

Hands-on tutorials

Launch and Configure a WordPress Instance with Amazon Lightsail



Launch and Configure a WordPress Instance with Amazon Lightsail:

Hands-on tutorials

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Launch and Configure a WordPress Instance with Amazon Lightsail

AWS experience	Beginner
Time to complete	10 minutes
Cost to complete	Free Tier eligible
Last updated	August 4, 2022

Overview

[Amazon Lightsail](#) is one of the easiest ways to get started with AWS. It offers virtual servers, storage, databases, and networking, plus a cost-effective, monthly plan.

This tutorial shows you how to launch and configure a WordPress instance on Lightsail. It includes steps to connect to your instance by using SSH, sign in to your WordPress website, create a static IP and attach it to your instance, create a DNS zone, and map it to your instance.

When you're done with this tutorial, you will have the fundamentals to get your WordPress website up and running on Amazon Lightsail.

[Get started with Lightsail for free.](#)

Implementation

Step 1: Create a WordPress instance in Lightsail

Complete the following steps to get your WordPress instance up and running on Lightsail.

Note

For more information about creating an instance in Lightsail, see [Create an Amazon Lightsail instance](#) in the Lightsail documentation.

1. Create an Amazon Lightsail account

This tutorial is free tier eligible.

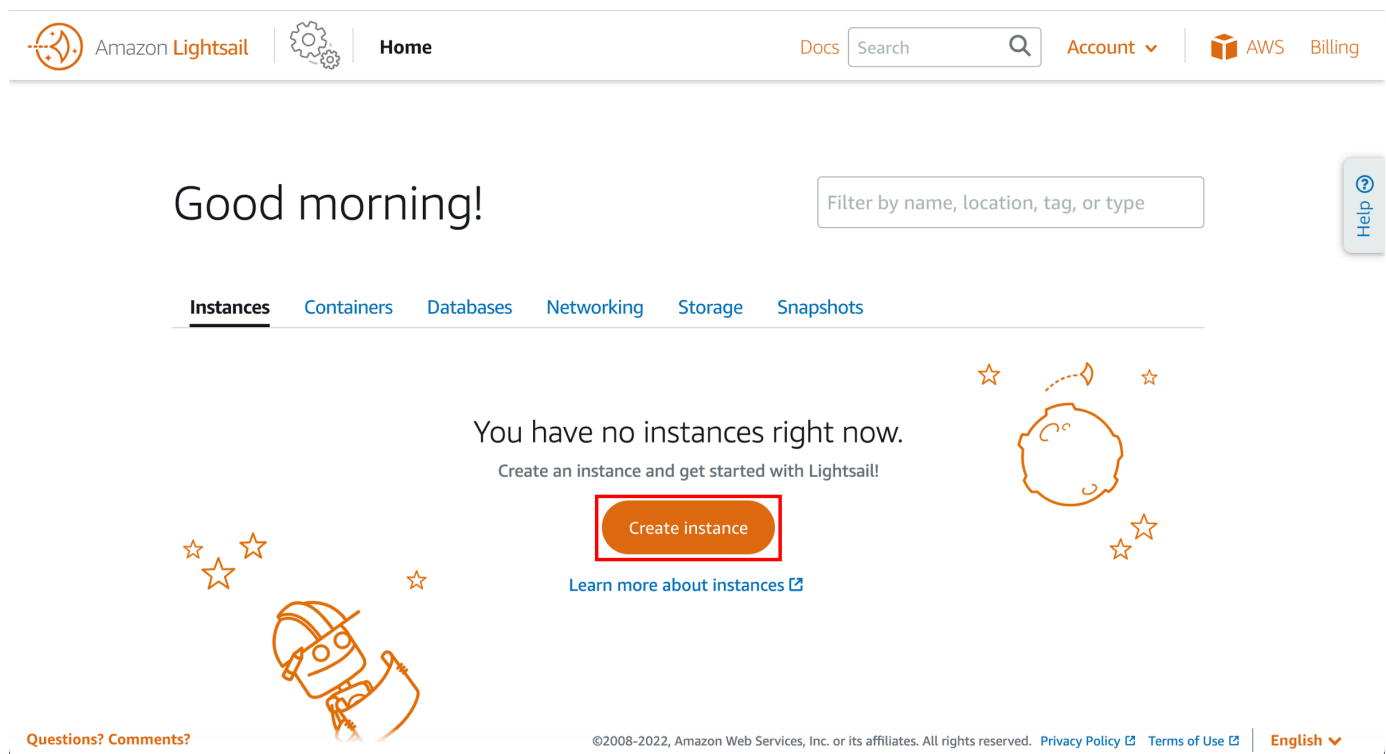
[Sign up for AWS](#)

Already have an account? [Sign-in](#)

2. Create a Lightsail instance

Sign in to the [Lightsail console](#).

On the Instances tab of the Lightsail home page, choose **Create instance**.



Amazon Lightsail | Home | Docs | Search | Account | AWS | Billing

Good morning! | Filter by name, location, tag, or type | Help

Instances | Containers | Databases | Networking | Storage | Snapshots

You have no instances right now.
Create an instance and get started with Lightsail!

Create instance

[Learn more about instances](#)

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3. Select a Region

An AWS Region and Availability Zone is selected for you. Choose **Change AWS Region and Availability Zone** if you want to create your instance in another location.



Create an instance

Help

Select your instance location

Select a Region

The closer your instance is to your users, the less latency they will experience.

[Learn more about Regions](#)



Oregon
us-west-2



Ohio
us-east-2



Virginia
us-east-1



Montreal
ca-central-1



Tokyo
ap-northeast-1



Seoul
ap-northeast-2



Ireland
eu-west-1



Sydney
ap-southeast-2



London
eu-west-2



Paris
eu-west-3



Frankfurt
eu-central-1



Singapore
ap-southeast-1



Mumbai
ap-south-1



Stockholm
eu-north-1

Select an Availability Zone



Zone A
us-east-1a



Zone B
us-east-1b



Zone C
us-east-1c



Zone D
us-east-1d



Zone E
us-east-1e



Zone F
us-east-1f

Help

4. Choose an image

Choose your instance image.

- Choose **Linux/Unix** as the platform.
- Choose **WordPress** as the blueprint.

