

# Deploying a Windows EC2 Instance and Connecting Using Remote Desktop (RDP)



## Launch an EC2 Instance with Windows AMI

### Step 1: Log in to AWS Management Console

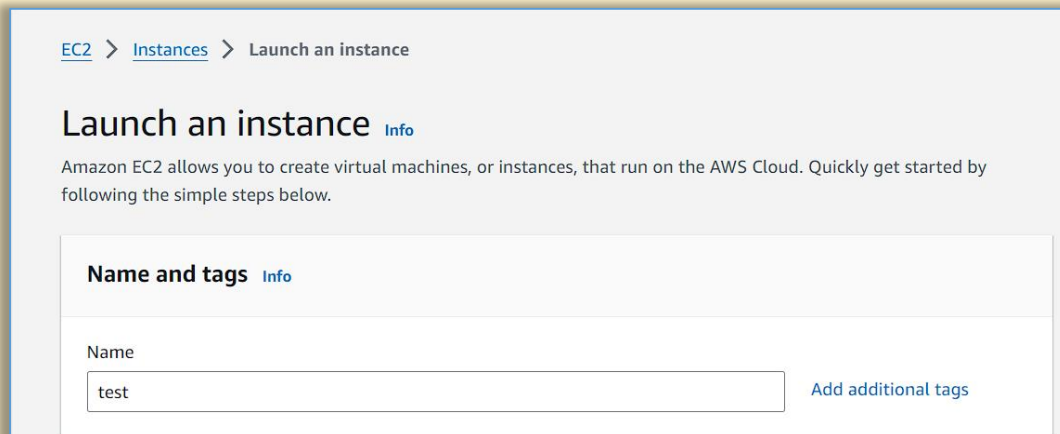
- Go to the AWS Management Console.
- Log in with your credentials.

### Step 2: Navigate to EC2 Dashboard

- In the AWS Management Console, search for **EC2** in the search bar.
- Select **EC2** to go to the EC2 Dashboard.

### Step 3: Launch a New EC2 Instance

- Click the **Launch Instances** button.
- Enter a **Name** for your 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.

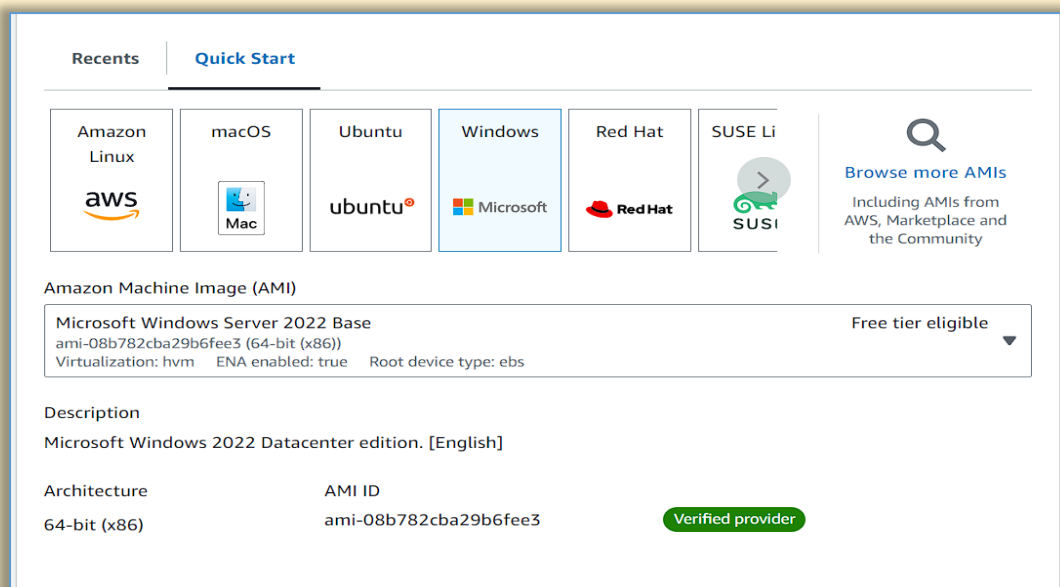
### Name and tags [Info](#)

Name

[Add additional tags](#)

### Step 4: Select a Windows AMI (Amazon Machine Image)

- In the **Application and OS Images (Amazon Machine Image)** section, click **Browse more AMIs**.
- Search for a **Windows Server AMI** (e.g., Windows Server 2019 or Windows Server 2022).



