EC2 Cheat Sheet

Cloud · Quick Reference

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OVERVIEW & SETUP

EC2 managed cloud service

```
# Install CLI
aws configure / az login / gcloud
auth login
# Set region
aws configure set region us-east-1
```

Use IAM roles in production, not access keys

AUTHENTICATION & IAM

IAM Roles, Policies, and Least Privilege

```
# Assume role
aws sts assume-role --role-arn
arn:aws:iam::123:role/MyRole \
--role-session-name session
# Attach policy to role
aws iam attach-role-policy --role-name
MyRole \
--policy-arn
arn:aws:iam::aws:policy/ReadOnlyAccess
```

CORE FEATURES

Key capabilities and use cases for this service

```
# Create resource
aws <service> create-<resource> --name
MyResource
# List resources
aws <service> list-<resources>
# Describe resource
aws <service> describe-<resource> --name
MyResource
```

CONFIGURATION

```
# AWS CLI config: ~/.aws/credentials
[default]
aws_access_key_id = AKIA...
aws_secret_access_key = ...
region = us-east-1
output = json
```

Prefer environment variables or instance profiles over config files

MONITORING & ALERTS

Enable CloudWatch / Azure Monitor / Cloud Monitoring

```
# Create CloudWatch alarm
aws cloudwatch put-metric-alarm \
--alarm-name HighCPU \
--comparison-operator
GreaterThanThreshold \
--threshold 80
```

Set dashboards for key metrics before production launch

SECURITY BEST PRACTICES

Enable encryption at rest and in transit

```
# Enable server-side encryption
--sse-algorithm aws:kms
--kms-key-id arn:aws:kms:...
```

Rotate credentials regularly

Enable CloudTrail / activity logs for audit

Use VPC for network isolation

SDK USAGE

```
# Python (boto3)
import boto3
client = boto3.client('s3',
region_name='us-east-1')
client.upload_file('file.txt',
'my-bucket', 'key')
# Node.js
const AWS =
require('@aws-sdk/client-s3')
```

Use SDK over direct HTTP for automatic retry/signing

CLI COMMANDS

```
aws <service> help
aws <service> list-<resources> --query
'...' --output table
aws <service> create-<resource>
--cli-input-json file://input.json
aws <service> delete-<resource> --name
...
aws cloudformation deploy
--template-file template.yaml
```

INTEGRATION PATTERNS

Event-driven: trigger functions on service events

```
# SNS Lambda SQS pattern
# API Gateway Lambda DB
```

Use managed services over self-hosted where possible

Infrastructure as Code: Terraform/CDK/CloudFormation

Multi-region for disaster recovery

PRICING & COST OPT

Understand pricing model: per request, per GB, per hour

Use Reserved Instances / Committed Use for 30-70% savings

Enable Cost Explorer / budget alerts

Right-size resources regularly

```
# Tag resources for cost allocation
aws <service> tag-resource --tags
Project=myapp Env=prod
```

DEPLOYMENT PATTERNS

Blue/Green: shift traffic between environments

Canary: gradual traffic shift with rollback

```
# Infrastructure as Code
terraform init && terraform plan &&
terraform apply
# Or CloudFormation
aws cloudformation deploy --stack-name
myapp \
--template-file infra.yaml
```

COMMON GOTCHAS

Never commit credentials to git use secrets manager

Check service quotas before scaling

Test in staging before production deployments

Enable MFA for root account and admin users

Review IAM policies regularly remove unused permissions