The screenshot shows the Amazon Lightsail console interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the Amazon Lightsail logo, a 'Home' link, a search bar, and links for 'Account' and 'AWS Billing'. The main content area is titled 'Pick your instance image' and is divided into two sections: 'Select a platform' and 'Select a blueprint'. In the 'Select a platform' section, 'Linux/Unix' (28 blueprints) is selected and highlighted with a red box, while 'Microsoft Windows' (4 blueprints) is also visible. In the 'Select a blueprint' section, there are two tabs: 'Apps + OS' (selected) and 'OS Only'. Under the 'Apps + OS' tab, a grid of blueprints is displayed. The 'WordPress 5.9.3-8' blueprint is highlighted with a red box. Other blueprints include Joomla, Magento, LAMP (PHP 7), Node.js, GitLab CE, Redmine, MEAN, Drupal, Django, PrestaShop, Nginx, Ghost, Plesk Hosting Stack on Ubuntu, and cPanel & WHM for Linux. At the bottom of the console, there are links for 'Questions? Comments?', a copyright notice for 2008-2022 Amazon Web Services, Inc., and links for 'Privacy Policy', 'Terms of Use', and 'English'.

5. Select an instance plan

Choose an instance plan.

A plan includes a machine configuration (RAM, SSD, vCPU) at a low, predictable cost, and data transfer allowance. You can try the \$3.50 USD Lightsail plan without charge for three months (up to 750 hours). AWS credits the first three months to your account.

Choose your instance plan [?](#)

New! Check out our new 16 GB and 32 GB RAM bundles!

Sort by: **Price per month** Memory Processing Storage Transfer

Plan	Price per month	Memory	Processing	Storage	Transfer
\$3.5 USD	\$3.50 USD	512 MB	1 vCPU	20 GB SSD	1 TB
\$5 USD	\$5 USD	1 GB	1 vCPU	40 GB SSD	2 TB
\$10 USD	\$10 USD	2 GB	1 vCPU	60 GB SSD	3 TB
\$20 USD	\$20 USD	4 GB	2 vCPUs	80 GB SSD	4 TB
\$40 USD	\$40 USD	8 GB	2 vCPUs	160 GB SSD	5 TB

For a limited time, new Lightsail customers can try the selected plan for free for three months. [Learn more about the free trial in Lightsail.](#)

Identify your instance

Your Lightsail resources must have unique names.

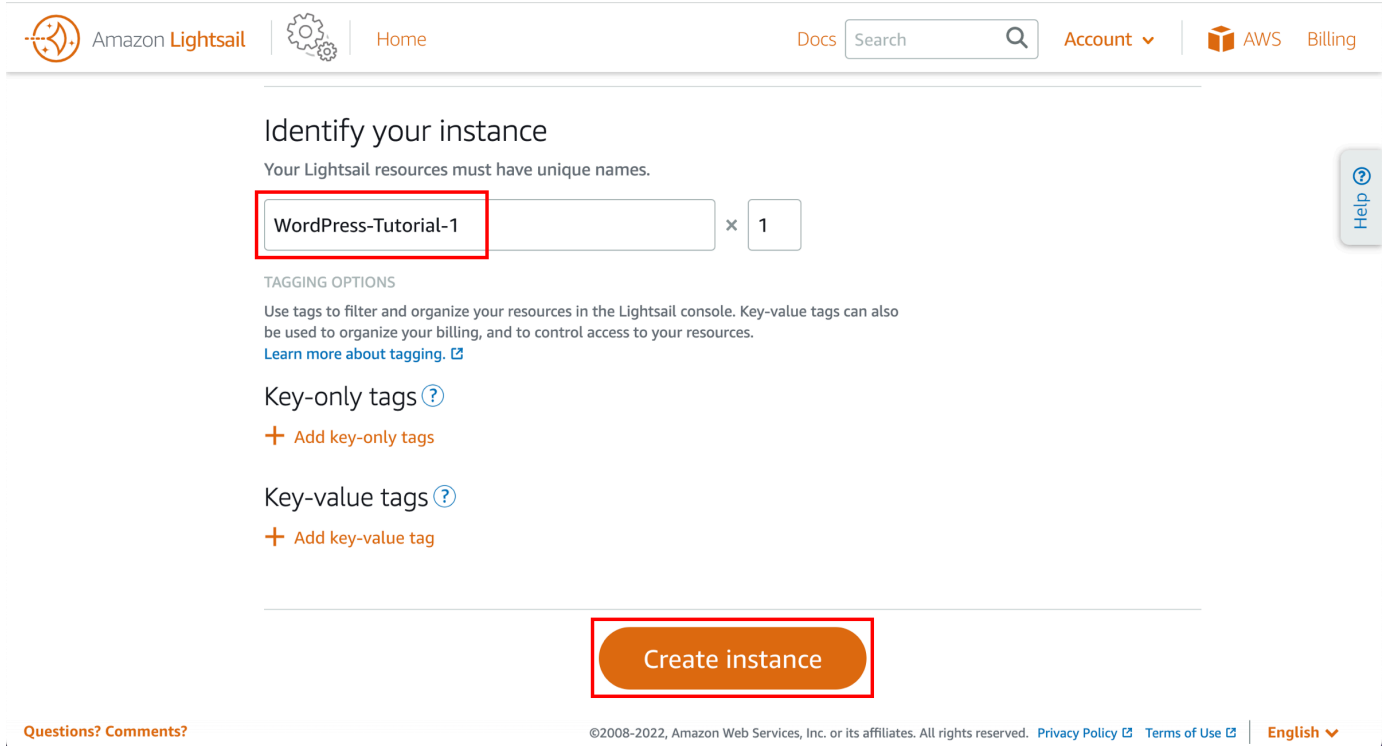
[Questions? Comments?](#) ©2008-2022, Amazon Web Services, Inc. or its affiliates. All rights reserved. [Privacy Policy](#) [Terms of Use](#) [English](#)

6. Create your instance

Enter a name for your instance and choose **Create instance**.

Resource name guidelines:

- Must be unique within each AWS Region in your Lightsail account.
- Must contain 2 to 255 characters.
- Must start and end with an alphanumeric character or number.
- Can include alphanumeric characters, numbers, periods, dashes, and underscores.