Recents Quick Start

Amazon Linux

macOS

Ubuntu

Windows

Red Hat

SUSE Li

Browse more AMIs  
Including AMIs from AWS, Marketplace and the Community

Amazon Machine Image (AMI)

Microsoft Windows Server 2022 Base  
ami-08b782cba29b6fee3 (64-bit (x86))  
Virtualization: hvm ENA enabled: true Root device type: ebs

Free tier eligible

Description

Microsoft Windows 2022 Datacenter edition. [English]

Architecture AMI ID

64-bit (x86) ami-08b782cba29b6fee3

Verified provider

## Step 5: Choose an Instance Type

- In the **Instance type** section, choose an instance type that supports Windows (e.g., **t2.micro**, which is free tier eligible).
- Click **Next: Configure Instance Details** (optional) or **Review and Launch**.

▼ **Instance type** [Info](#) | [Get advice](#)

Instance type

**t2.micro** Free tier eligible

Family: t2 1 vCPU 1 GiB Memory Current generation: true  
On-Demand Linux base pricing: 0.0124 USD per Hour  
On-Demand Windows base pricing: 0.017 USD per Hour  
On-Demand RHEL base pricing: 0.0268 USD per Hour  
On-Demand SUSE base pricing: 0.0124 USD per Hour

☒ All generations

[Compare instance types](#)

Additional costs apply for AMIs with pre-installed software

## Step 6: Configure Key Pair for RDP Access

- Choose **Create a new key pair** (or use an existing one if you already have it).
  - Download the **.pem** file of the key pair to your local machine.
- This key will be needed to decrypt the password later.

▼ **Key pair (login)** [Info](#)

You can use a key pair to securely connect to your instance. Ensure that you have access to the selected key pair before you launch the instance.

Key pair name - *required*

[Create new key pair](#)

For Windows instances, you use a key pair to decrypt the administrator password. You then use the decrypted password to connect to your instance.

Subnet [Info](#)

No preference (Default subnet in any availability zone)

Auto-assign public IP [Info](#)

Enable

Additional charges apply when outside of free tier allowance

Firewall (security groups) [Info](#)

A security group is a set of firewall rules that control the traffic for your instance. Add rules to allow specific traffic to reach your instance.

☒ Create security group ☐ Select existing security group

We'll create a new security group called 'launch-wizard-3' with the following rules:

☒ Allow RDP traffic from

☐ Allow HTTPS traffic from the internet  
To set up an endpoint, for example when creating a web server

☒ Allow HTTP traffic from the internet  
To set up an endpoint, for example when creating a web server

**Summary**

Number of instances [Info](#)

Software Image (AMI)

Microsoft Windows Server 2022 ...[read more](#)  
ami-08b782cba29b6fee3

Virtual server type (instance type)

t2.micro

Firewall (security group)

New security group

Storage (volumes)

1 volume(s) - 30 GiB

## Step 7: Retrieve the Instance's Public IP Address

- In the **EC2 Dashboard**, find your running instance.
- Copy the **Public IPv4 address** from the instance description. This will be used to connect to the instance.

