

Deploying a Static Website on EC2 with Apache2 (Ubuntu)



Hello Folks ! 🙌 Wanted to share my recent learning experience 🚀 in deploying a static website on Amazon EC2 with Apache server.

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It's been an incredible learning curve and I wanted to share my the steps I followed, challenges I faced and steps I took to overcome them.

1 Launch an EC2 Instance

- Log in to your AWS Management Console.
- Navigate to the EC2 service.
- Click on "Launch Instance" and select "Ubuntu Server" as the operating system.
- Choose an instance type (t2.micro is recommended for this assignment).
- Select an existing key pair or create a new one to connect to your instance via SSH. Save the key pair file (.pem) securely
- Configure instance details, such as the number of instances and network settings.
- Add storage if needed (default settings should be sufficient for this assignment).
- Add tags if necessary (optional but can help in identifying your instance later). → Configure security groups to allow HTTP (port 80) and SSH (port 22) inbound traffic.
- Review the settings and click "Launch."

The screenshot shows the AWS Management Console for the 'ap-south-1' region. The 'Instances' page is active, displaying a list of instances. The instance 'MyServer' (ID: i-0ba3c56c121f43b5d) is highlighted. The instance details are expanded, showing the following information:

- Instance ID:** i-0ba3c56c121f43b5d (MyServer)
- Instance state:** Running
- Instance type:** t2.micro
- Public IPv4 address:** 43.204.98.164
- Private IPv4 addresses:** 172.31.12.152
- Public IPv4 DNS:** ec2-43-204-98-164.ap-south-1.compute.amazonaws.com
- Private IP DNS name (IPv4 only):** ip-172-31-12-152.ap-south-1.compute.internal
- Instance type:** t2.micro
- VPC ID:** vpc-025497a3238f1445e
- Auto-assigned IP address:** 43.204.98.164 [Public IP]

2 Connect to the EC2 Instance

The screenshot shows the 'Connect to instance' page in the AWS Management Console. The 'SSH client' tab is selected, displaying the following instructions:

1. Open an SSH client.
2. Locate your private key file. The key used to launch this instance is mykey2.pem
3. Run this command, if necessary, to ensure your key is not publicly viewable.


```
chmod 400 mykey2.pem
```
4. Connect to your instance using its Public DNS:


```
ec2-43-204-98-164.ap-south-1.compute.amazonaws.com
```

Example:

```
ssh -i "mykey2.pem" ubuntu@ec2-43-204-98-164.ap-south-1.compute.amazonaws.com
```

Note: In most cases, the guessed user name is correct. However, read your AMI usage instructions to check if the AMI owner has changed the default AMI user name.

→ Open a terminal on your local machine (Using Git bash)

→ Navigate to the directory where you saved the key pair file (.pem).

→ Change the permissions of the key pair file to prevent unauthorized access Command: `chmod 400 YourKeyPair.pem`

→ Connect to the EC2 instance using SSH:

Command: `ssh -i YourKeyPair.pem ubuntu@your-ec2-instance-public-ip` Example: `ssh -i "mykey2.pem" ubuntu@ec2-43-204-98-164.ap-south-1.compute.amazonaws.com`

Welcome to Ubuntu 22.04.3 LTS (GNU/Linux 6.2.0-1012-aws x86_64)

* Documentation: <https://help.ubuntu.com>
* Management: <https://landscape.canonical.com>
* Support: <https://ubuntu.com/advantage>

System information as of Mon Nov 27 19:28:53 UTC 2023

System load:	0.0	Processes:	96
Usage of /:	20.5% of 7.57GB	Users logged in:	0
Memory usage:	21%	IPv4 address for eth0:	172.31.12.152
Swap usage:	0%		

Expanded Security Maintenance for Applications is not enabled.

0 updates can be applied immediately.

Enable ESM Apps to receive additional future security updates.
See <https://ubuntu.com/esm> or run: `sudo pro status`

The list of available updates is more than a week old.
To check for new updates run: `sudo apt update`

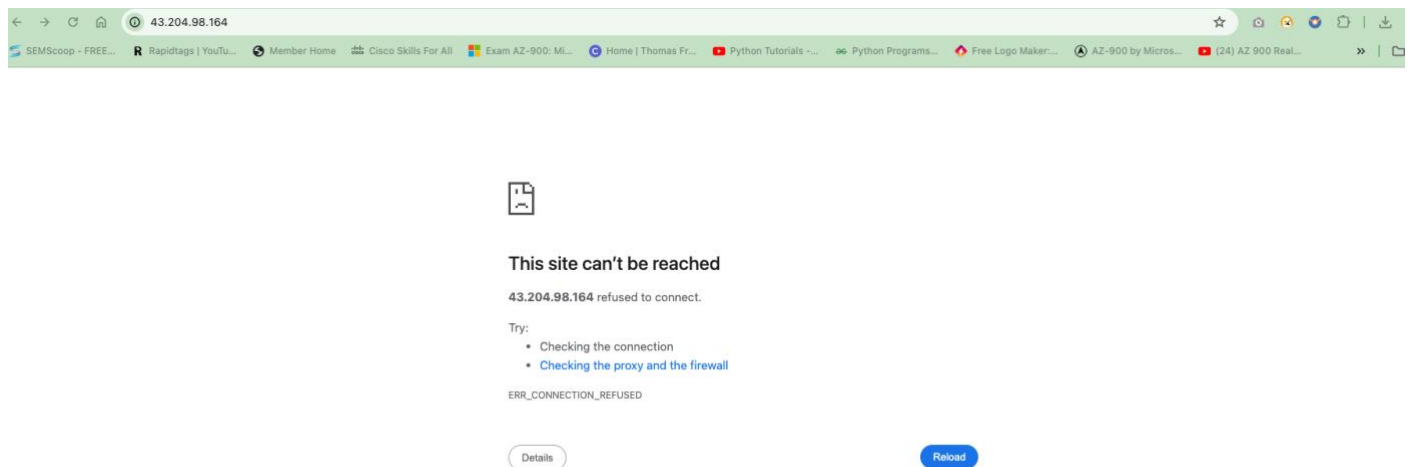
The programs included with the Ubuntu system are free software;
the exact distribution terms for each program are described in the
individual files in `/usr/share/doc/*/copyright`.

