AWS Management Console

AWS Management Console is a central place to create your cloud infrastructure. You can access all the services available in Amazon Web Services(AWS) from the management console. Using these services you can recreate your traditional IT infrastructure in the cloud. By creating your infrastructure in cloud, you can gain the benefits of high-availability, low running costs, scalability, and security etc.

For example, you can create your own virtual server (called as an EC2 instance) with a Linux operating system and then access it using secure-shell(SSH) from Windows or Mac. You can also create other things like serverless apps, virtual private cloud (VPC), and functional database etc.

This article explains how you can create a virtual server with Linux OS and then connect to it using Terminal in Mac.

EC2 Instances or Virtual Servers

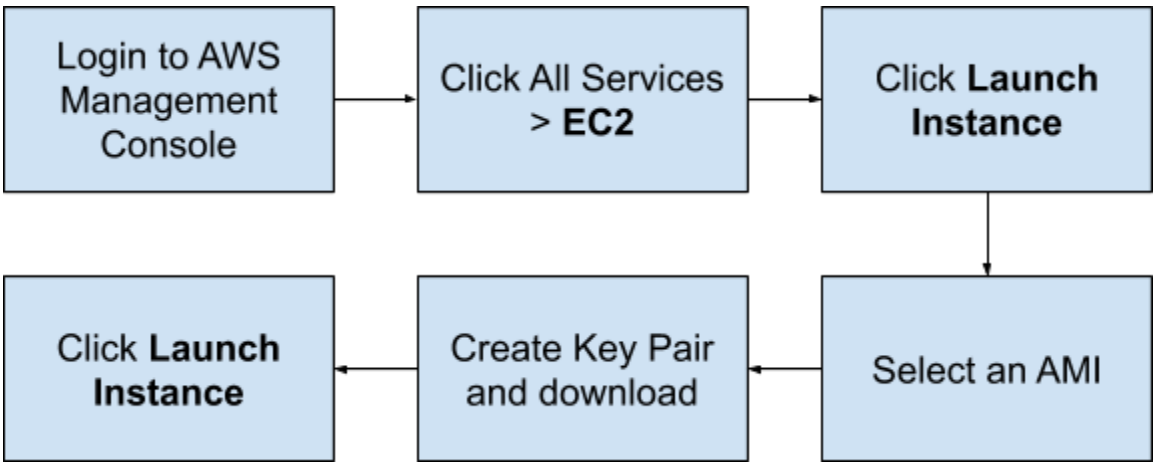
The starting point of creating your IT infrastructure is to create/launch EC2 instances. Amazon Elastic Compute Cloud (EC2) instances are simply virtual servers. You can launch and configure as many EC2 instances as you need in the AWS Cloud. The EC2 instances have an excellent mechanism to scale the resources like storage and computing capacity on-demand. The EC2 instances also have preconfigured templates that contain the operating system and additional software.

EBS or Storage Volumes

Amazon Elastic Block Store (EBS) in the AWS cloud is equivalent to a hard disk in a physical machine. EBS represents the storage part for your virtual server (EC2 instance). You can use an EBS block and mount it as a volume in an EC2 instance. You can also dynamically change the configuration of these blocks when required.

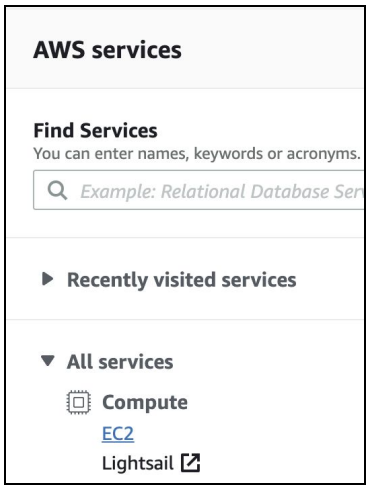
Launch an Amazon Machine Image(AMI) with Linux OS

The following image shows the process of launching an Linux AMI from AWS Management Console.