Amazon Lightsail | Home | Docs | Search | Account | AWS | Billing

Identify your instance

Your Lightsail resources must have unique names.

WordPress-Tutorial-1 × 1

TAGGING OPTIONS

Use tags to filter and organize your resources in the Lightsail console. Key-value tags can also be used to organize your billing, and to control access to your resources. [Learn more about tagging.](#)

Key-only tags [?](#)

+ Add key-only tags

Key-value tags [?](#)

+ Add key-value tag

Create instance

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Step 2: Connect to your instance via SSH and get the password for your WordPress website

The default password to sign in to the administration dashboard of your WordPress website is stored on the instance.

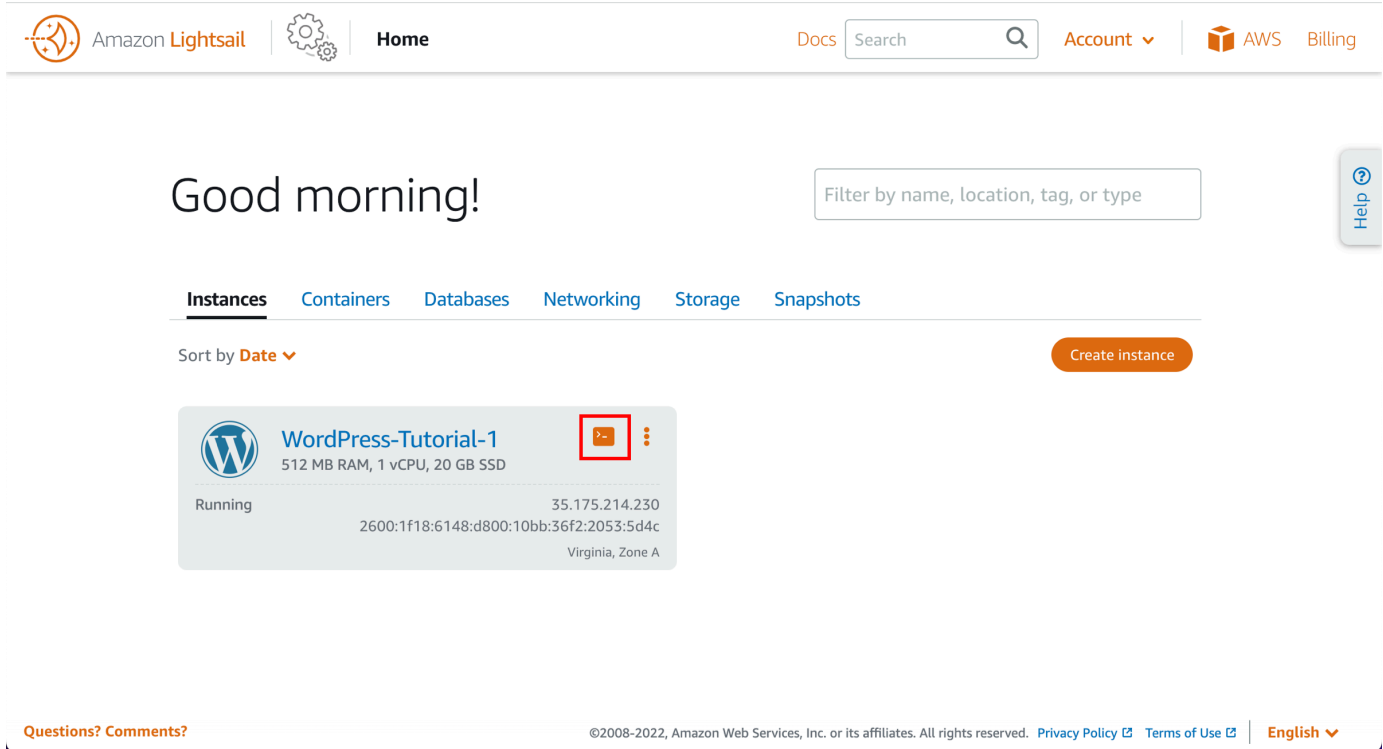
Complete the following steps to connect to your instance using the browser-based SSH client in the Lightsail console, and get the password for the administration dashboard.

Note

For more information, see [Obtain the default application username and password for Lightsail Bitnami.](#)

1. Connect using SSH

On the **Instances** tab of the [Lightsail home page](#), choose the SSH quick-connect icon for your WordPress instance.



The screenshot shows the Amazon Lightsail console interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the Amazon Lightsail logo, a search bar, and links for Docs, Account, AWS, and Billing. Below the navigation bar, a large heading says "Good morning!" with a filter box to the right. A horizontal menu contains tabs for Instances, Containers, Databases, Networking, Storage, and Snapshots. Below the menu, there is a "Sort by Date" dropdown and a "Create instance" button. The main content area displays a single instance card for "WordPress-Tutorial-1". The card includes the WordPress logo, the instance name, and specifications: "512 MB RAM, 1 vCPU, 20 GB SSD". Below this, it shows the instance status as "Running", the public IP address "35.175.214.230", and the private IP address "2600:1f18:6148:d800:10bb:36f2:2053:5d4c". The location is listed as "Virginia, Zone A". A red box highlights the instance icon in the top right corner of the card. At the bottom of the console, there is a footer with "Questions? Comments?", copyright information "©2008-2022, Amazon Web Services, Inc. or its affiliates. All rights reserved.", and links for Privacy Policy, Terms of Use, and a language selector set to "English".

