

@mjkabir Notes



<https://shownotes.app/show/kjb4r>

## Amazon AWS Services Simplified for Entrepreneurs and Small Businesses

Amazon AWS is a maze of services. You literally need to have a two to four year of tinkering with it to get the hang of how to go about using AWS effectively. But most entrepreneurs and small businesses cannot afford an AWS expert with 2-4 years of expertise. We have been using AWS since its inception in our enterprise tech business and now implementing many of the services for our ShowNotes and other related projects. So I decided to document a set of notes about few of the services that can be reasonably easily deployed by soloprenurs, entrepreneurs or small businesses.



AI REVIEW PASSED.

## AWS Lightsail

Amazon Lightsail is a fairly easy way to get started with Amazon Web Services (AWS) for anyone who needs to build websites or web applications. It includes everything you need to launch your project quickly - instances (virtual private servers), container services, managed databases, content delivery network (CDN) distributions, load balancers, SSD-based block storage, static IP addresses, DNS management of registered domains, and resource snapshots (backups) - for a low, predictable monthly price.

While using this service, a few things I noticed when I compare this with Akami (formerly Linode):

- You cannot scale up/down an instance. You must take a snapshot of current instance and then put it in a small or larger instance. I am used to scaling up/down without needing to create a snapshot first
- Does allow VSP peering in the same region so you can privately communicate between multiple servers

Lightsail also offers Amazon Lightsail for research too. With Lightsail for Research, academics and researchers can create powerful virtual computers in the AWS Cloud. These virtual computers come with pre-installed research applications, such as RStudio and Scilab.

[AWS Lightsail PDF](#)

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## AWS S3 Storage

We use S3 a lot for origin for CDN services because most CDN providers work well with S3 storage as an original source of your files.

S3 buckets are reasonably easy to set up but people unfamiliar with JSON objects might struggle as they really make it cumbersome with the policy documents. I wish by now they had a smarter LLM-based policy generator.

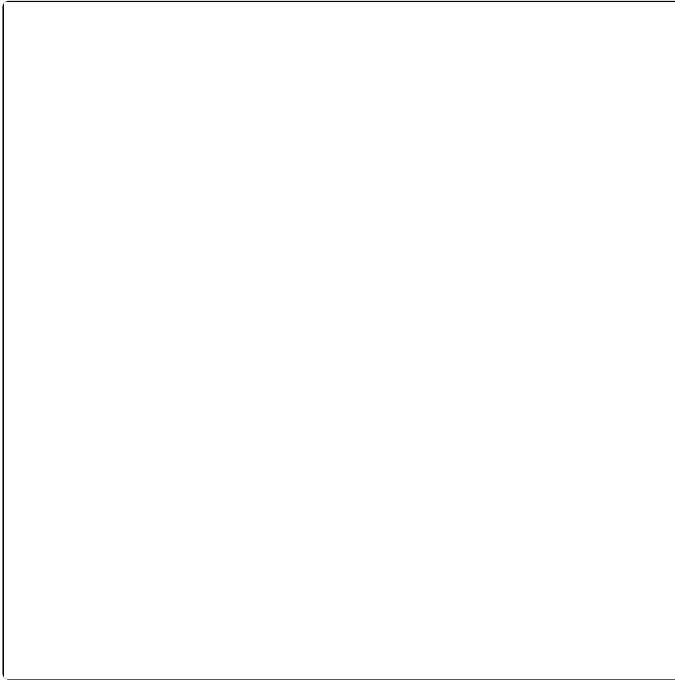
Of course you can use ChatGPT or other LLM to help you generate policy documents. Just make sure not to use actual bucket names and other resource names when communicating with a closed-source LLM. :)  
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## AWS Amplify

If you are a developer and like infrastructure-as-code type of platform, AWS Amplify will suit you well. You can manage Amplify instances using code. Amplify is everything you need to build full-stack web and mobile apps on AWS. Build and host your frontend, add features like auth and storage, connect to real-time data sources, deploy, and scale to millions of users.

I tried it a bit but wasn't looking to learn its API just yet so didn't give it the time needed. Also, I found the DNS locking to be annoying. When I used an instance, it locked the DNS records on a 3rd party (Godaddy) system that I had to unlock by asking Godaddy's awesome customer support (Thank God). There was no way to release the DNS records from AWS Amplify end from their admin interface. This was not cool.

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