# AWS Cost Explorer & Cost Allocation Tags

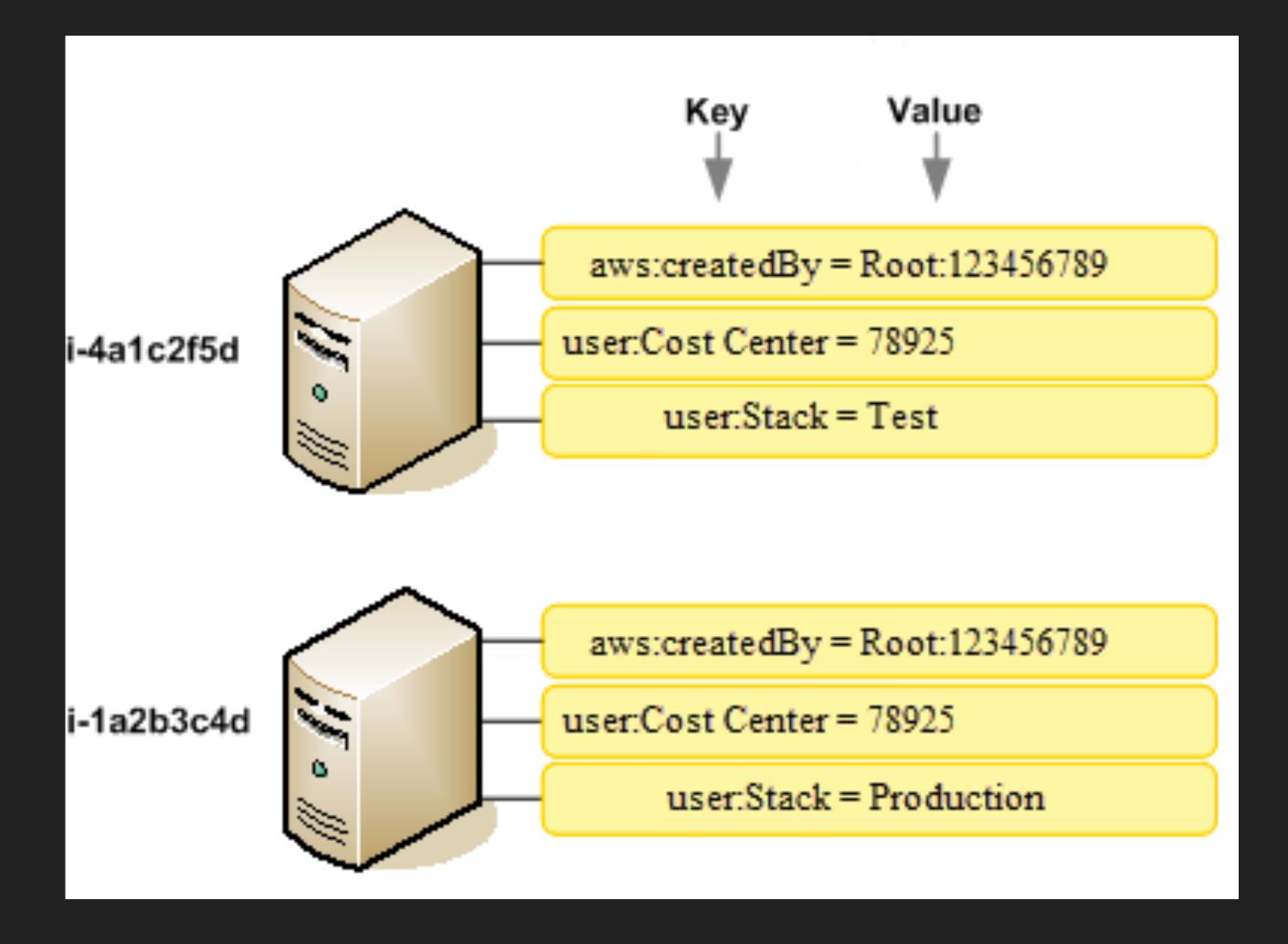


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### What Are Tags?

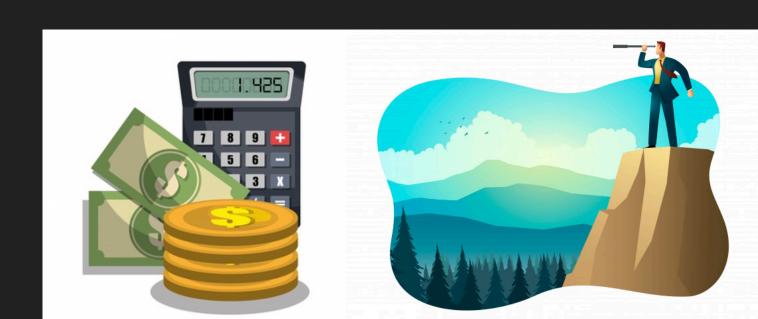
Key Value Pairs attached to AWS resources



#### What Is Cost Explorer?



Cost Explorer is a tool that enables you to view and analyze your costs and usage. You can explore your usage and costs using the main graph, the Cost Explorer cost and usage reports, or the Cost Explorer RI reports. You can view data for up to the last 13 months, forecast how much you're likely to spend for the next three months, and get recommendations for what Reserved Instances to purchase. You can use Cost Explorer to identify areas that need further inquiry and see trends that you can use to understand your costs.



#### What Is Cost Explorer



After you or AWS applies tags to your AWS resources (such as Amazon EC2 instances or Amazon S3 buckets) and you activate the tags in the Billing and Cost Management console, AWS generates a cost allocation report as a comma-separated value (CSV file) with your usage and costs grouped by your active tags. You can apply tags that represent business categories (such as cost centers, application names, or owners) to organize your costs across multiple services.

Total Cost	user:Owner	user:Stack 🔻	user:Cost Center	user:Application 🛂
0.95	DbAdmin	Test	80432	Widget2
0.01	DbAdmin	Test	80432	Widget2
3.84	DbAdmin	Prod	80432	Widget2
6.00	DbAdmin	Test	78925	Widget1
234.63	SysEng	Prod	78925	Widget1
0.73	DbAdmin	Test	78925	Widget1
0.00	DbAdmin	Prod	80432	Portal
2.47	DbAdmin	Prod	78925	Portal

## AWS Cost Explorer



- Use tags to tag your resources.
- · Configure tags for cost centres (such as by department, employee id etc).
- Activate cost allocation tags to track your costs by tags.
- Comes up frequently in the SysOps Associate Exam.