Ubuntu comes with ABSOLUTELY NO WARRANTY, to the extent permitted by
applicable law.

To run a command as administrator (user "root"), use "`sudo <command>`".
See "`man sudo_root`" for details.

```
ubuntu@ip-172-31-12-152:~$ ls
ubuntu@ip-172-31-12-152:~$ pwd
/home/ubuntu
```

→ Access website through Public IPv4 address – Getting error msg 'This site can't be reached'



3 Install Apache2 WebServer

→ Install Java

Command: `sudo apt install openjdk-11-jre-headless`

→ Update the package repository and install Apache2 on your EC2 instance: Command: `sudo apt update`

(*apt: Advanced Package Tool*)

`sudo apt install apache2`

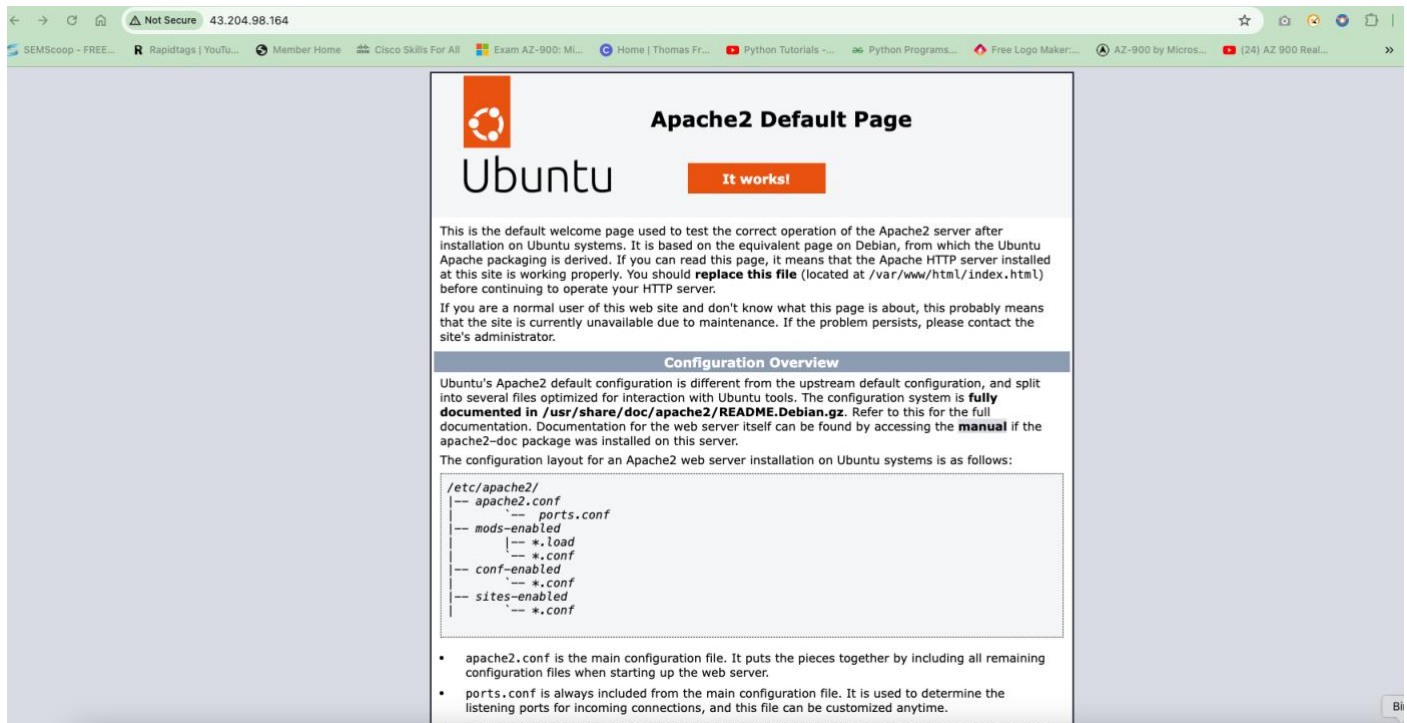
Start the Apache2 service:

Command: `sudo service apache2 start`

4. Enable Apache2 to start on system boot

Command: `sudo systemctl enable apache`

5. Access website by Public IPv4 address – getting Apache2 default page



4 Upload static website files

→ Create a directory to store your website files inside the Apache web root: Command: `sudo mkdir /var/www/html/my-website`

→ Transfer the provided index.html file to the EC2 instance. You can use SCP or SFTP.

Using SCP: Command : `scp -i YourKeyPair.pem index.html ubuntu@your-ec2-instance-publicip:/var/www/html/mywebsite/`

***Challenge faced while transferring file:

Was getting *Permission Denied* error. Executed below command to resolve the issue.

`sudo chown -R root:ubuntu /var/www/html`

→ Access website by Public IPv4 address. BOOM 🎯 EXPECTED STATIC WEBSITE LOADED.

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