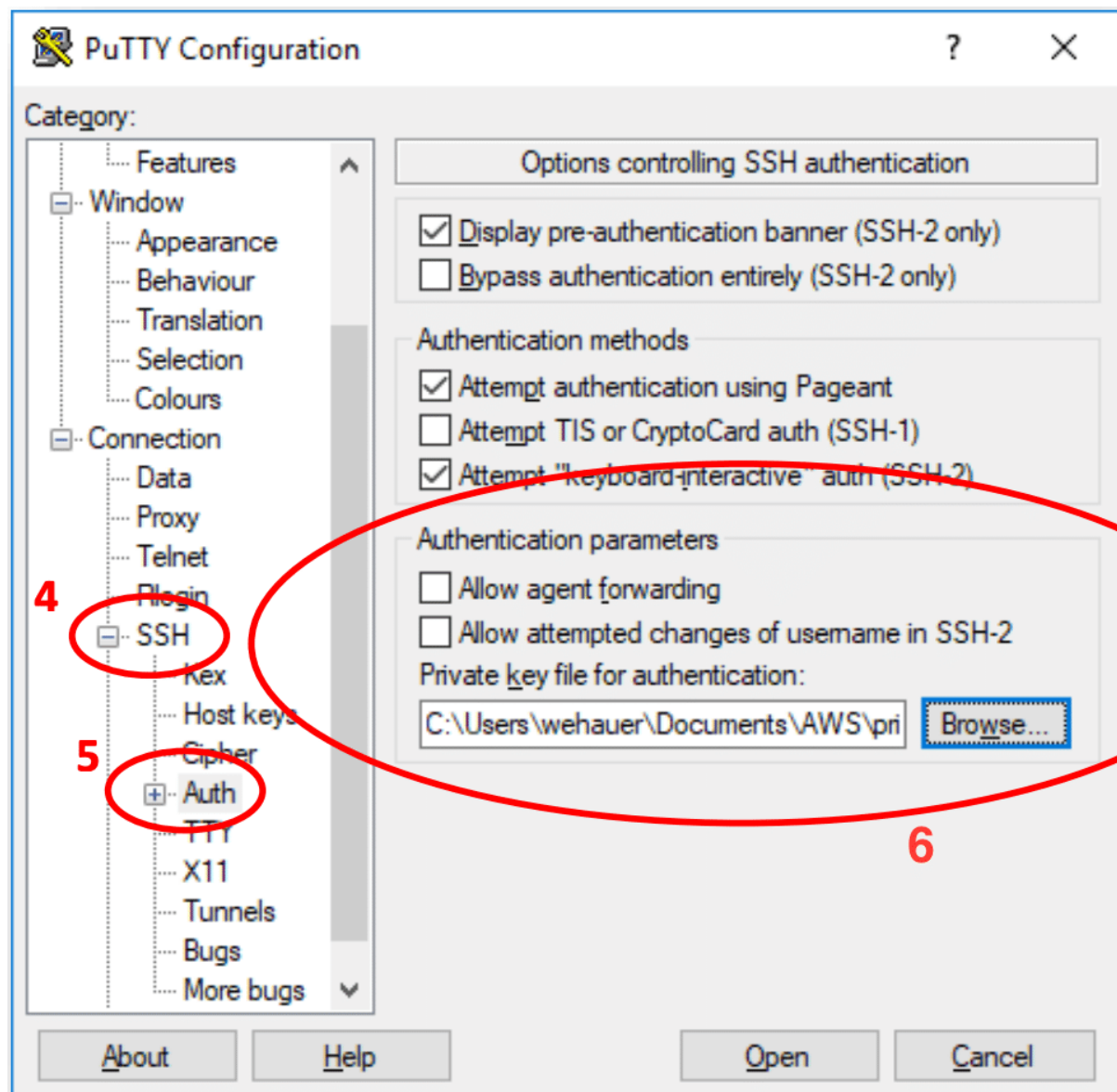
Note: If you want to save these settings to use later, navigate to Sessions in the PuTTY Category tree. Enter a name in the Saved Sessions box and click Save on the right.

