How to Setup an Ubuntu Linux Server AMI

The Amazon Cloud free tier account already provides the opportunity to instantiate a Basic 32-bit Amazon Linux AMI 2011.09 machine, which is an Amazon customized version of a Linux Cent OS v5.x.

For simplicity, this tutorial will explain how to instantiate an Ubuntu Server v10.04 LTS (Long Term Service) which is one of the most popular Linux available.

1. - First we will browse to the following link:

   and then click in the following AMI instance:

   `ec2-run-instances ami-eb227eae --instance-type t1.micro --region us-west-1 --key ${EC2_KEYPAIR_US_WEST_1}`

   Notice this is a micro instance and so with this AMI we will remain in the free tier.

2. - After making click in the link, the browser will take you to the Amazon Cloud and will ask you to login into Amazon Web Services (AWS). Once inside, the Request Instance Wizard will appear with the details of the image. Click in the “Continue” button.
3. - In the next screen the Wizard will show the instance details. Just use the default configuration and click the “Continue” button.

4. - Next, the Wizard will show the Advanced Instance Options. Just leave the default options again and click the “Continue” button.
5. - In the next screen, you could add tags to your instance to simplify the administration. Let's leave this screen empty and click the “Continue” button.

6. - Now the wizard takes you to the Create Key Pair screen:

We need to create a new key pair to securely access our server. Type in the description of the key pair your Miner ID (this way we can easily identify and access your server for lets say grading purposes). For example, mi UTEP email is: fazapatagonzalez@miners.utep.edu, so my Miner ID would just be: fazapatagonzalez. Click in the “Create & Download your Key Pair” link and save your new key pair in an easy to remember location. Then click the “Continue” button.
7. - We now need to configure the Amazon Cloud Firewall settings as follows:

Type a new Group Name, for example: Ubuntu.
Also type a Group Description, for example: Security settings for Ubuntu Server
Create the three following rules: All TCP, All UDP and All ICMP. In the source type: 0.0.0.0/0 for every rule and click the “Add Rule” button every time.

Your settings should look like this:

Now click in the “Continue” button.
8. Now we are ready to launch your new Ubuntu Server Instance:

![AWS Management Console](https://console.aws.amazon.com/ec2/home)

Click on the “Launch” button.

9. You can check your running instances by clicking in the “Instances” choice of the left menu in the “EC2” tag:
10. – To access your server you run the ssh command using the ubuntu user:

```bash
ssh -i fazapatagonzalez.pem ubuntu@ec2-50-18-28-60.us-west-1.compute.amazonaws.com
```

If you need root privileges you can run the sudo command before the needed operation, for example:

```bash
sudo apt-get update
```

If you need to use the root user, type the following command:

```bash
sudo -i
```

And it will give you root access:

```bash
root@ip-10-167-11-18:~#
```