Hello, Cloud Gurus, and welcome to this lesson,

which is going to introduce Systems Manager Parameter Store.

And we'll begin with what is Parameter Store?

We'll have a quick walkthrough.

And we'll follow up with my exam tips.

So what is Parameter Store?

Well, imagine that you work

as a systems administrator for a bank

and one of your jobs is to build

and configure the bank systems.

And you need to find a way to store parameters

that are used by your applications.

For example, license keys, database connection information,

usernames and passwords, et cetera.

And this information needs to be passed

to your EC2 instances as a bootstrap script.

And it's really important

that you maintain the confidentiality of the information

and avoid hardcoding parameters into your code.

So you need a place to store this information centrally

so that it can be accessed by your EC2 instances

and of course, the data needs to be stored in a secure way.

Well, this is where Parameter Store comes in

and it's gonna make a lot more sense

if I just show you how it works in the console.

So from the console, head to systems manager.

And select Systems Manager.

Now there are a whole load

of different services within Systems Manager,

but the one we are interested in is Parameter Store.

So if you scroll down on the left,

you will find it under Application Management

and here it is, Parameter Store.

So select that option.

So Parameter Store, it's all about securely storing secrets

and configuration data.

So now select Create parameter,

and let's say for example we're storing a license key.

So this is gonna be our Adobe license key.

We'll give it a name and a description.

And Parameter Store offers two different tiers.

We've got Standard and Advanced.

And with Standard, there's a limit of 10,000 parameters.

And the parameter value size can be up to four kilobytes

and there are no additional charges

for using the Standard tier.

But if you need to go above these limits,

you can go for the Advanced tier, but charges do apply.

Then under Type, we have three different types

of parameters that we can store.

The first is String, so that's any string value.

Then we have StringList,

which is a list of strings that are separated by commas.

And then finally, we've got SecureString.

And this is if you want to encrypt sensitive data

using a KMS key.

So if you select SecureString, it's gonna ask you

do you want to use the default KMS key for this account,

or a different KMS key?

We'll just stick with the default.

So this option is great

if you want to encrypt sensitive data,

for instance, if you've got usernames, passwords,

or database connection information.

But we are just gonna store a license key

so it doesn't really need to be encrypted.

So for that reason, I'm gonna select String.

Our data type is gonna be text.

And then down here this is where we type the value

of our parameter.

So this is where we would type in the license key itself.

So I'm just gonna type in a random string

that looks a little bit like a license key.

Down here, we can option optionally add a tag.

So we could add a tag like team

and the value is gonna be developers

and then Create parameter.

So that is our parameter created.

And then if you select your parameter,

down here under value, we can see the value that we entered.

So now that we've created this parameter,

how could we use it?

Well, we can pass this parameter by name to CloudFormation.

And it can also be accessed by EC2 and Lambda.

And also services like CodeBuild,

CodePipeline, and CodeDeploy.

So onto the exam tips for Parameter Store.

And Parameter Store is a great way

to store confidential information.

So you can store things like passwords,

database connection strings, license codes, et cetera.

So basically any piece of data or parameter

that's gonna be useful for your application

that you want to store centrally in a secured way.

You can store your values

as plain text or encrypted using KMS.

And then you can reference the parameters

using the parameter name,

for instance, in a bootstrap script.

And finally, Parameter Store is integrated

with loads of different services.

So you can use it with EC2, CloudFormation, Lambda,

CodeBuild, CodePipeline,

and CodeDeploy as well to name a few.

So that is it for this lesson.

Any questions, let me know.

Otherwise, I will see you in the next one. Thank you.