2. Retrieve the password

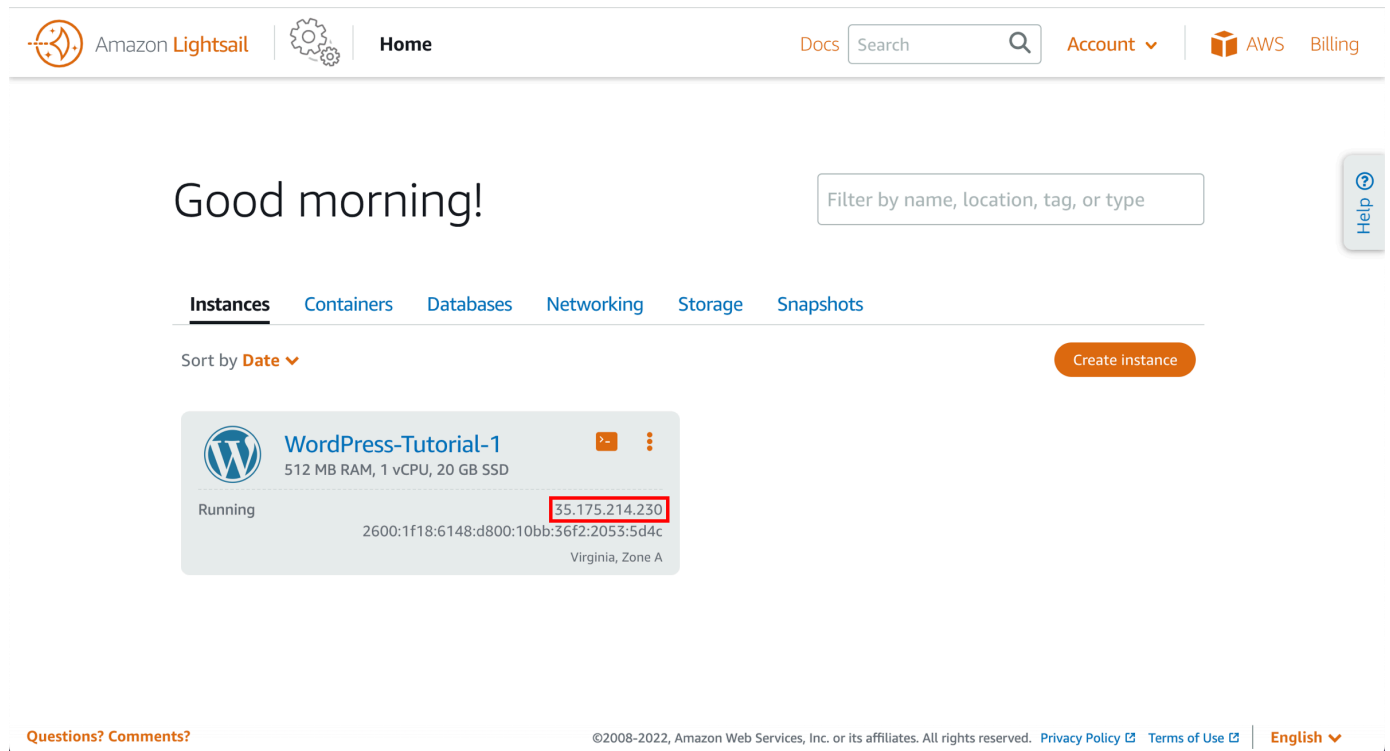
After the browser-based SSH client window opens, enter the following command to retrieve the default application password:

```
cat $HOME/bitnami_application_password
```

3. Note the password

Make note of the password displayed on the screen. You use it later to sign in to the administration dashboard of your WordPress website.

In the address, replace **PublicIPAddress** with the public IP address of your WordPress instance. You can get your instance's public IP address from the Lightsail console as shown in the image at the right.