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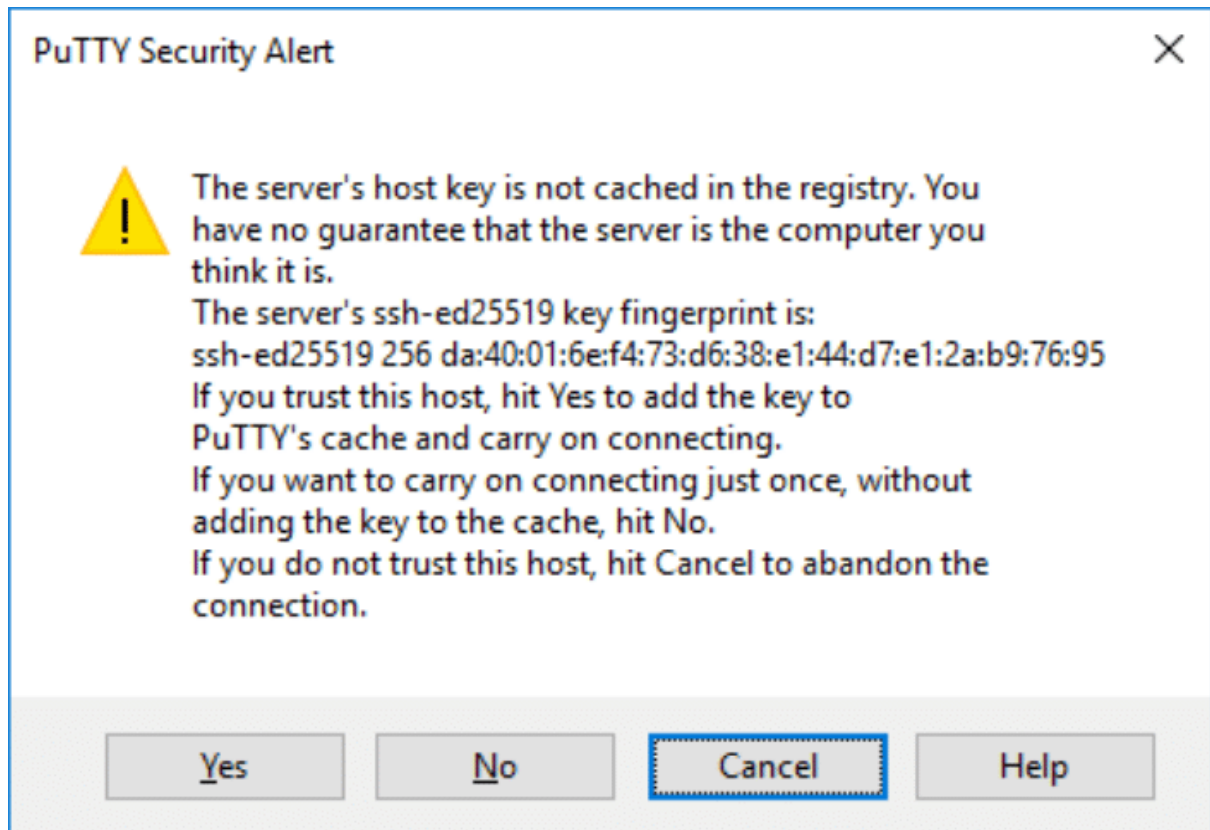
7. Click **Open** in *PuTTY Configuration* to connect to your Instance.
 - If this is the first time you have connected to your Instance, a PuTTY Security Alert will ask you whether to proceed with the connection.
 - Click **Yes** to complete the connection.
 - The *EC2 Instance* window will appear (black screen below).



PuTTY Configuration window.



PuTTY Configuration window.



PuTTY Security Alert

```
ubuntu@ip-172-31-27-33: ~  
Welcome to Ubuntu 16.04.2 LTS (GNU/Linux 4.4.0-1022-aws x86_64)  
  
* Documentation:  https://help.ubuntu.com  
* Management:    https://landscape.canonical.com  
* Support:        https://ubuntu.com/advantage  
  
Get cloud support with Ubuntu Advantage Cloud Guest:  
http://www.ubuntu.com/business/services/cloud  
  
0 packages can be updated.  
0 updates are security updates.  
  
The programs included with the Ubuntu system are free software;  
the exact distribution terms for each program are described in the  
individual files in /usr/share/doc/*/copyright.  
  
Ubuntu comes with ABSOLUTELY NO WARRANTY, to the extent permitted by  
applicable law.  
  
To run a command as administrator (user "root"), use "sudo <command>".  
See "man sudo_root" for details.  
  
ubuntu@ip-172-31-27-33:~$
```

You are now connected to your EC2 Instance