

Preserve EC2 Root Volume on Instance Termination (Disable Delete-on-Termination for Root EBS Volume)

When we create the EC2 instance, the root volume should be created automatically (default – happens automatically); But when we terminate/delete the EC2 instance, the root volume should NOT be deleted

Steps:

Step 1. Go into EC2 Console → Launch an instance.

Step 2. Configure Storage → Go to advance → Show Details

The screenshot shows the AWS EC2 'Launch an instance' wizard. In the 'Storage (volumes)' section, under 'EBS Volumes', there is a single volume entry: 'Volume 1 (AMI Root) (Custom) : 8 GiB, EBS, General purpose SSD (gp3), 3000 IOPS'. Below this, the 'Delete on termination' dropdown is set to 'No'. To the right, a summary panel shows 'Number of instances: 1', 'Software Image (AMI): Amazon Linux 2023 AMI 2023.9.2...', and a large orange 'Launch instance' button.

Step 3. Click on Volume AMI (root) → Select Delete on termination (NO) → Save changes

The screenshot shows the AWS EC2 'Launch an instance' wizard with more detailed storage configuration. Under 'Volume 1 (AMI Root) (Custom)', the 'Delete on termination' dropdown is still set to 'No'. Other configuration options shown include 'Storage type: EBS', 'Device name: /dev/xvda', 'Snapshot: snap-0a07784b87b951ac9', 'Volume type: gp3', 'IOPS: 3000', 'Encrypted: Not encrypted', 'KMS key: Select', 'Throughput: 125', and 'Volume initialization rate: Enter a value'. The summary panel and 'Launch instance' button are also visible.

Step 4. Instance created. Name **boat-instance**.

The screenshot shows the AWS EC2 Instances page. The left sidebar includes links for Dashboard, AWS Global View, Events, Instances (selected), Instance Types, Launch Templates, Spot Requests, Savings Plans, Reserved Instances, Dedicated Hosts, Capacity Reservations, Capacity Manager, Images (selected), AMIs, AMI Catalog, Elastic Block Store, Volumes, Snapshots, and Lifecycle Manager. The main content area displays a table titled 'Instances (3) Info' with columns: Name, Instance ID, Instance state, Instance type, Status check, Alarm status, Availability Zone, Public IPv4 DNS, and Public. The table lists three instances: 'server' (terminated), 'boat-instance' (running), and 'vol-instance' (terminated). A modal window titled 'Select an instance' is open at the bottom.

Step 5. Check wheather volume is created or not after launching an instance.

The screenshot shows the AWS EBS Volumes page. The left sidebar includes links for Dashboard, AWS Global View, Events, Instances, Instance Types, Launch Templates, Spot Requests, Savings Plans, Reserved Instances, Dedicated Hosts, Capacity Reservations, Capacity Manager, Images, AMIs, AMI Catalog, Elastic Block Store (selected), Volumes, Snapshots, and Lifecycle Manager. The main content area displays a table titled 'Volumes (1) Info' with columns: Type, Size, IOPS, Throughput, Snapshot ID, Source volume ID, Created, Availability Zone, Volume state, Alarm status, and Attached resources. One volume named 'gp3' is listed. Below the table, a section titled 'Fault tolerance for all volumes in this Region' shows 'Snapshot summary' with '0 / 2' snapshots backed up.

Volume is created after launching instance.

Step 6. Terminate the instance and check the volume wheather it is deleted or not.

The screenshot shows the AWS EC2 Instances page. The left sidebar includes links for Dashboard, AWS Global View, Events, Instances (selected), Instance Types, Launch Templates, Spot Requests, Savings Plans, Reserved Instances, Dedicated Hosts, Capacity Reservations, Capacity Manager, Images, AMIs, AMI Catalog, Elastic Block Store, Volumes, Snapshots, Lifecycle Manager, and Network & Security. The main content area displays a table titled 'Instances (3) Info' with columns: Name, Instance ID, Instance state, Instance type, Status check, Alarm status, Availability Zone, Public IPv4 DNS, Public IPv6 DNS, Elastic IP, and IPv6 IPs. The table lists three instances: 'server' (terminated), 'boat-instance' (terminated), and 'vol-instance' (terminated).

Step 7. Check whether the volume is deleted or not.

The screenshot shows the AWS EBS Volumes page. On the left, there's a navigation sidebar with sections like EC2, Instances, Images, Elastic Block Store (selected), and Network & Security. The main content area displays a table titled 'Volumes (1) Info' with one row of data. The volume details are as follows:

Name	Volume ID	Type	Size	IOPS	Throughput	Snapshot ID	Source volume ID	Created	Availability Zone	Volume state	AU
vol-0b03b60338abbcb7	gp3	8 GiB	3000	125		snap-0a07784...	-	2025/11/22 11:18 GMT+5:30	ap-s1-a21 (ap-south-1a)	Available	No

Below the table, there's a section titled 'Fault tolerance for all volumes in this Region' with a 'Snapshot summary' showing '0 / 2' snapshots. The status bar at the bottom right indicates 'Last updated on Sat, Nov 22, 2025, 11:29:35 AM (GMT+05:30)'.

Volume is not deleted after terminate the instance.