EC2 > Instances > i-0e32971509860f085

**Instance summary for i-0e32971509860f085 (test)** [Info](#)

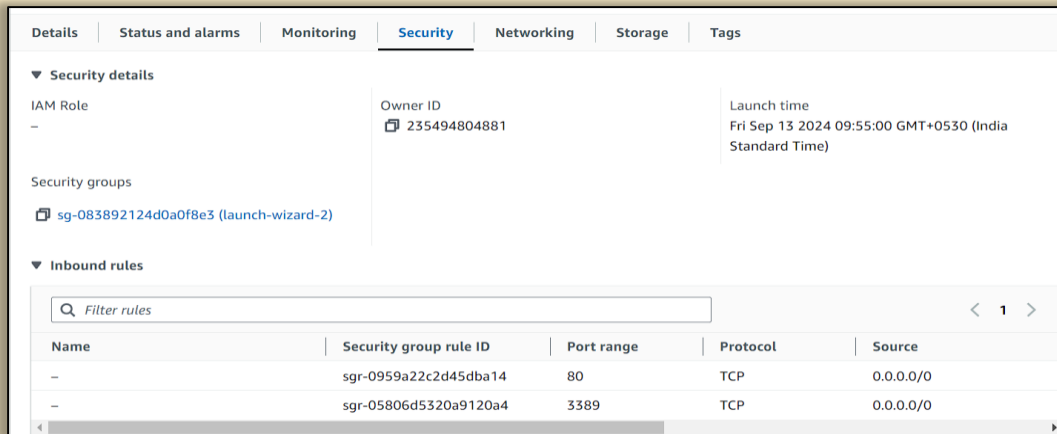
Updated less than a minute ago

[Refresh](#) [Connect](#) [Instance state](#) [Actions](#)

Instance ID i-0e32971509860f085 (test)	Public IPv4 address 15.206.148.202   <a href="#">open address</a>	Private IPv4 addresses 172.31.3.214
IPv6 address -	Instance state Running	Public IPv4 DNS ec2-15-206-148-202.ap-south-1.compute.amazonaws.com   <a href="#">open address</a>
Hostname type IP name: ip-172-31-3-214.ap-south-1.compute.internal	Private IP DNS name (IPv4 only) ip-172-31-3-214.ap-south-1.compute.internal	Elastic IP addresses -
Answer private resource DNS name IPv4 (A)	Instance type t2.micro	AWS Compute Optimizer finding Opt-in to AWS Compute Optimizer for recommendations.   <a href="#">Learn more</a>
Auto-assigned IP address 15.206.148.202 [Public IP]	VPC ID vpc-0150c7a32f58644ec	

## Step 8: Configure Network Settings

- Create a new security group to allow RDP connections:
- **RDP (Port 3389)** - For connecting to the instance.
- Set the source as **Anywhere (0.0.0.0/0)** or a specific IP range for security.



## Step 9: Launch the Instance

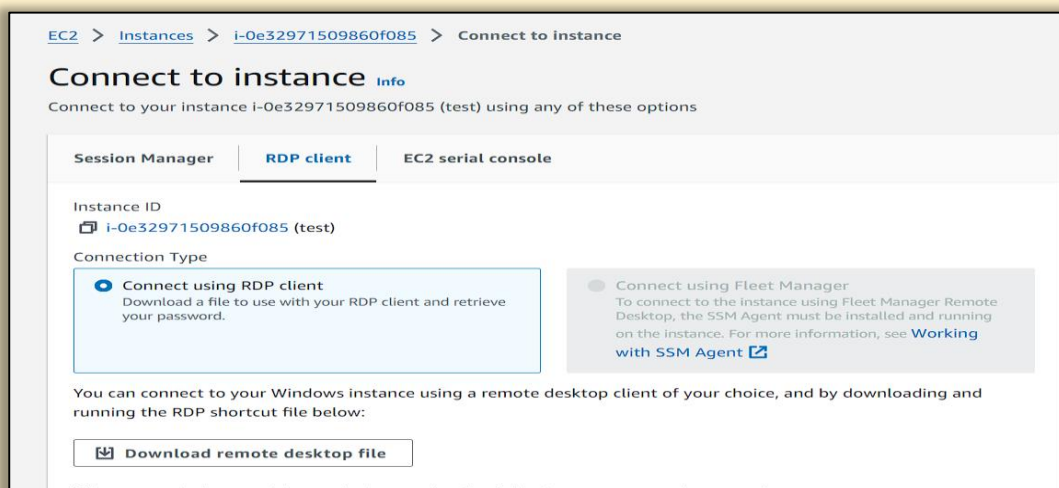
- Review all the configurations and click **Launch Instance**.

## Wait for the Instance to Start


- Go to the **Instances** page and wait until the instance status is **Running**.


