

Part 1. Getting started

Have you watched a blockbuster on Netflix, bought a gadget on [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com), or booked a room on Airbnb today? If so, you have used Amazon Web Services (AWS) in the background. Because Netflix, Amazon.com, and Airbnb all use AWS for their business.

AWS is the biggest player in the cloud computing markets. According to analysts, AWS maintains a market share of more than 30%.¹ Another impressive number: AWS accounts for net sales of \$20.5 billion year-over-year (a 27% increase).² AWS data centers are distributed worldwide in North America, South America, Europe, Africa, Asia, and Australia. But the cloud does not consist of hardware and computing power alone. Software is part of every cloud platform and makes the difference for you, as a customer who aims to provide a valuable experience to your service's users. The research firm Gartner has yet again classified AWS as a leader in their Magic Quadrant for Cloud Infrastructure & Platform Services in 2022. Gartner's Magic Quadrant groups vendors into four quadrants—niche players, challengers, visionaries, and leaders—and provides a quick overview of the cloud computing market.³ Being recognized as a leader attests to AWS's high speed and high quality of innovation.

The first part of this book will guide you through your initial steps with AWS. You will get an impression of how you can use AWS to improve your IT infrastructure.

Chapter 1 introduces cloud computing and AWS. This will get you familiar with the big-picture basics of how AWS is structured.

Chapter 2 brings Amazon Web Service into action. Here, you will spin up and dive into a complex cloud infrastructure with ease.

¹ Statista, "Global Cloud Infrastructure Market Share 2022," <http://mng.bz/Popv>.

² Amazon, "Amazon.com Announces Third Quarter Results 2022," <http://mng.bz/JVXa>.

³ AWS Blog, “AWS Named as a Leader in the 2022 Gartner Cloud Infrastructure & Platform Services (CIPS) Magic Quadrant for the 12th Consecutive Year,” <http://mng.bz/wy7a>.