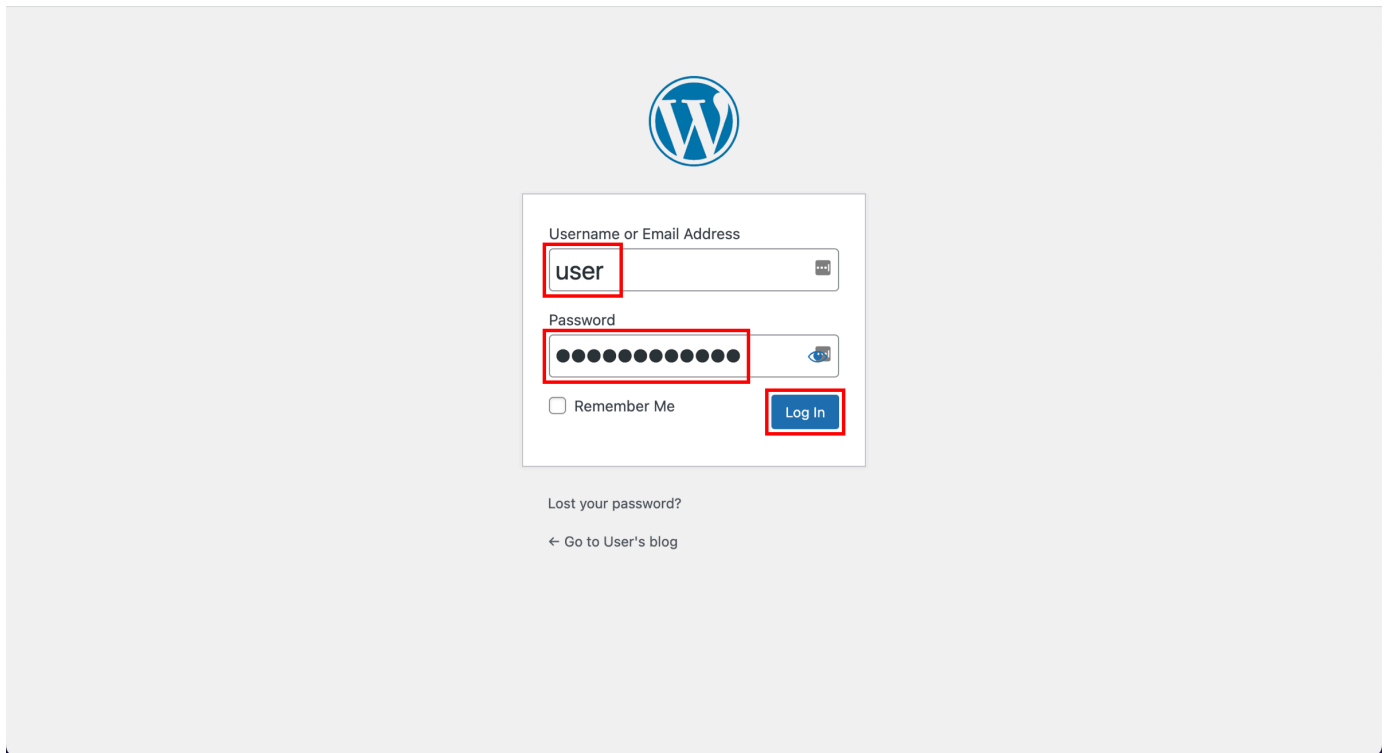


The screenshot shows the Amazon Lightsail console interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the Amazon Lightsail logo, a search bar, and links for 'Docs', 'Account', 'AWS', and 'Billing'. Below the navigation bar, the main content area displays a 'Good morning!' greeting and a search filter. A navigation menu includes 'Instances', 'Containers', 'Databases', 'Networking', 'Storage', and 'Snapshots'. The 'Instances' section is active, showing a list of instances. One instance, 'WordPress-Tutorial-1', is highlighted. It is a 'Running' instance with 512 MB RAM, 1 vCPU, and 20 GB SSD. The public IP address '35.175.214.230' is highlighted with a red box. Other details include the instance ID '2600:1f18:6148:d800:10bb:36f2:2053:5d4c' and the location 'Virginia, Zone A'. A 'Create instance' button is visible in the top right of the instance list.

2. Enter your credentials

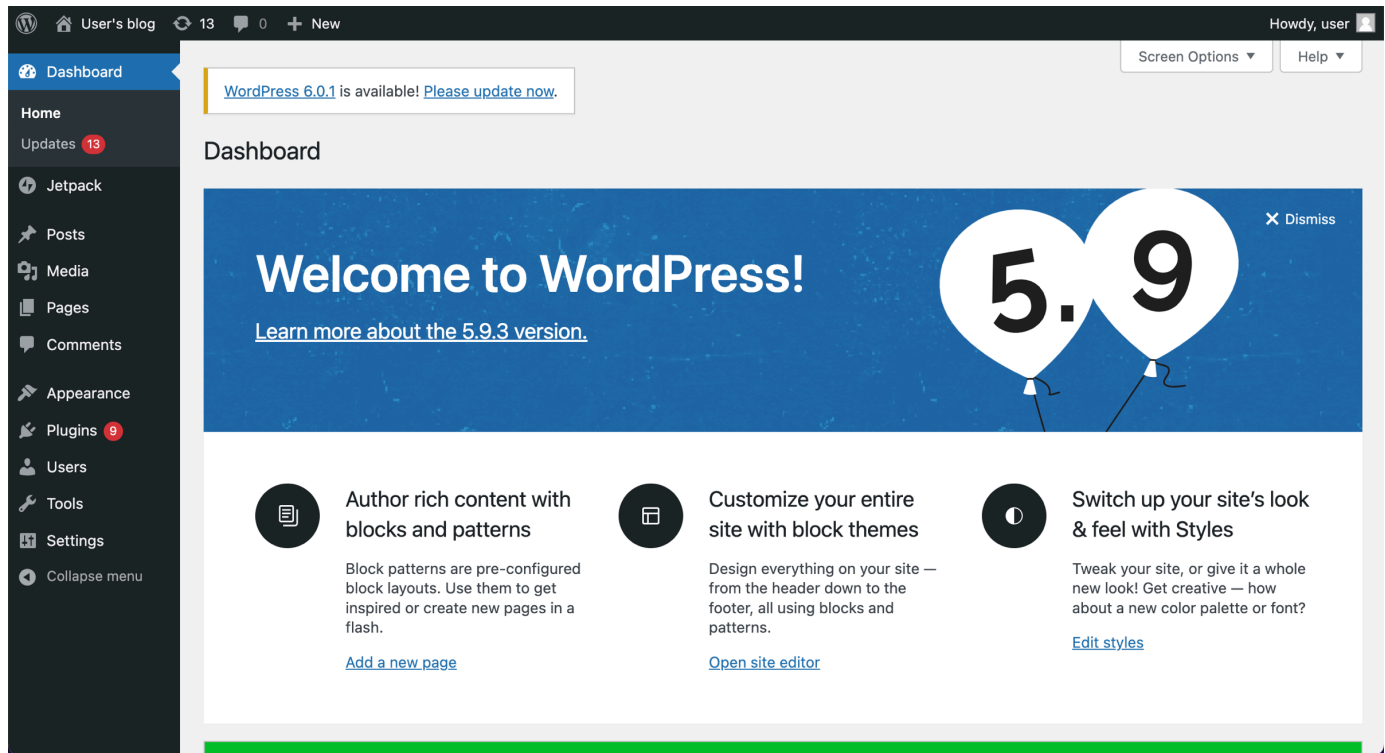
Log in to your instance.

- In the **Username or Email Address** box, enter **user**.
- In the **Password** box, enter the default password obtained earlier in this tutorial.
- Choose **Log in**.



3. Manage WordPress

You are now signed in to the administration dashboard of your WordPress website where you can perform administrative actions. For more information about administering your WordPress website, see the [WordPress Codex](#) in the WordPress documentation.



Step 4: Create a Lightsail static IP address and attach it to your WordPress instance

The default public IP for your WordPress instance changes if you stop and start your instance. A static IP address, attached to an instance, stays the same even if you stop and start your instance.

Complete the following steps to create a static IP address and attach it to your WordPress instance.

Note

For more information, see [Create a static IP and attach it to an instance in Amazon Lightsail](#).

1. Choose your instance

On the **Instances** tab of the [Lightsail home page](#), choose your running WordPress instance.

The screenshot shows the Amazon Lightsail console interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the Amazon Lightsail logo, a search bar, and links for 'Docs', 'Account', 'AWS', and 'Billing'. Below the navigation bar, a large heading says 'Good morning!' followed by a search filter box. A horizontal menu contains tabs for 'Instances', 'Containers', 'Databases', 'Networking', 'Storage', and 'Snapshots'. Under the 'Instances' tab, there is a 'Sort by Date' dropdown and a 'Create instance' button. A single instance card is displayed with the following details:

- Instance Name: WordPress-Tutorial-1 (highlighted with a red box)
- Specifications: 512 MB RAM, 1 vCPU, 20 GB SSD
- Status: Running
- Public IP: 35.175.214.230
- Private IP: 2600:1f18:6148:d800:10bb:36f2:2053:5d4c
- Location: Virginia, Zone A

 At the bottom of the page, there are links for 'Questions? Comments?' and a copyright notice for Amazon Web Services, Inc.

2. Create a static IP

Choose the **Networking** tab, then choose **Create static IP**.

