

Setting up an Amazon Web Services Account:

1. Set up an Amazon account if you don't already have one
2. Go to <https://aws.amazon.com/s3/> and enter your login credentials. You will be prompted to verify the account via a texted code to your smartphone.
3. On the next page, select the plan you want from the list. **Basic** will be preselected.
4. On the Welcome to Amazon Web Services Page – click **Launch Management Console** button
5. This takes you to your AWS account/home page.
6. Open up/click **ALL SERVICES** (near the top with)
7. Under **STORAGE**, click S3
8. Click **Create a new bucket** in the top left corner
9. On the Create Bucket popup – enter your bucket name (your domain name without the <https://> is a good idea
10. Select your region – this is the region closest to where you live/work
11. Leave Set Properties as defaults and hit **Next**
12. Leave Set Permissions as defaults and hit **Next**
13. This is just an info page so hit **Create Bucket**
14. Leave the bucket as is and click **Services** in the top left
15. From there click **Cloudfront** under the Networking & Content Delivery section
16. Click **Create Distribution** (and click **Create Distribution** again if you see that option)
17. Under the Web section, click **Get Started**
18. Now you're on the settings page – this is where you set up the where the content is sent from, in this case it's the bucket you created. Click inside the Origin Domain Name box and you'll get a drop down. Select your bucket.
19. Leave the rest blank or as is and click **Create Distribution** way down at the bottom
20. Cloudfront has now been started (see the "enabled" status on the right)
21. Now the bucket and Cloudfront have been set up.
22. Last, we need the API keys for Wordpress so that AWS can connect to your site easily
23. Click **Services** in the top left.
24. From the popup, click **IAM** under the Security, Identity, & Compliance section
25. Click on **Groups** from the left side menu
26. Create a new group and give it a name
27. Click **Next Step**
28. Select Administrator Access
29. Review the information and click **Create Group**
30. Click on **Users** from the left side menu
31. Click **Add User**
32. Put a check mark in Programmatic Access
33. Click **Next: Permissions**
34. Put a check mark next to your group name
35. Click **Next: Review**
36. Click **Create User**

37. You should see a box that says Success. Below that is the user and on the right is the Access Key ID and the Secret Access Key – Copy those somewhere for safe keeping. (or click Download .csv and save a hard copy)
38. Click **Close**
39. Your user is now connected to your group and you've created the API keys.
40. Go back to your Wordpress Dashboard.
41. Go to plugins and add the **Amazon Web Services** and **WP Offload S3 Lite** plugins
42. Amazon Web Services connects the site to AWS
43. WP Offload S3 Lite stores the site's media files(images) in the cloud
44. In the Amazon Web Services plugin, enter your Access ID and your Secret Access ID
45. In the WP Offload S3 Lite Plugin – browse existing bucket and select the one you created.

Now, when you upload any new images to your library, they'll be hosted in the Amazon cloud instead of on your site. Hopefully, after all of this, your web site will run faster.