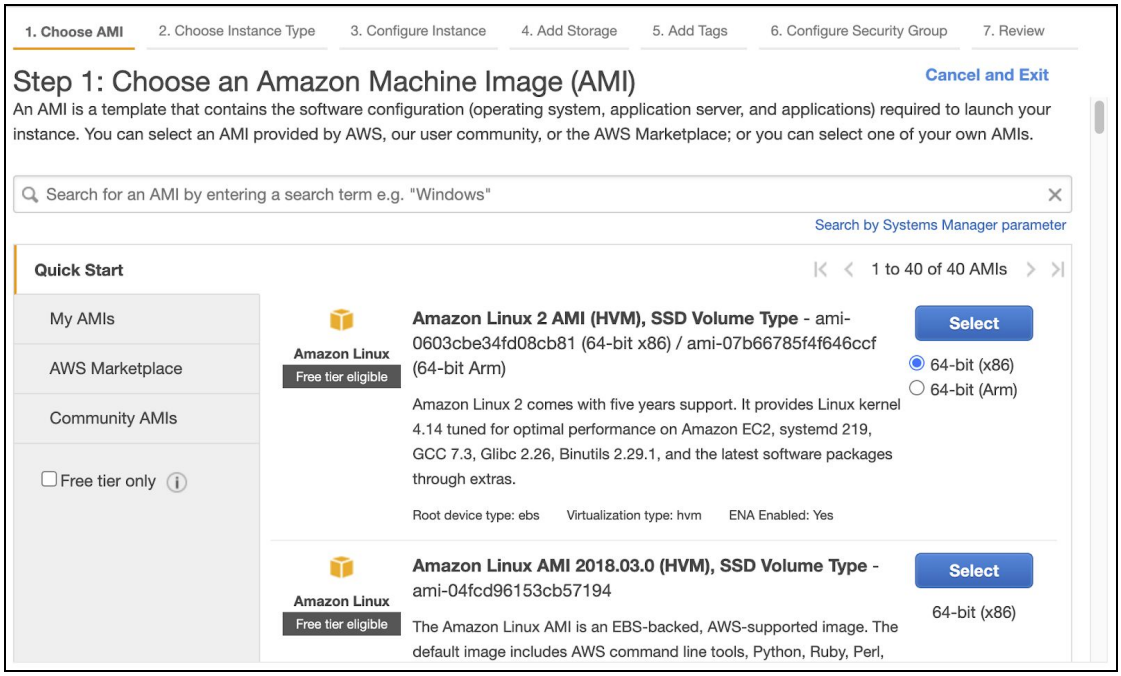


To launch an Amazon Machine Image (AMI) from AWS Management Console:

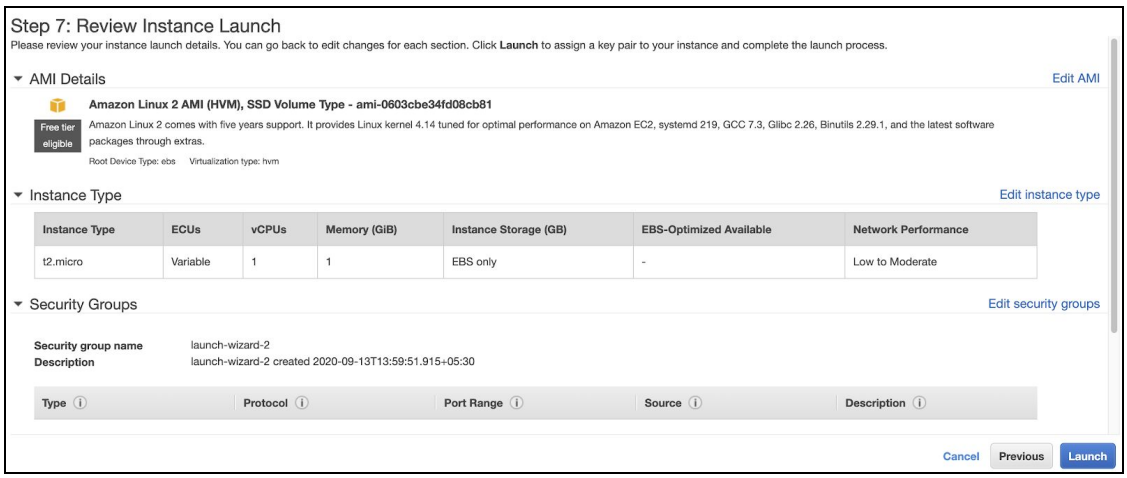
1. Login to AWS Management Console.
2. Under All Services, click **EC2**. The EC2 Dashboard appears.



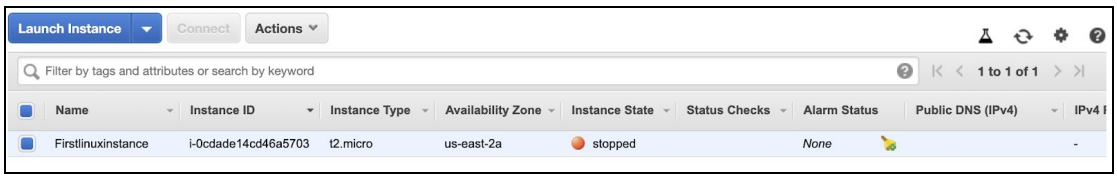
3. Under the **Launch Instance** section, click **Launch Instance**. The Launch Instance Wizard appears.



4. Click **Select** to select an AMI from the list. The Choose an Instance Type screen appears.
5. Select an instance type from the available list and click **Review and Launch**.
6. Review the information on the **Review and Launch** screen.



7. Click **Launch**. The instance will be launched and available for use.



8. Select **Create a new key pair** and assign a name. The key pair file (.pem) will download automatically.
    - Ensure to save this in a safe place as you can use it later to log in to the instance.

