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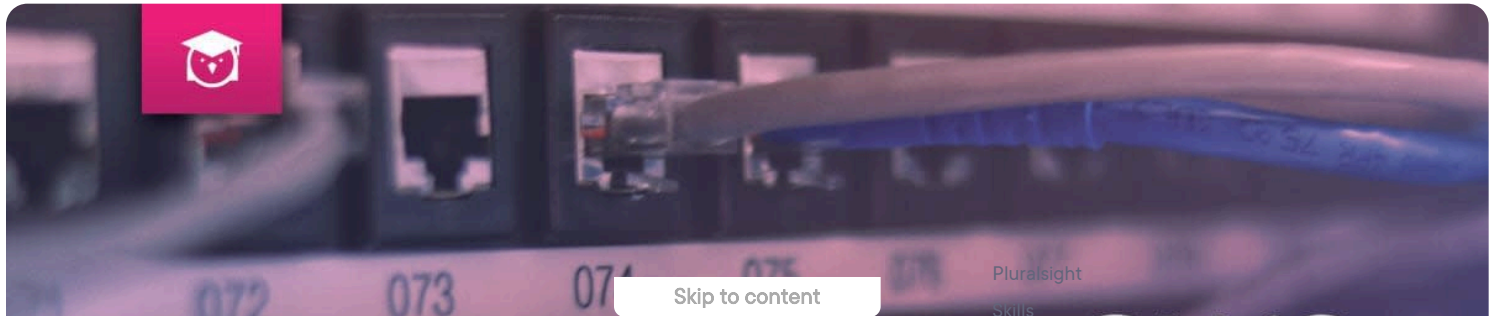
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Your AWS Terminology Cheat Sheet



By Sophia Paul

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YOUR AWS TERMINOLOGY CHEAT SHEET

AWS

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Use this cheat sheet as a simple, quick resource as you review and study for AWS certifications and work through our courses.

We don't just want you to memorize definitions — we want you to understand and recognize these terms and concepts, so we've taken the definitions AWS has provided and simplified them. Happy training!

1. **Access control list (ACL):** A firewall/security layer on the subnet level
2. **Auto scaling:** Automates the process of adding or removing EC2 instances based on traffic demand for your application
3. **Buckets:** Root-level "folders"
4. **CloudFront:** Content delivery network (CDN) that allows you to store your content at "edge locations" located all around the world, allowing customers to access your content more quickly
5. **CloudTrail:** Allows you to monitor all actions taken by IAM users
6. **CloudWatch:** Service that allows you to monitor various elements of your AWS account
7. **Consolidated billing:** Allows you to view, manage, and pay bills for multiple AWS accounts in one user interface
8. **DNS server:** A database of website domains and their corresponding IP addresses
9. **DynamoDB:** NoSQL database service that does not provide other NoSQL software options
10. **Elastic Block Store (EBS):** Provides persistent block storage volumes for use of EC2 instances.
11. **Elastic Compute Cloud (EC2):** A virtual computer, very similar to a desktop/laptop computer
12. **Elastic Load Balancing (ELB):** Evenly distributes traffic between EC2 instances that are associated with it
13. **ElastiCache:** Data caching service used to help improve the speed/performance of web applications running on AWS
14. **Elasticity:** The ability of a system to increase and decrease in size
15. **Fault tolerance:** Property that enables a system to continue operating properly in the event of the failure of one or more components
16. **Firewall:** A type of software that either allows or blocks certain kinds of internet traffic to pass through it
17. **Folder:** Any "subfolder" created in a bucket
18. **High availability:** Refers to systems that are durable and likely to operate continuously without failure for a long time
19. **IAM users:** Individuals who have been granted access to an AWS account
20. **Identity and Access Management (IAM):** Service where AWS user accounts and their access to various AWS services are managed
21. **Lambda:** Serverless computing that will replace EC2 instances, for the most part
22. **Object availability:** Percent over a one-year time period that a file stored in S3 will be accessible
23. **Object durability:** Percent over a one-year time period that a file stored in S3 will not be lost
24. **Object lifecycle:** Set rules to automatically transfer objects between storage classes at defined time intervals
25. **Object sharing:** Ability to make any object publicly available via a URL link
26. **Object versioning:** Automatically keep multiple versions of an object (when enabled)
27. **Organizations:** Allow you or your company access to manage billing and access to multiple AWS accounts in one user interface

- 28. **Principle of least privilege:** Giving a user only the rights/access to the AWS services and resources they need to do their job and nothing more
- 29. **Publishers:** Human/alarm/event that gives SNS the message that needs to be sent
- 30. **Relational Database Service (RDS):** SQL database service that provides a wide range of SQL database options to select from
- 31. **RedShift:** Data warehouse database service designed to handle petabytes of data for analysis
- 32. **Roles:** How different AWS services are granted permission to communicate and share data
- 33. **Route 53:** Where you configure and manage web domains for websites or applications you host on AWS
- 34. **Scalability:** The ability of a system to easily increase in size and capacity in a cost-effective way
- 35. **Security group (SG):** Firewall/security layer on the server/instance level
- 36. **Shared responsibility model:** Defines what you and AWS are responsible for when it comes to security and compliance
- 37. **Simple Notification Service (SNS):** AWS service that allows you to automate the sending of email or text messaging notifications based on events that happen in your AWS account
- 38. **Simple Storage Service (S3):** Online bulk storage service you can access from almost any device
- 39. **Storage class:** Represents "classification" assigned to each object in S3 (standard, RRS, S3-IA, Glacier)
- 40. **Subnet:** A subsection of a network and generally includes all the computers in a specific location
- 41. **Subscriptions:** Endpoints to which a topic sends messages
- 42. **Topics:** How you label and group different endpoints to which you send messages
- 43. **Trusted Advisor:** Service that "advises" and helps you optimize aspects of your AWS account
- 44. **User credentials:** IAM user's username and password for logging in to AWS
- 45. **Virtual Private Cloud (VPC):** A private subsection of AWS you control and in which you can place AWS resources

Many of these terms and simplified definitions were pulled from our [AWS Certified Cloud Practitioner course](#) and our [AWS Essentials course](#), one of many [free courses](#) at ACG!



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Sophia P.

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