**Document for RDP into EC2 instances (Windows and Linux) using Mac**

**\*\*process is very similar for Windows machine users**

**Remote Desktop into Windows EC2 Instance using Mac (North Virginia Region):**

1. Navigate to EC2 in AWS console
2. Launch Instance
3. Browse more AMIs
4. Search “Windows”
5. Select Microsoft Windows Server 2022 Core Base
6. Create New Key pair
7. Name your key pair (e.g. “WindowsNV”)
8. Select .pem file format
9. Create key pair 🡪 At this point, a .pem file will be downloaded **\*\*DO NOT LOSE IT\*\***
10. Allow RDP traffic from Anywhere (port 3389)
11. Allow HTTPS traffic from the internet (port 443)
12. Allow HTTP traffic from the internet (port 80)
13. 1 x 30 GiB gp2 Root volume
14. Launch Instance
15. View all instances
16. Click on instance ID
17. Navigate to Security panel
18. Click on security group to edit inbound and outbound rules
19. Click on Edit inbound rules
20. Allow SSH traffic from Anywhere (Type SSH port 22)
21. Save
22. Navigate to instances
23. Wait for instance state to show “Running”
24. Select your instance
25. Actions
26. Connect
27. RDP client
28. Connect using RDP client
29. Download remote desktop file (This is a shortcut for future use)
30. Get Password
31. Verify correct key pair is associated with instance
32. Upload Private Key file or Paste contents (This is the key pair .pem file)
33. Decrypt password
34. Copy the decrypted password and store it in a safe place. **\*\*DO NOT LOSE IT\*\***
35. Copy Public DNS
36. Open Microsoft Remote Desktop application
37. Add PC
38. In PC Name slot, paste Public DNS
39. Add User Account
40. Username will be Administrator (tells you username in console)
41. For the password, copy decrypted key pair password from stored location and paste into the slot
42. Add
43. This will take you back to “Add PC” page 🡪 Click Add
44. Double Click on your newly added Remote Desktop Connection
45. Continue

**Remote Desktop into Linux EC2 Instance using Mac (North Virginia Region):**

1. Navigate to EC2 in AWS console
2. Launch Instance
3. Browse more AMIs
4. Search “Linux”
5. Select “Amazon Linux 2 with .NET 6, PowerShell, Mono, and MATE Desktop Environment”
6. Instance type: t2.micro (free tier eligible)
7. Proceed without a key pair (default)
8. Create security group
9. Allow RDP traffic from Anywhere (port 3389)
10. Allow HTTPS traffic from the internet (port 443)
11. Allow HTTP traffic from the internet (port 80)
12. 1 x 8 GiB gp2 Root volume (Configure storage)
13. Launch instance
14. View all instances
15. Name your instance if you have not already done so
16. Click on instance ID
17. Navigate to Security panel
18. Click on security group to edit inbound and outbound rules
19. Click on Edit inbound rules
20. Allow SSH traffic from Anywhere (Type SSH port 22)
21. Save
22. Navigate to instances
23. Wait for instance state to show “Running”
24. Select your instance
25. Connect
26. EC2 Instance Connect 🡪 Choose a username (e.g. root or ec2-user) – if there is a default username already in place, use that
27. Copy the public IP address
28. Connect
29. Run the command “sudo yum update” to apply updates to your AMI
30. Is this okay? Respond “y”
31. Run this command: sudo passwd [your username]
32. Enter your new password and retype password -- Store your username and password in a safe place and **DO NOT LOSE IT**
33. Open Microsoft Remote Desktop application
34. Add PC
35. Paste public IP address
36. User account: Ask when required
37. Friendly name: (e.g. “LinuxMATE – North Virginia”)
38. Add
39. Double click on newly added connection
40. Enter Username and Password (stored in safe place)
41. Continue