

# AWS Getting Started Guide

Portfolio Documentation Sample



# Table of Contents

Overview .....	3
Target audience .....	5
AWS High-Level Architecture .....	6
Before getting started .....	7
Getting started .....	8
Create IAM User .....	9
Create AWS account .....	11
Enable MFA .....	15
Configure AWS CLI .....	17
FAQs .....	19
What's Next .....	20
Glossary .....	21

# Overview

Amazon Web Services is a secure and scalable cloud computing platform developed by Amazon. It provides a wide range of services such as computing power, storage, networking, databases, and machine learning.

## Purpose of this guide

This guide walks you through the basic steps required to get started with AWS, including creating an account, securing access, and preparing your local environment for interacting with AWS services.

## Benefits of AWS Cloud

- Pay-as-you-go pricing.
- Scalable resources on demand.
- Wide range of services.
- Global availability with multiple regions.

## Key Features of AWS

- On-demand access to compute (EC2), storage (S3), and databases (RDS).
- Multiple integrated cloud services across AI/ML, analytics, IoT, and DevOps.
- Security and compliance with IAM, MFA, and encryption.

## AWS Management Tools

AWS provides several tools to help you interact with and manage cloud resources efficiently.

- **AWS Management Console:** A web-based graphical interface that allows you to access and manage AWS services.
- **AWS Command Line Interface (CLI):** Use CLI to execute commands to create, configure, and manage AWS resources directly from the terminal.
- **AWS Software Development Kits (SDKs):** Provide libraries for popular programming languages like Java, Python, .NET, and JavaScript.

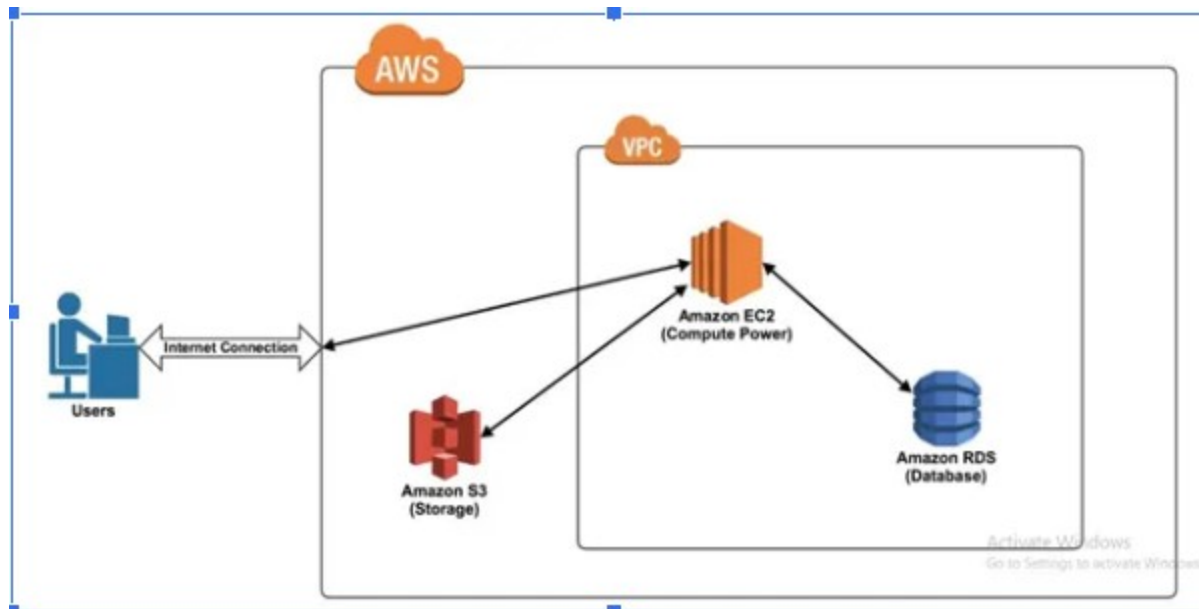
## Target audience

This guide is intended for the following users:

- IT professionals exploring AWS for the first time.
- Students or learners seeking hands-on exposure to cloud computing.
- Business users who want to understand how to get started with AWS resources.

## AWS High-Level Architecture

This topic explains the high-level architecture of AWS and how users securely access core cloud services.



Users connect to AWS through the internet into Virtual Private Cloud (VPC).