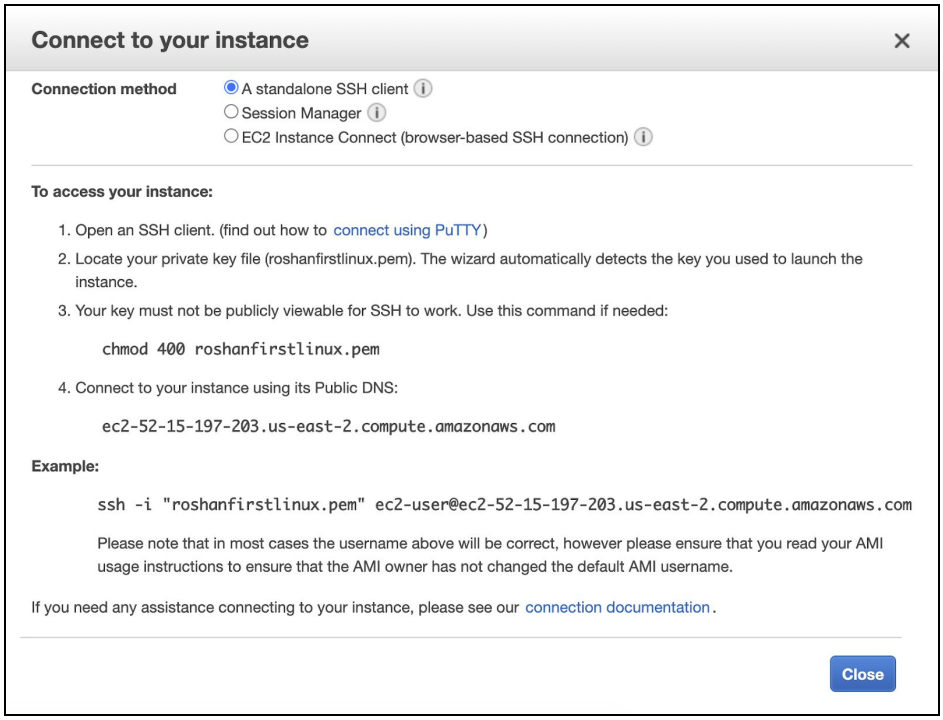
9. Click **Launch Instances** to complete the set up. After you run the instance you can connect using SSH or Putty and work with the Linux server.

Connect to Linux AMI using SSH

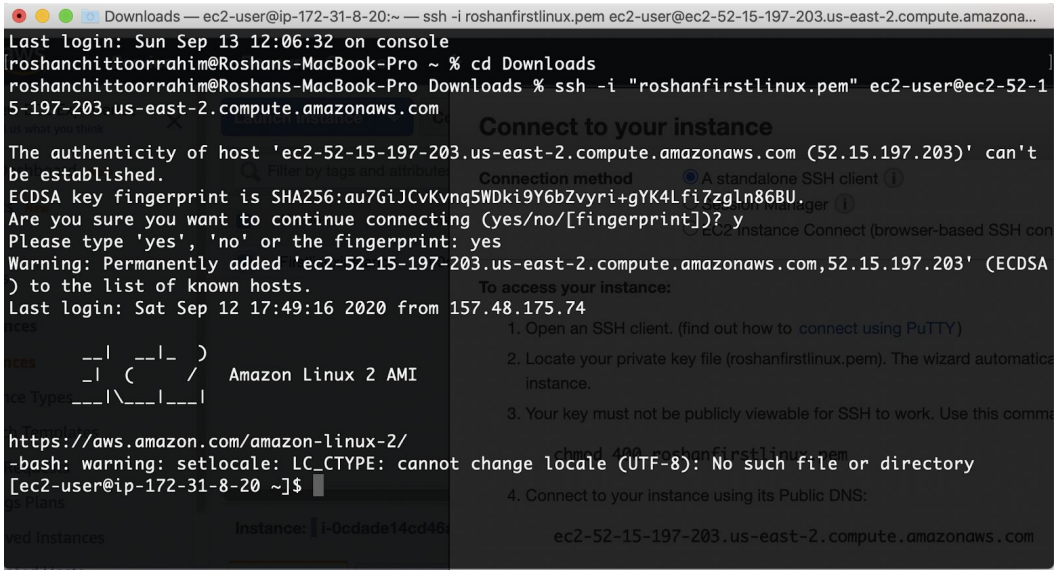
Once you have the Linux AMI running in AWS cloud, you can connect to the instance directly from the Mac Terminal.

To connect from the Terminal to Linux AMI:

1. In the AWS console, start your EC2 instance.
2. Click **Connect**. The **Connect to your instance** dialog appears.



3. Copy the command below **Example:** section. For example, the command can be like `ssh -i "roshanfirstlinux.pem" ec2-user@ec2-52-15-197-203.us-east-2.compute.amazonaws.com`.
4. In Mac, open Terminal.
5. Navigate to the folder where the .pem file is placed.
6. Run the command starting with `ssh`.



7. Type **yes** to confirm the connection. A confirmation message appears and shows a success message.
8. The command line shows a prompt “ec2-user” and you can confirm that you are connected to the linux AMI instance.