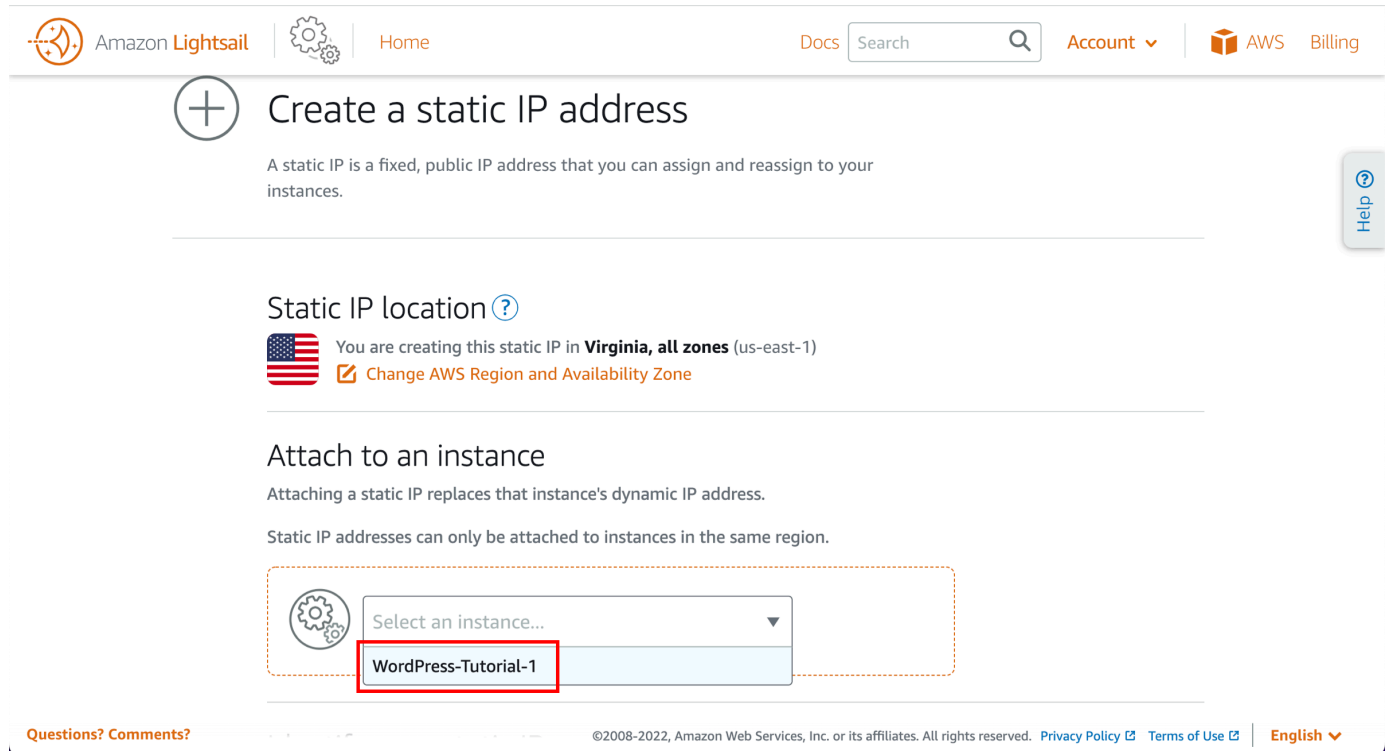
This screenshot shows the 'Networking' tab selected in the Amazon Lightsail console. The page title is 'Good morning!' and the navigation menu is the same as in the previous screenshot. Below the navigation, there is a heading 'Connect your project!' followed by a paragraph explaining networking resources. Two main options are presented in dashed boxes:

- Static IP:** Accompanied by a pencil icon, it describes a static IP as a fixed, public IP address that can be attached to an instance. It includes a link 'Learn more about static IPs' and a 'Create static IP' button (highlighted with a red box).
- Distribution:** Accompanied by a location pin icon, it describes a content delivery network (CDN) distribution for speeding up content delivery. It includes a link 'Learn more about distributions' and a 'Create distribution' button.

 The footer of the page contains the same footer elements as the previous screenshot.

3. Attach to an instance

The static IP location is preselected based on the instance zone that you chose earlier. Select the created WordPress instance from the **Attach to an instance** dropdown.




Amazon Lightsail Home Docs Search Account AWS Billing

Create a static IP address

A static IP is a fixed, public IP address that you can assign and reassign to your instances.

Static IP location [?](#)

 You are creating this static IP in **Virginia, all zones (us-east-1)**
[Change AWS Region and Availability Zone](#)

Attach to an instance

Attaching a static IP replaces that instance's dynamic IP address.

Static IP addresses can only be attached to instances in the same region.

Select an instance...
WordPress-Tutorial-1

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4. Name your static IP

Name your static IP, then choose **Create**.

Amazon Lightsail | Home | Docs | Search | Account | AWS | Billing

Attach to an instance

Attaching a static IP replaces that instance's dynamic IP address.

WordPress-Tutorial-1
512 MB RAM, 1 vCPU, 20 GB SSD
WordPress

Cancel

Identify your static IP

Your Lightsail resources must have unique names.

StaticIp-WordPress-1

Static IP addresses are free only while attached to an instance.
You can manage five at no additional cost.

Create

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Step 5: Create a Lightsail DNS zone and map a domain to your WordPress instance

Transfer management of your domain's DNS records to Lightsail. This allows you to more easily map a domain to your WordPress instance, and manage more of your website's resources using the Lightsail console.

Complete the following steps to create a Lightsail DNS zone and map a domain to your WordPress instance.

Note

For more information, see [Creating a DNS zone to manage your domain's DNS records in Amazon Lightsail](#).