Within the VPC, services such as Amazon EC2 provide compute capacity, Amazon S3 stores data, and Amazon RDS manages databases. Security controls and network boundaries ensure that resources are isolated and protected.

# Before getting started

This section explains the requirements to use AWS. Ensure you have the following before using AWS:

- A valid email address.
- Supported browser: Google Chrome, Microsoft Edge, or Safari.
- Credit or debit card.
- A device with internet connectivity.

# Getting started

This section explains how to set up and secure your AWS account, to enable access to use AWS services.

## What to expect in this section

- AWS account creation.
- Securing your accounts.
- Preparing the environment to launch the service.



# Create IAM User

An IAM user lets you access AWS securely without using the root account. You receive your own login credentials and permissions.

## Prerequisites

- AWS root account activated.
- User name for an IAM user.

To create,

1. On your browser, open the [IAM Identity Center console](#).
2. On the navigation pane, select **Users**.
3. Select **Create user**.
4. On the Specify user details page, enter the following information:
  - a. Enter a **username** for the IAM user.
  - b. On the Select AWS access type section, select one or both:
    - **Management Console access:** Grants access to the AWS Management Console.
    - **Programmatic access:** Grants access through AWS API, CLI, SDKs, and other development tools.
  - c. To set up a password, select any one of the following options:

- **Auto generated password:** AWS generates a password.
  - **Custom password:** You create a password manually.
- d. (Optional) Select **User must create a new password at the next sign-in check box** if you want the created user to reset their password.
  - e. Select **Next**.
5. On the Set permissions page, select one of the following option to assign permissions and select **Next**:
    - **Add the user to a group:** To add the user to an existing group or create a new one.
    - **Attach policies directly:** Attach a managed policy directly to the user.
    - **Copy permissions:** Copy permissions from an existing user.
  6. On the Review page, verify the details.
  7. Select **Create user**.

The IAM user is created. If console access is enabled, AWS provides a **sign-in link** along with the credentials that you can use to log in.

# Create AWS account

An AWS account is the starting point for using Amazon Web Services. It gives you access to the AWS Management Console.

## Prerequisites

- Device with an internet connection
- Valid email address
- Credit or debit card
- Billing address
- Phone number
- Unique AWS account name

To sign up,

1. On your browser, open the AWS home page.
2. Select **Create account**.
3. On the Sign Up page, perform the following steps:
  - a. Enter the root user email address and AWS account name.
  - b. Select **Verify email address**.
  - c. Check your email for a verification code.
  - d. Enter the verification code and select **Verify**.

(Optional) For business accounts, use a secure corporate distribution list email to retain access even if employees leave.

4. On the Password Setup page,
  - a. Enter a strong password and confirm it.
  - b. Select **Continue**.

**Note:** Passwords must be 8–128 characters long, include at least 3 of the following: uppercase, lowercase, number, or special character.

5. On the Contact information page, enter the following details:
  - a. Select **Business** or **Personal** accounts.
  - b. Enter your full name, phone number, and address.
  - c. Select the check box to accept the **Terms and Conditions**.
  - d. Select **@gree and Continue**.

6. On the Billing Information page, enter the below details.
  - a. Enter your credit or debit card details.
  - b. Provide your billing address.
  - c. Select **Verify and Continue**.

**Note:** If you select India as your country, you must also provide your PAN number.

7. On the Identity Verification page, perform the following steps.
  - a. Select any one of the following verification methods
    - Text message
    - Phone call
  - b. From the drop down, select your country or region code.

- c. Enter the code displayed in the captcha.
- d. Select **Submit**.
- e. On the next window, enter the **Verification code** you receive via SMS or call.
- f. Select **Continue**.

8. On the Support Plan page, select one of the following:

Plan	Features	Best For
Basic	Free tier, 24/7 access to documentation, whitepapers, forums, and customer service.	Free tier, 24/7 access to documentation, whitepapers, forum, and customer service. Individual users, experimenting, non-critical workloads
Developer	Email access to Cloud Support Associates during business hours, general guidance, best practices.	Email access to Cloud Support Associates during business hours, general guidance, best practices. Early adopters, testing, or development environments
Business	24/7 phone, chat, and email support, access to Cloud Support Engineers, faster	Production workloads needing reliable support

	response times, @WS Trusted Advisor checks.	
Enterprise	24/7 access to senior Cloud Support Engineers, Technical Account Manager, concierge billing support, proactive guidance, AWS Infrastructure Event Management (IEM).	24/7 access to senior Cloud Support Engineers, Technical Account Manager, concierge billing support, proactive guidance, AWS Infrastructure Event Management (IEM). Mission-critical workloads, large-scale enterprises

9. Select **Complete Sign up**.

Your AWS account is now created. You can open the [AWS Management Console](#) using the credentials you provided during sign up.

