

Features of Amazon EC2

Amazon EC2 provides the following features:

Virtual computing environments, known as instances

Preconfigured templates for your instances, known as Amazon Machine Images (AMIs), that package the bits you need for your server (including the operating system and additional software)

Various configurations of CPU, memory, storage, and networking capacity for your instances, known as instance types

Secure login information for your instances using key pairs (AWS stores the public key, and you store the private key in a secure place)

Storage volumes for temporary data that's deleted when you stop, hibernate, or terminate your instance, known as instance store volumes

Persistent storage volumes for your data using Amazon Elastic Block Store (Amazon EBS), known as Amazon EBS volumes

Multiple physical locations for your resources, such as instances and Amazon EBS volumes, known as Regions and Availability Zones

A firewall that enables you to specify the protocols, ports, and source IP ranges that can reach your instances using security groups

Static IPv4 addresses for dynamic cloud computing, known as Elastic IP addresses

Metadata, known as tags, that you can create and assign to your Amazon EC2 resources

Virtual networks you can create that are logically isolated from the rest of the AWS Cloud, and that you can optionally connect to your own network, known as virtual private clouds (VPCs)

For more information about the features of Amazon EC2, see the Amazon EC2 product page.

For more information about running your website on AWS, see Web Hosting.

How to get started with Amazon EC2

First, you need to get set up to use Amazon EC2. After you are set up, you are ready to complete the Get Started tutorial for Amazon EC2. Whenever you need more information about an Amazon EC2 feature, you can read the technical documentation.

Get up and running

Set up to use Amazon EC2

Tutorial: Get started with Amazon EC2 Linux instances

Basics

Instances and AMIs

Regions and Zones

Instance types

Tags

Networking and security

Key pairs

Security groups

Elastic IP addresses

Virtual private clouds

Storage

Amazon EBS

Instance store

Working with Linux instances

AWS Systems Manager Run Command in the AWS Systems Manager User Guide

Tutorial: Install a LAMP web server on Amazon Linux 2

Tutorial: Configure SSL/TLS on Amazon Linux 2

If you have questions about whether AWS is right for you, contact AWS Sales. If you have technical questions about Amazon EC2, use the Amazon EC2 forum.