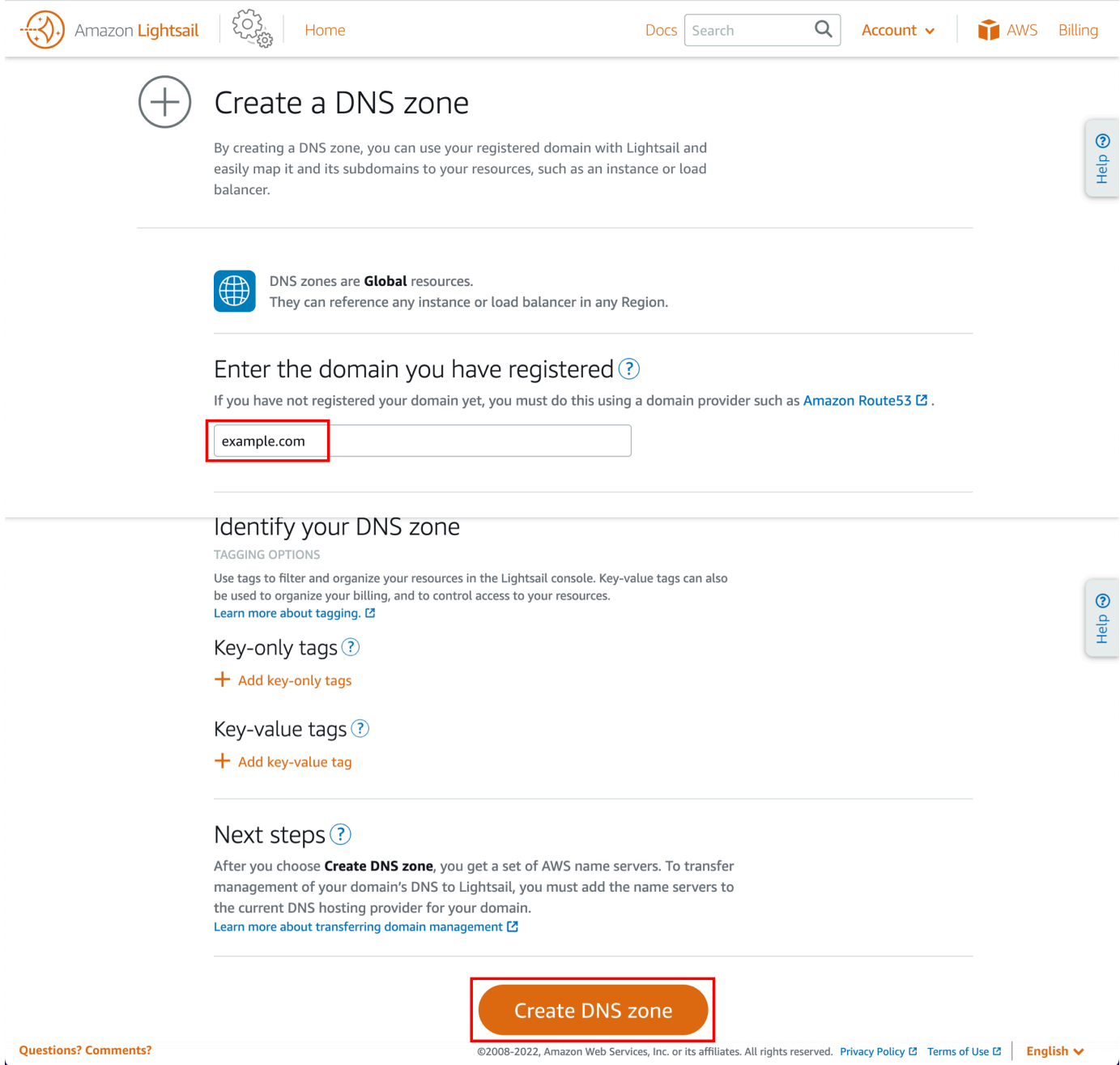
1. Create a DNS zone

On the **Networking** tab of the [Lightsail home page](#), choose **Create DNS zone**.

The screenshot shows the Amazon Lightsail console interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the Amazon Lightsail logo, a 'Home' button, a search bar, and links for 'Docs', 'Account', 'AWS', and 'Billing'. Below the navigation bar, the main content area displays a 'Good morning!' greeting and a search filter box. The 'Networking' tab is selected, and the 'Create DNS zone' button is highlighted with a red box. Other buttons include 'Create static IP', 'Create load balancer', and 'Create distribution'. Below the buttons, there is a section for 'STATIC IP ADDRESSES' with a table listing a static IP address '34.234.128.251' attached to 'WordPress-Tutorial-1' in the 'Virginia, all zones' region. The footer contains copyright information and links for 'Privacy Policy', 'Terms of Use', and 'English'.

2. Add your domain

Enter your domain, then choose **Create DNS zone**.



Amazon Lightsail | Home | Docs | Search | Account | AWS | Billing

+

Create a DNS zone

By creating a DNS zone, you can use your registered domain with Lightsail and easily map it and its subdomains to your resources, such as an instance or load balancer.

DNS zones are **Global** resources. They can reference any instance or load balancer in any Region.

Enter the domain you have registered ?

If you have not registered your domain yet, you must do this using a domain provider such as [Amazon Route53](#).

Identify your DNS zone

TAGGING OPTIONS

Use tags to filter and organize your resources in the Lightsail console. Key-value tags can also be used to organize your billing, and to control access to your resources. [Learn more about tagging.](#)

Key-only tags ?

+ Add key-only tags

Key-value tags ?

+ Add key-value tag

Next steps ?

After you choose **Create DNS zone**, you get a set of AWS name servers. To transfer management of your domain's DNS to Lightsail, you must add the name servers to the current DNS hosting provider for your domain. [Learn more about transferring domain management](#)