# Enable MFA

Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA) adds an extra layer of security by requiring a second verification factor in addition to the password. This reduces the risk of unauthorized access to your AWS account.

AWS supports two main types of MFA devices:

- **Virtu`l MFA Devices:** Authentication apps such as Google Authenticator, Authy, or Microsoft Authenticator.
- **Hardware MFA Devices:** Physical devices such as YubiKey or other FIDO tokens.

## Prerequisites

- Root or IAM user credentials.
- MFA app or hardware device.

To enable,

1. On your browser, sign in to the [AWS Management Console](#).
  - For the root user, use your root email and password.
  - For an IAM user, use your IAM username and password.
2. Perform one of the following tasks based on the user type:
  - For a root user,
    1. On the AWS management console page, select your account name.

2. Select **My Security Credentials**.
3. On the security Credentials page, select **Multi-factor authentication**.

Select **Activate MFA**.

- For an IAM user,
  1. On the management console page, open the IAM console.
  2. Select **Users**.
  3. Select the username.
  4. Go to **Security credentials** tab.
  5. Select **Assign MFA device**.
- 3. On the Select MFA device page, select your device type:
  - For a virtual MFA device,
    1. Open your MFA app.
    2. Scan the QR code or enter the secret key provided.
    3. Enter two consecutive one-time passwords in the **MFA Code 1** and **MFA Code 2** boxes.
    4. Select **Assign MFA**.
  - For a hardware MFA device, refer to the video: [AWS MFA using Hardware device](#)

MFA is now enabled for the selected user. You have to provide both the password and the MFA code during future sign-ins.



# Configure AWS CLI

AWS CLI is a unified command-line tool that allows you to administer AWS services. With a single interface, you can configure, monitor, and automate multiple AWS services using commands and scripts.

## Prerequisites

- AWS CLI is installed on your machine.  
Note: See the [installation guide](#) if needed.
- IAM user credentials with permissions to use the CLI.

To configure,

1. On your browser, open the [IAM Identity Center console](#).
2. On the navigation pane, select **Users**.
3. Select the **username** of the user you want to enable CLI access for.
4. Select **Create Access keys**.
5. On the Retrieve access key page, copy the **Access Key ID** and **Secret Access Key**.
6. On your device's terminal, run the following command:  

```
aws configure
```
7. When prompted, enter the following:

- **AWS Access Key ID:** Paste the copied access key ID.
- **AWS Secret Access Key:** Paste the copied secret access key.
- **Default region name:** Enter your preferred AWS region.
- **Default output format:** Enter your preferred format.

Your AWS CLI is now configured.

(Optional) To verify the setup, run the following command:

```
aws s3 ls
```

This command lists all storage containers (S3) buckets in your account, confirming that your CLI setup is successful.

# FAQs

This section provides answers to the most common questions you have as a new user when starting with AWS.

## **Do I need a credit card to sign up for AWS?**

Yes. AWS requires a valid credit or debit card for identity verification and billing, even if you only use Free Tier services.

## **Is enabling MFA mandatory?**

No, but AWS strongly recommends enabling MFA for the Root user and all IAM users with console access.

## **Can I change or delete IAM usernames?**

No, IAM usernames cannot be changed once created.

# What's Next

After setting up your AWS account, securing it with IAM and MFA, and configuring the CLI, you are ready to start using AWS services. Here are some recommended next steps:

- **Launch your first compute resource** with Amazon EC2 to run applications in the cloud.
- **Create your first storage bucket** with Amazon S3 to securely store and retrieve files.
- **Set up billing and cost alerts** in the Billing Console to monitor your usage.
- **Explore managed services** like Amazon RDS (databases), AWS Lambda (serverless compute), and Elastic Beanstalk (application deployment).
- **Learn more** with the AWS [Getting Started Resource Center](#).

# Glossary

## C

---

### **Consectetur**

Definition for consectetur.

## I

---

### **Ipsum**

Definition for ipsum.

## L

---

### **Lorem**

Definition for lorem.

## M

---

### **Maecenas**

Definition for maecenas.

### **Maximus**

Definition for maximus.