

Web Hosting Using Windows OS

Objective

The objective of this project is to host a static website using Internet Information Services (IIS) on a Windows-based AWS EC2 instance. The aim is to understand how to deploy, configure, and access a website on a cloud-hosted Windows Server.

Introduction

Web hosting allows websites to be accessible over the internet. On Windows operating systems, IIS (Internet Information Services) serves as the official Microsoft web server platform. This project demonstrates how to use IIS to host a static HTML/CSS website on an AWS EC2 Windows Server instance. By doing so, it integrates concepts of cloud computing, networking, and system configuration.

Procedure

Step 1: Launch a Windows EC2 Instance

- Log in to the AWS Management Console and open the EC2 service.
- Create a new instance using the Microsoft Windows Server AMI.
- Choose instance type t2.micro (Free Tier eligible).
- Allow RDP (3389) and HTTP (80) in the security group.
- Launch the instance and note the Public IP address.

Step 1: Create EC2 Instance (Windows)

1. Search for EC2 → Launch Instance.
2. Choose 'Microsoft Windows Server 2022 Base AMI.'
3. Select 't3.micro' instance type.
4. Configure Key Pair (.pem file).
5. Under Network Settings, allow RDP and HTTP.

6. Launch the instance.

EC2 > Instances > Launch an instance

Launch an instance

Info

Amazon EC2 allows you to create virtual machines, or instances, that run on the AWS Cloud. Quickly get started by following the simple steps below.

Name and tags

Info

Name

Windows-webhost

Add additional tags

Application and OS Images (Amazon Machine Image)

Info

An AMI contains the operating system, application server, and applications for your instance. If you don't see a suitable AMI below, use the search field or choose [Browse more AMIs](#).

Search our full catalog including 1000s of application and OS images

RecentsQuick Start

Amazon Linux

macOS

Ubuntu

Windows

Red Hat

SUSE Linux

Debian

Browse more AMIs

Including AMIs from AWS, Marketplace and the Community

Amazon Machine Image (AMI)

Microsoft Windows Server 2025 Base

Summary

Number of instances

Info

1

Software Image (AMI)

Microsoft Windows Server 2025 ...[read more](#)

ami-0e3c2921641a4a215

Virtual server type (instance type)

t3.micro

Firewall (security group)

New security group

Storage (volumes)

1 volume(s) - 30 GiB

Cancel

Launch instance

Preview code

Step2: AWS Connect Screen (Windows): Shows the RDP client connection details, including the Public DNS and the option to get the administrator password.

aws

Search

[Alt+S]

EC2 > Instances > i-02ef8bf83a843644 > Connect to instance

Session Manager

RDP client

EC2 serial console

Record RDP connections

You can now record RDP connections using AWS Systems Manager just-in-time node access. [Learn more](#)

Try for free

Instance ID

i-02ef8bf83a843644 (Windows-webhost)

Connection Type

Connect using RDP client

Download a file to use with your RDP client and retrieve your password.

Connect using Fleet Manager

To connect to the instance using Fleet Manager Remote Desktop, the SSM Agent must be installed and running on the instance. For more information, see [Working with SSM Agent](#)

You can connect to your Windows instance using a remote desktop client of your choice, and by downloading and running the RDP shortcut file below:

Download remote desktop file

When prompted, connect to your instance using the following username and password:

Public DNS

ec2-44-222-204-6.compute-1.amazonaws.com

Username

Info

Administrator

Password

Get password

If you've joined your instance to a directory, you can use your directory credentials to connect to your instance.

Windows-webhost.rdp

97 B • Done

2.png

Removed

Get Password

Search

[Alt+S]

United States (N. Virginia)

Account ID: 54057512-0548

Sakshi Jain

EC2

Instances

I-02ef8bf83a843644

Get Windows password

Get Windows password

info

Use your private key to retrieve and decrypt the initial Windows administrator password for this instance.

Instance ID
I-02ef8bf83a843644 (Windows-webhost)

Key pair associated with this instance
download

Private key
Either upload your private key file or copy and paste its contents into the field below.

