

Hosting a Website on Amazon S3

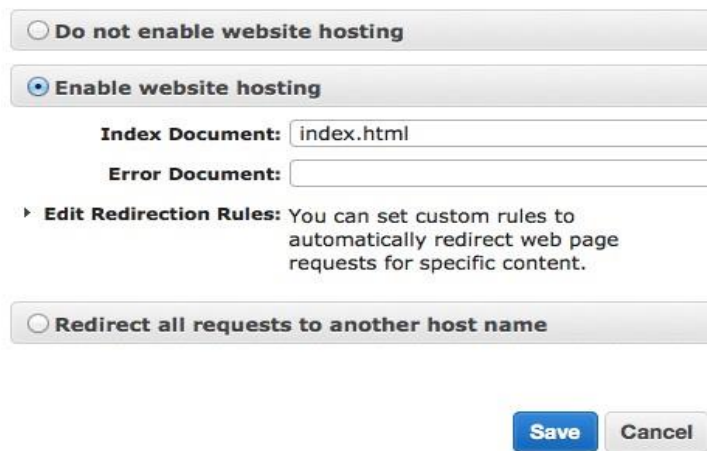
Everyone knows that Amazon S3 is great for storing files. It's fast, inexpensive, and easy to setup. What you may not realize is that you can also host static websites on this robust platform.

What is a static website? In short, it's a website comprised of only HTML, CSS, and/or JavaScript. That means server-side scripts aren't supported, so if you want to host a Rails or PHP app, you'll need to look elsewhere. For simpler purposes, welcome to the wonderful world of hosting websites on S3!

Creating a bucket

- To create a bucket, navigate to S3 in the AWS Management Console and hit [Create Bucket](#). You'll be prompted to enter a name and a region.
- If you plan on using your own domain/subdomain, use that for your bucket name. For the region, pick the one closest to you and hit [Create](#). With any luck, you'll see your new bucket appear in the console.

- The only thing left to do is enable [Static Website Hosting](#). Just select it from the panel on the right.



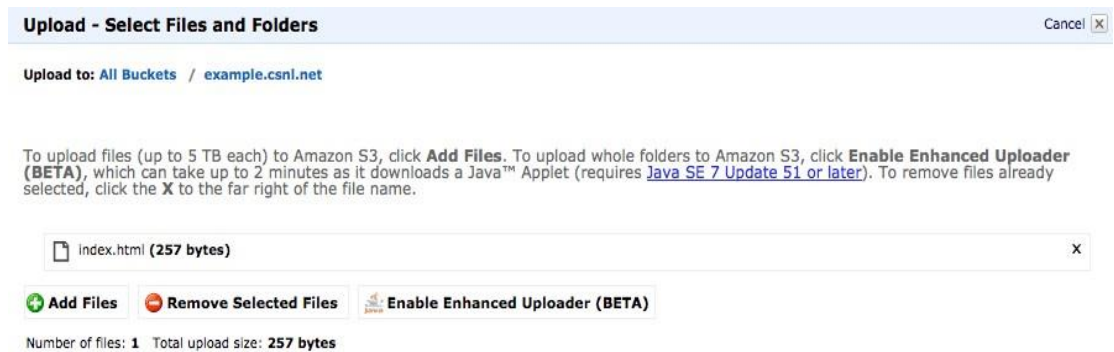
The screenshot shows the 'Static website hosting' configuration panel in the AWS S3 console. It features two radio buttons at the top: 'Do not enable website hosting' (unselected) and 'Enable website hosting' (selected). Below the selected option, there are two text input fields: 'Index Document' with the value 'index.html' and 'Error Document' which is empty. A section titled 'Edit Redirection Rules' with a right-pointing triangle icon contains the text: 'You can set custom rules to automatically redirect web page requests for specific content.' At the bottom of this section is another radio button labeled 'Redirect all requests to another host name', which is unselected. At the very bottom of the panel are two buttons: 'Save' (in blue) and 'Cancel' (in grey).

- Make sure you set the Index Document to [index.html](#). You can also set an error page if you want. When you're done, hit [Save](#).

Uploading your first page

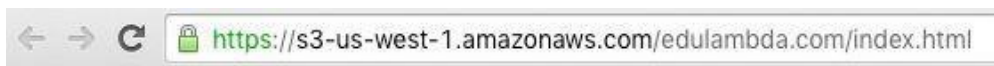
```
<!doctype html>
<html>
<head>
  <title>Hello, S3!</title>
  <meta name="description" content="My first S3 website">
  <meta charset="utf-8">
</head>
<body>
  <h1>My first S3 website</h1>
  <p>I can't believe it was that easy!</p>
</body>
</html>
```

- To upload it, select your new bucket and hit [Upload](#).



- Once you've uploaded index.html, it will appear in your bucket. However, you won't be able to see it in your browser yet because everything in S3 is private by default.
- To make it public, right-click on index.html and select [Make Public](#). (Remember to do this for any other files you upload to your website!)
- Now that your homepage is visible to the world, it's time to test everything out! Select index.html in the console and go to the [Properties](#) tab.

Clicking the link will take you to your new homepage.



My first S3 website

I can't believe it was that easy!