## Step 10: Get the Windows Password

1. Select your instance, click **Connect** at the top, and then choose the **RDP Client** tab.
2. Click on **Get Windows Password**.
3. Upload the private key file you downloaded when launching the instance to decrypt the password.




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

Public DNS  
 ec2-15-206-148-202.ap-south-1.compute.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.


Cancel

[EC2](#) > [Instances](#) > [i-0e32971509860f085](#) > 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-0e32971509860f085](#) (test)

Key pair associated with this instance  
 ztest

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

 Upload private key file

 ztest.pem  
1.678KB

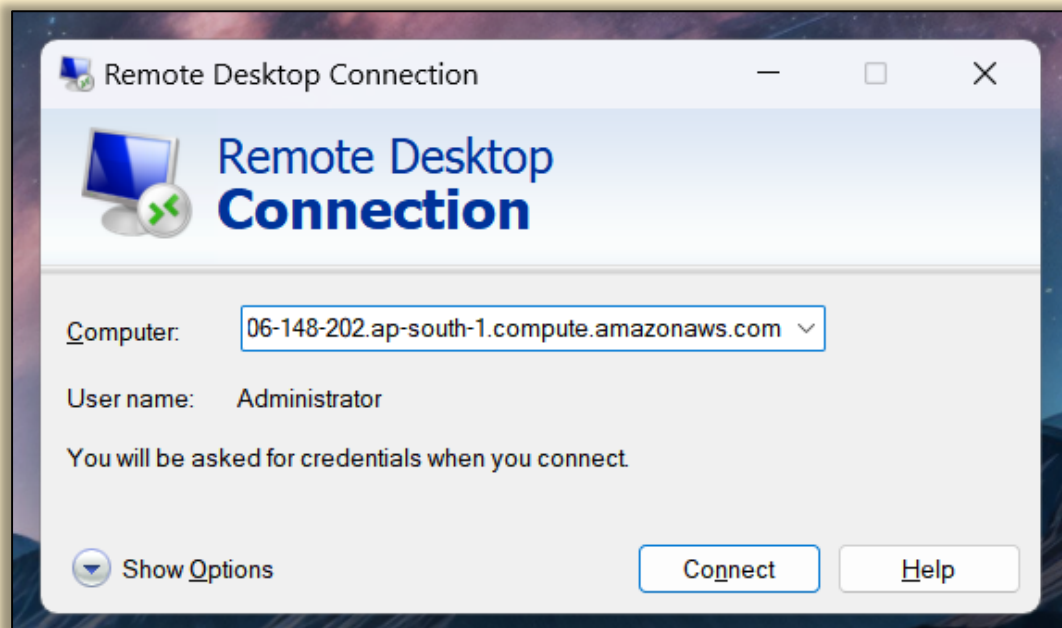
Private key contents - optional

```
-----BEGIN RSA PRIVATE KEY-----
MIIEpAIBAAKCAQEAhJ9IU/NO9geuKWnKYRAO7EbID7Ep0VbIDR+Ep+OPtTOWBDht
kh553QA6Mj8WEuq8//xagiKthHeZdpum82s/Fy449k5ytkf3/giNonTs8ZimL41
nZse9hglC5AIS6cehtAtyn459kXKpwy5uEVkHxNcsMPI4TZHqYPcIPAAL2FSi3eJ
IzK1vVj+aXCr+J4kNG85T8dwpY/j/NSOoVvj3xllfjXqLB9DTE48v6PdoqDqanv
6RSS/upwQ9elzIMiyCVV5JZHS4neG1o9zNSGsCQ72pbw7pj9HyV93wFgVds23VAo
oVEgLrpDsML1owFSTnJGKkdr32R8nwjH+vwQMwIDAQABAolBABtivM/BFVQOn/Mj
SkwiwclenZxQ7B6zP9cm5AC9Hho/zcGPWWjr7CQrsNjBWDcN0ntVw+bNfGE3RTRN
-----
```

