

# Remote Management of Windows Server on AWS EC2

## Objective:

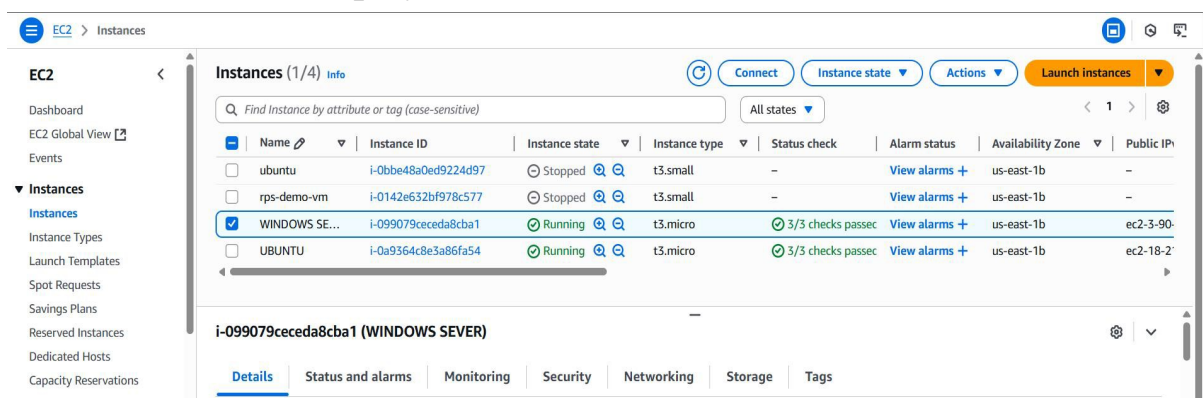
- To learn how to connect an AWS EC2 Windows Server instance remotely using Remote Desktop Protocol (RDP).
- To understand the steps of configuring security groups, retrieving credentials, and establishing a secure remote session.
- To gain practical skills in managing cloud-hosted Windows servers.

## Pre-requisite:

- An active AWS account with permissions to launch and manage EC2 instances.
- Basic understanding of AWS EC2 concepts (instance, key pair, security group).
- A key pair (.pem file) to decrypt the Windows Administrator password.
- A system with Remote Desktop Client (mstsc on Windows / Microsoft Remote Desktop app on Mac/Linux).
- Stable internet connection and access to the instance's Public IPv4.

## Procedure:

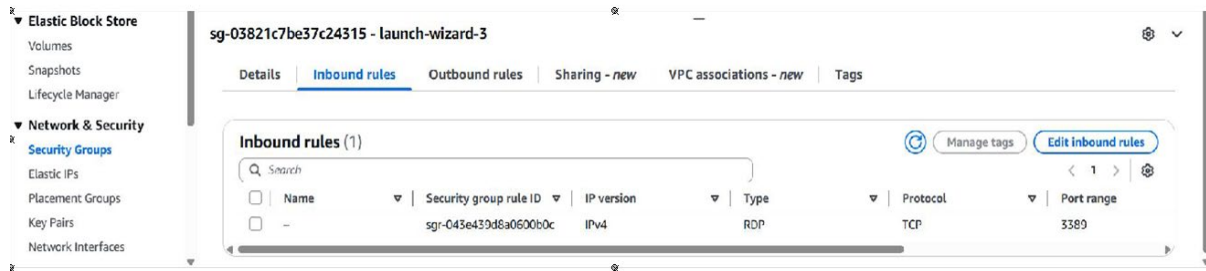
### Launch Instance – Deploy a Windows Server EC2 instance in AWS



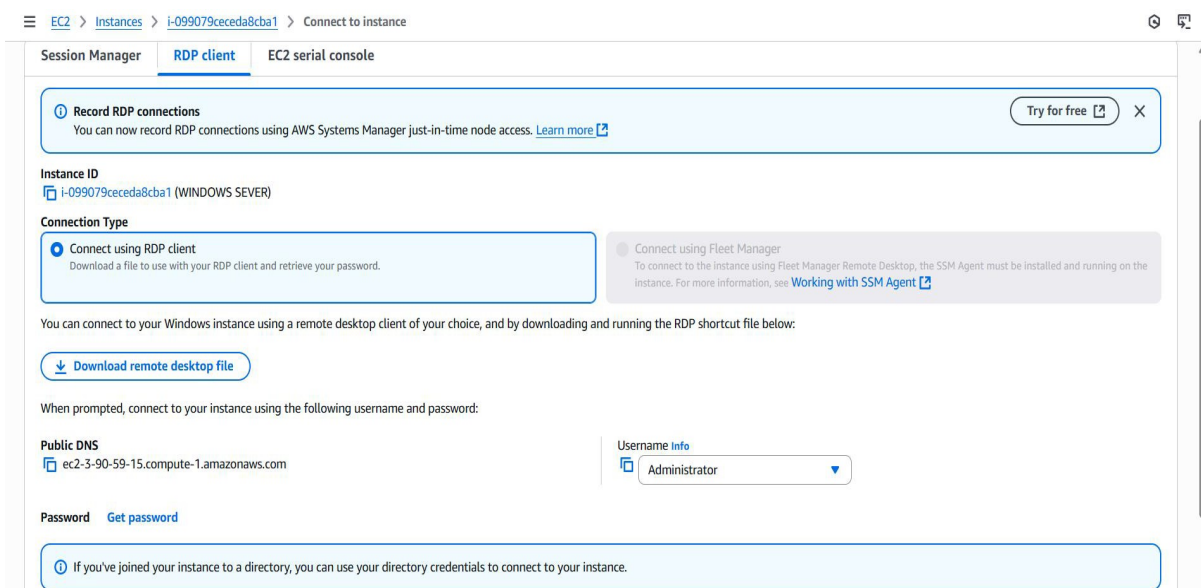
The screenshot shows the AWS Management Console interface for EC2 instances. On the left, the navigation menu includes 'EC2', 'Dashboard', 'EC2 Global View', 'Events', 'Instances', 'Instance Types', 'Launch Templates', 'Spot Requests', 'Savings Plans', 'Reserved Instances', 'Dedicated Hosts', and 'Capacity Reservations'. The main panel displays a table of instances with columns: Name, Instance ID, Instance state, Instance type, Status check, Alarm status, Availability Zone, and Public IP. The instance 'i-099079ceceda8cba1' (WINDOWS SEVER) is selected and highlighted in blue. Below the table, the details for this instance are shown, including its state (Running), type (t3.micro), and various tabs for configuration: Details, Status and alarms, Monitoring, Security, Networking, Storage, and Tags.