Upload private key file

download.pem
1.678KB

Private key contents - optional

-----BEGIN RSA PRIVATE KEY-----
MIIEpQIBAAKCAQEAzGGO7t8pfcFudTLFzY63ecCD38a5zJ0mV63KQ0C5Q93U
IV62a/OP3AB9+RvV2eNtBForh3YK2X+ColF6vwebD8XUz2sa4SwgDX/JUId6
M+1ArHlclFO/p3f8uLlHP3n8Lg+tz6+wsX2qrg69C0rVvQyZ75oM4ZZIUE2
8+klzoNygCQ1N90awRkDWwNvc28rk7W+TA3V9IP2KULkolevi+zWVAJuhUkUI
6FKgFnuUo6GmlAWpd25OkepzTe60JHzM9UGn5SgDpR3lRwHHPK5j/JdYD8gJv5
STIz4By+qB9svEhEKrvLuyKJJZy6kDe3C6fwQIDAQABoAQAQCI/JLAZLQax3X
poUCEvvc7Cuv7r1tvJXdh8BfrB0mwCcyhyPEotk21H53LVP9GF5ET5cCbgh6

Cancel

Decrypt password

EC2

Instances

I-02ef8bf83a843644

Connect to instance

Session Manager

RDP client

EC2 serial console

Record RDP connections

You can now record RDP connections using AWS Systems Manager just-in-time node access. [Learn more](#)

Try for free

Instance ID
I-02ef8bf83a843644 (Windows-webhost)

Connection Type

Connect using RDP client
Download a file to use with your RDP client and retrieve your password.

Connect using Fleet Manager
To connect to the instance using Fleet Manager Remote Desktop, the SSM Agent must be installed and running on the instance. For more information, see [Working with SSM Agent](#)

You can connect to your Windows instance using a remote desktop client of your choice, and by downloading and running the RDP shortcut file below:

Download remote desktop file

When prompted, connect to your instance using the following username and password:

Public DNS
ec2-44-222-204-6.compute-1.amazonaws.com

Username Info
Administrator

Password
b5ng5S=Ua1JglapHYHS20owOO-BTWOaa

If you've joined your instance to a directory, you can use your directory credentials to connect to your instance.

Connect with RDP

st-in-time node access. [Learn more](#)

Windows Security

Enter your credentials

These credentials will be used to connect to
ec2-44-222-204-6.compute-1.amazonaws.com.

Administrator

Password
.....