Cancel   **Decrypt password**

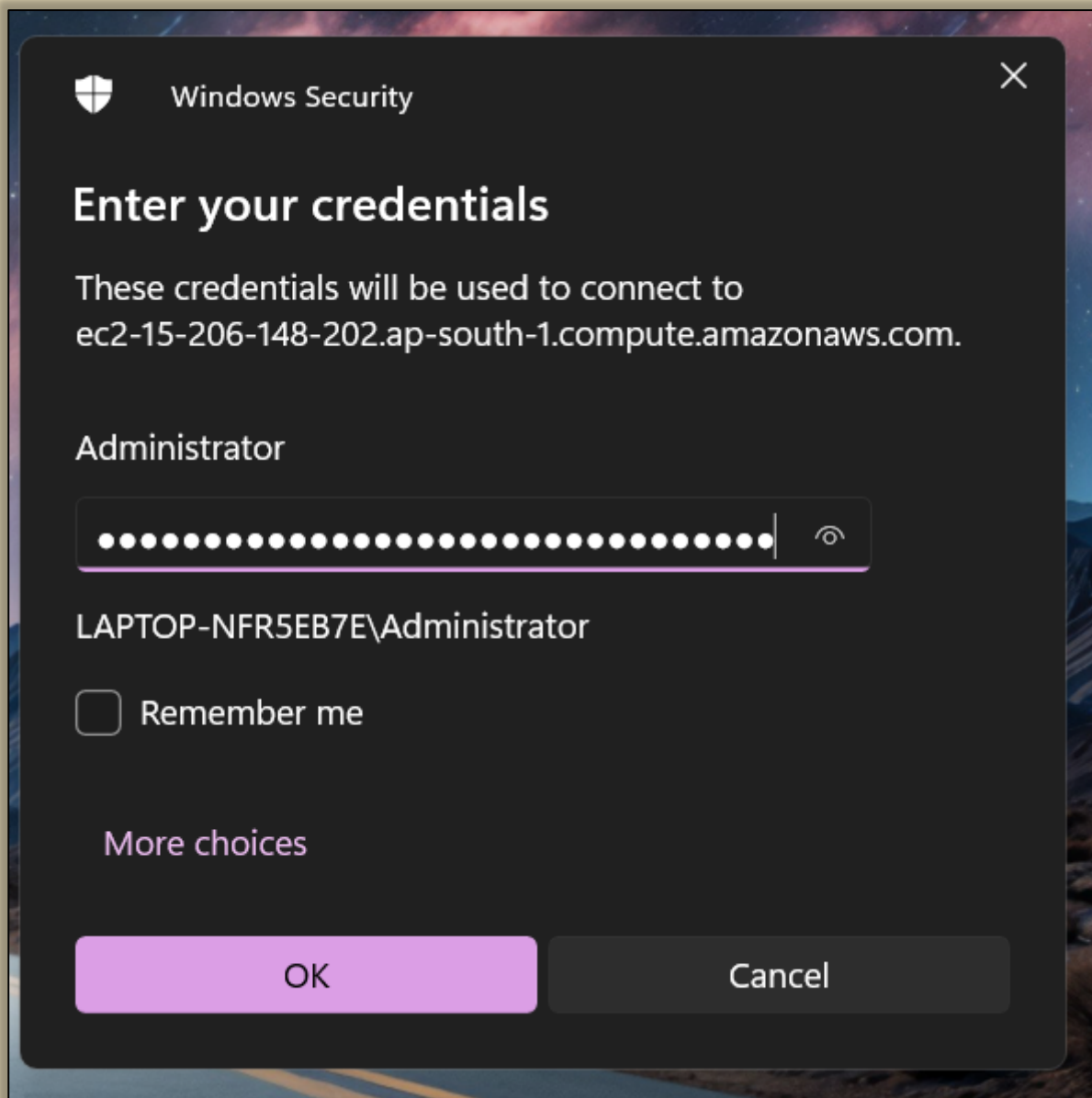
## Connect to the Windows Instance Using RDP

1. On your Windows desktop, search for **Remote Desktop Connection**.
2. Enter the **Public DNS** of the instance and click **Connect**.
3. Accept the security certificate by clicking **Yes**.



### Enter Credentials

1. Enter the **Username as Administrator** and paste the decrypted password.
2. Click **OK**.



## You're connected!

- You should now see the Windows desktop of your EC2 instance. You can manage your instance just like any other Windows machine.



