

## AWS Monitoring and Alerting Setup Guide

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### CloudWatch Dashboard Configuration

To create a comprehensive CloudWatch dashboard for your multi-tier web application, follow these steps:

1. Open the CloudWatch console
2. Click on "Dashboards" in the left navigation pane
3. Click "Create dashboard"
4. Name your dashboard (e.g., "Production-Web-App-Dashboard")
5. Add the following widgets to your dashboard:
  - Line graphs for key metrics (listed in the next section)
  - Text widgets for important information and links
  - Alarm status widgets for critical alarms
  - Log insights widgets for application logs
6. Arrange the widgets in a logical order, grouping related metrics together

### Key Metrics and Alert Thresholds

#### Route 53

Metric: HealthCheckStatus

Threshold: < 1 for 1 minute

Action: Critical alert

## **CloudFront**

Metric: 5xxErrorRate

Threshold: > 1% for 5 minutes

Action: Critical alert

## **Elastic Load Balancing**

Metric: UnHealthyHostCount

Threshold: > 0 for 5 minutes

Action: Warning alert

Metric: TargetResponseTime

Threshold: > 1 second for 15 minutes

Action: Warning alert

## **EC2**

Metric: CPUUtilization

Threshold: > 80% for 15 minutes

Action: Warning alert

Metric: StatusCheckFailed

Threshold: > 0 for 5 minutes

Action: Critical alert

## **Auto Scaling**

Metric: GroupInServiceInstances

Threshold: < Desired Capacity for 10 minutes

Action: Warning alert

## **S3**

Metric: 4xxErrors

Threshold: > 100 for 5 minutes

Action: Warning alert

## **DynamoDB**

Metric: ReadThrottleEvents or WriteThrottleEvents

Threshold: > 0 for 5 minutes

Action: Warning alert

## **ElastiCache**

Metric: CPUUtilization

Threshold: > 90% for 15 minutes

Action: Warning alert

## **RDS**

Metric: CPUUtilization

Threshold: > 80% for 15 minutes

Action: Warning alert

Metric: FreeableMemory

Threshold: < 10% for 15 minutes

Action: Critical alert

## **SES**

Metric: Reputation.BounceRate

Threshold: > 5% for 1 hour

Action: Warning alert

## **Escalation Procedures**

### 1. Warning Alerts:

- Notify on-call engineer via SNS
- If not acknowledged within 15 minutes, escalate to senior engineer

### 2. Critical Alerts:

- Notify on-call engineer and senior engineer via SNS and phone call
- If not acknowledged within 5 minutes, escalate to engineering manager

### 3. Incident Response:

- On-call engineer investigates and attempts to resolve the issue
- If unable to resolve within 30 minutes, engage additional team members
- For prolonged outages (> 1 hour), notify stakeholders and consider public status page update

## Performance Optimization Recommendations

### 1. EC2:

- Use EC2 Auto Scaling to automatically adjust capacity based on demand
- Implement application-level caching to reduce database load

### 2. RDS:

- Enable and tune Performance Insights for database query optimization
- Consider using read replicas for read-heavy workloads

### 3. DynamoDB:

- Use DAX (DynamoDB Accelerator) for frequently accessed data
- Implement efficient partition key design to avoid hot partitions

### 4. ElastiCache:

- Implement proper cache invalidation strategies
- Monitor cache hit ratio and adjust cache size as needed

### 5. CloudFront:

- Enable caching for static content

- Use Origin Shield to reduce load on your origin

#### 6. S3:

- Enable transfer acceleration for faster uploads from distant locations
- Use appropriate storage classes for infrequently accessed data

## Cost Monitoring Setup

#### 1. Enable AWS Cost Explorer:

- Go to the AWS Billing Console
- Navigate to Cost Explorer and enable it

#### 2. Set up AWS Budgets:

- Create a budget for overall monthly spend
- Set alerts at 50%, 80%, and 100% of the budget

#### 3. Configure Cost Anomaly Detection:

- Enable AWS Cost Anomaly Detection
- Set up notifications for detected anomalies

#### 4. Create a Cost & Usage Report:

- Go to the AWS Cost Management Console
- Create a detailed Cost & Usage Report delivered to an S3 bucket

#### 5. Add cost widgets to your CloudWatch dashboard:

- Total monthly spend
- Spend by service
- Forecast vs. actual spend

#### 6. Set up custom CloudWatch metrics for cost-related data:

- EC2 Reserved Instance coverage
- S3 storage by storage class
- RDS instance utilization

7. Implement tagging strategy:

- Enforce tagging policies for all resources
- Create tag-based views in Cost Explorer

8. Schedule regular cost review meetings:

- Weekly review of Cost Explorer data
- Monthly deep dive into Cost & Usage Reports
- Quarterly optimization planning sessions

By implementing this comprehensive monitoring and alerting setup, you'll have a robust system in place to ensure the health, performance, and cost-effectiveness of your AWS infrastructure. Regular reviews and adjustments of these metrics and thresholds will help maintain an optimized environment as your application evolves.