Name	Instance ID	Instance state	Instance type	Status check	Alarm status	Availability Zone	Public IP
ubuntu	i-0bbe48a0ed9224d97	Stopped	t3.small	–	View alarms +	us-east-1b	–
rps-demo-vm	i-0142e632bf978c577	Stopped	t3.small	–	View alarms +	us-east-1b	–
WINDOWS SEVER	i-099079ceceda8cba1	Running	t3.micro	3/3 checks passed	View alarms +	us-east-1b	ec2-3-90-
UBUNTU	i-0a9364c8e3a86fa54	Running	t3.micro	3/3 checks passed	View alarms +	us-east-1b	ec2-18-2-

## Security Group Configuration – Allow inbound RDP (TCP, port 3389) from your IP.



## Obtain Administrator Password – Right-click the instance → Get Windows Password → Decrypt using the key pair (.pem file).



## Copy Public IPv4 – From EC2 console, note the Public IPv4 address.

## Open Remote Desktop Client – On local system, run mstsc (Windows) or MicrosoftRemote Desktop app (Mac/Linux).

**Enter Credentials –**

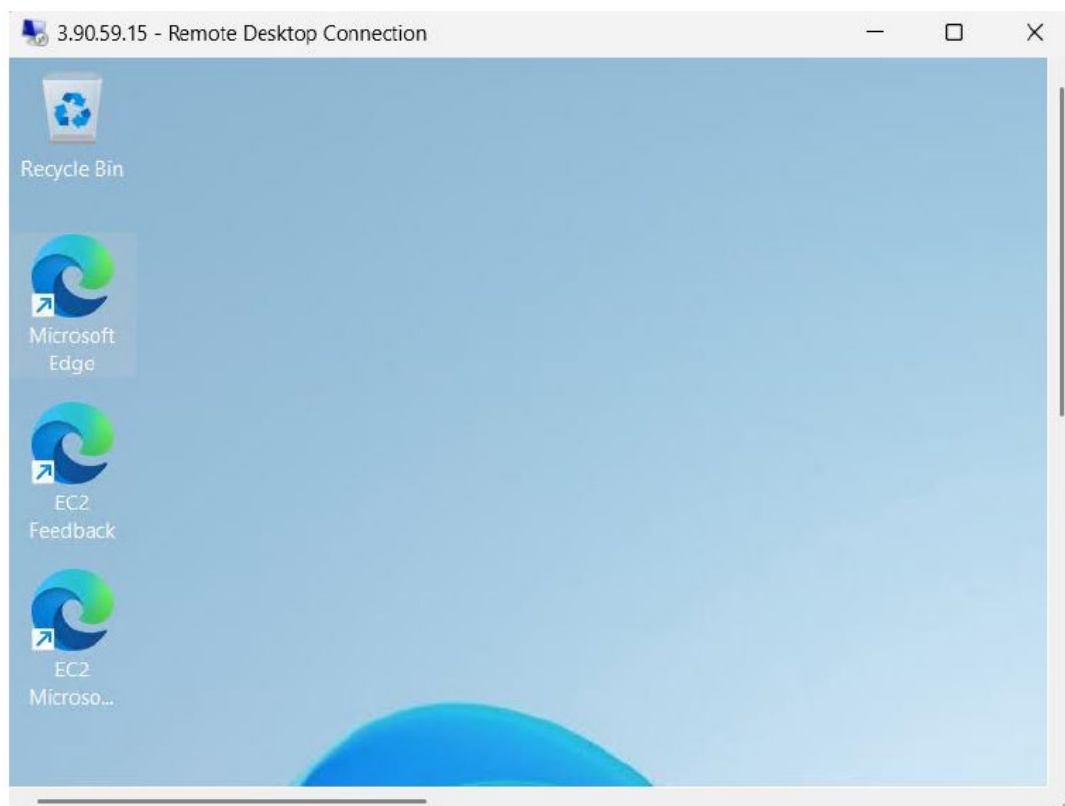
**Computer: Public**

**IPv4 of instance**

**Username:**

**Administrator**

**Password: Decrypted password from AWS**



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## **Conclusion**

In this lab, we successfully established a Remote Desktop connection to a Windows Server EC2 instance hosted on AWS. By configuring the security group for RDP access, retrieving the administrator password, and using the instance's public IP, we gained secure access to the server. This process demonstrates how cloud-hosted Windows servers can be accessed and managed remotely, enabling administrators to perform configurations, installations, and monitoring efficiently.