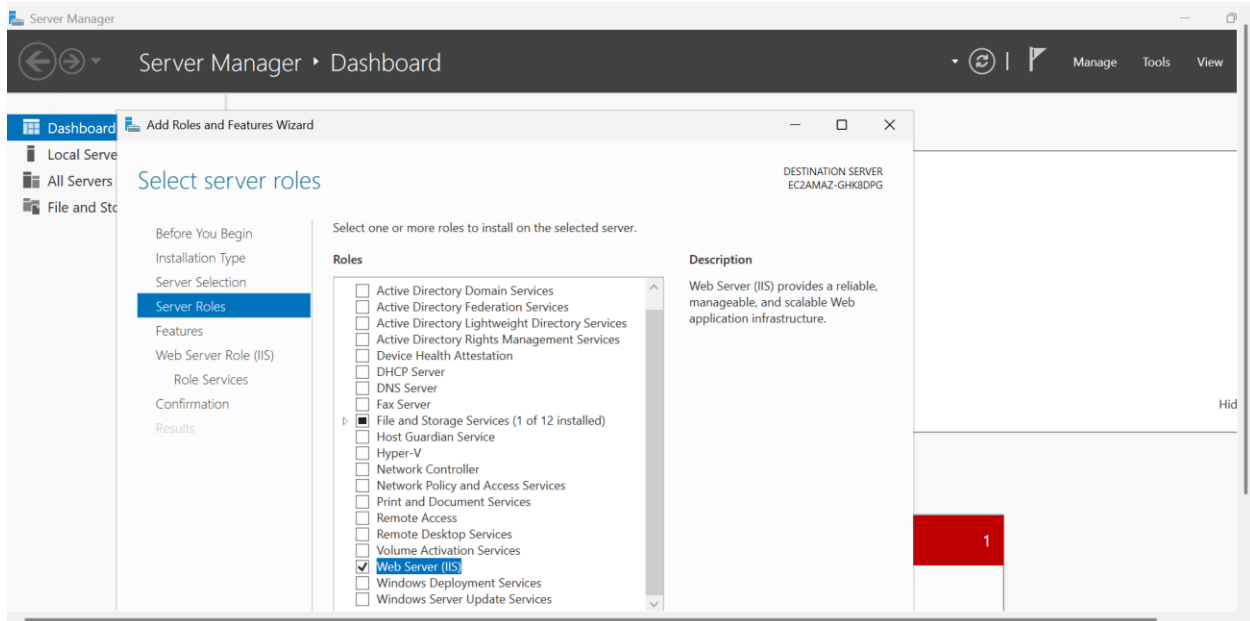
More choices

OK

Cancel

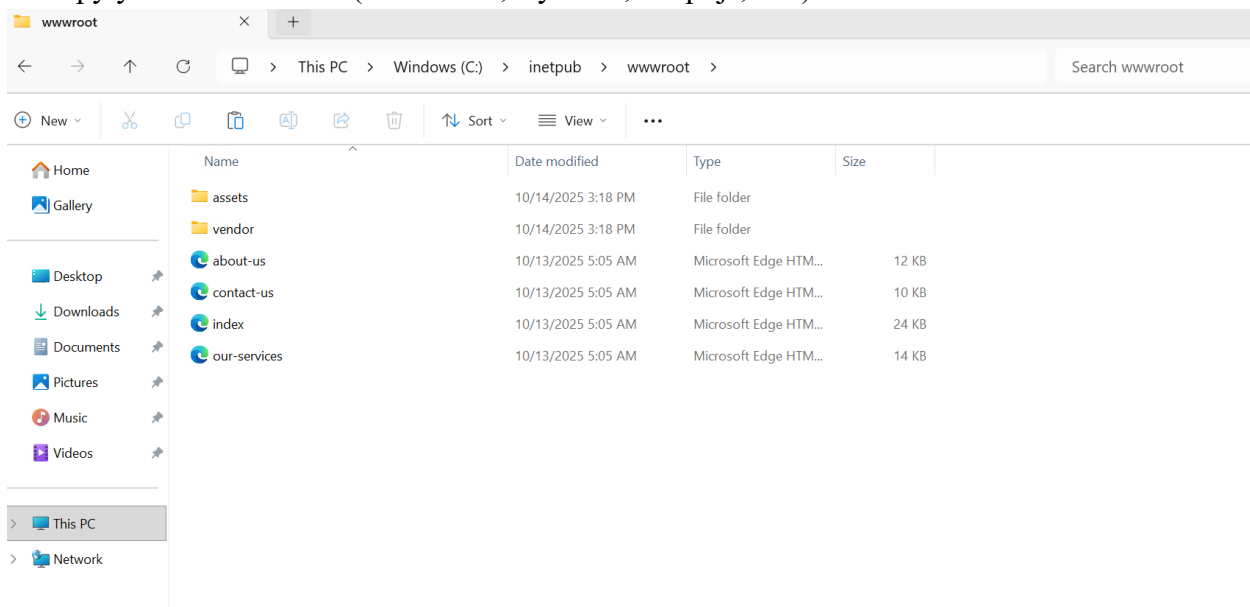
Step 3:

1. In Windows Server, open 'Server Manager'.
2. Click 'Add Roles and Features' → Next.
3. Select 'Web Server (IIS)' → Add Features → Next → Install.
4. Wait until installation completes successfully.



Step 4: Deploy Your Static Website

1. Navigate to the IIS web root directory: C:\inetpub\wwwroot
2. Delete the default file iisstart.html.
3. Copy your website files (index.html, style.css, script.js, etc.) into this folder.



Step 5: Test the Website

1. Open your browser (on your local system).
2. Type:http://
3. Your static website should now be live and publicly accessible