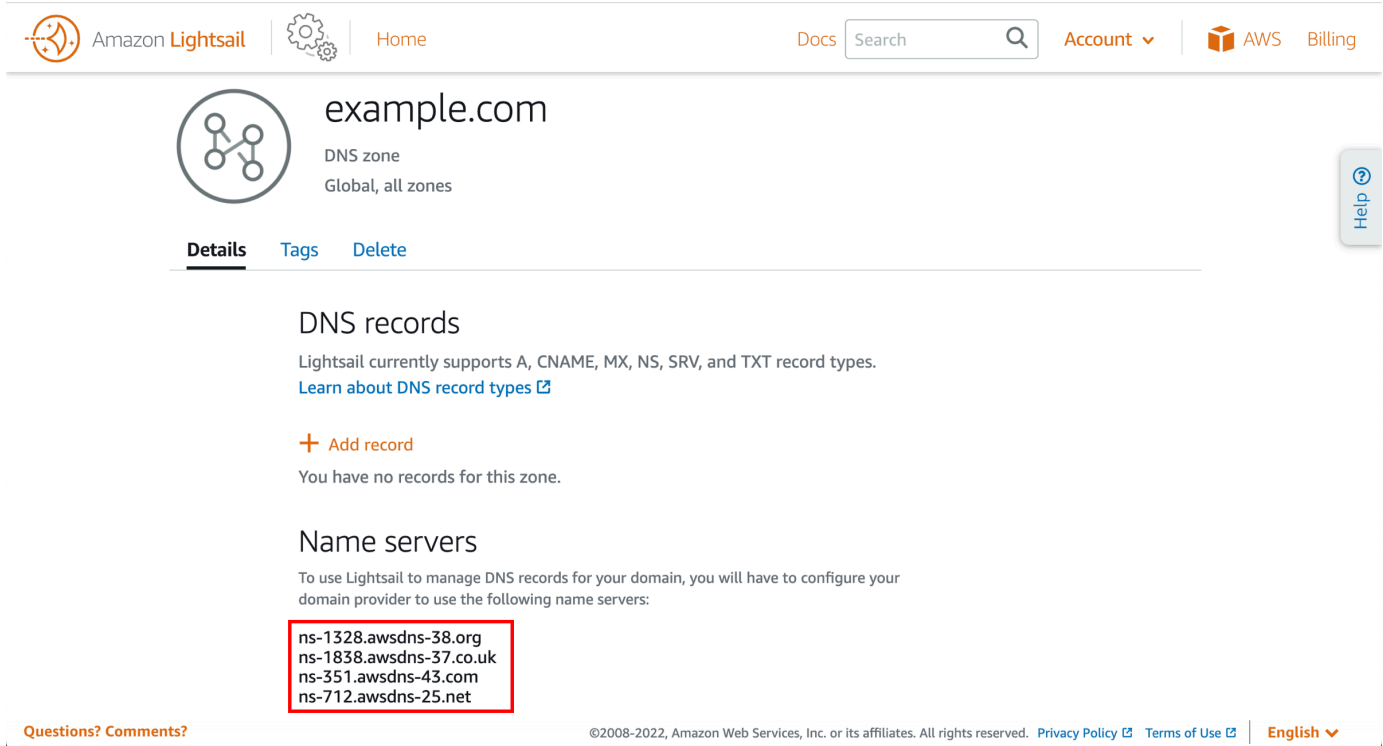
Create DNS zone

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3. Note the name servers

Make note of the name server address listed on the page.

You add these name server addresses to your domain name's registrar to transfer management of your domain's DNS records to Lightsail.



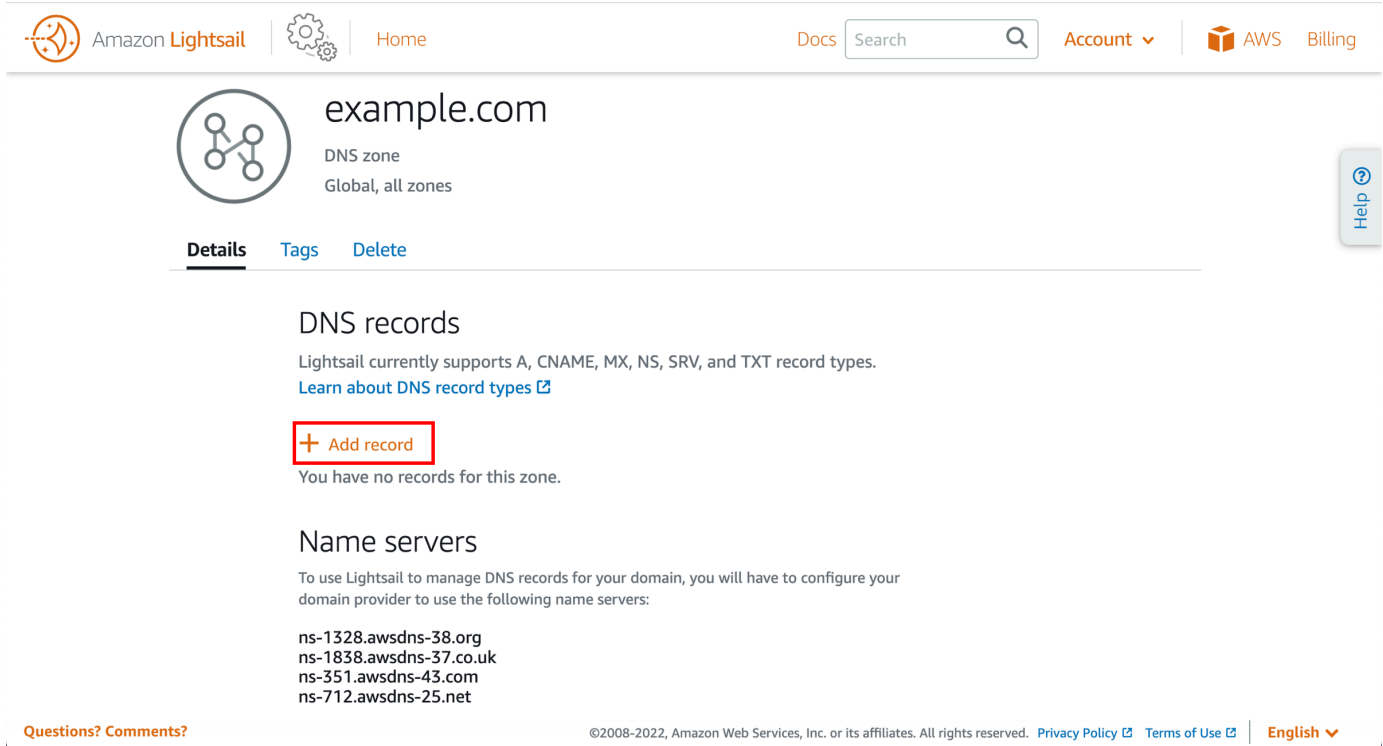
The screenshot shows the Amazon Lightsail console interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the Amazon Lightsail logo, a 'Home' link, a search bar, and links for 'Account' and 'AWS Billing'. Below the navigation bar, the main content area displays the DNS zone configuration for 'example.com'. The zone is identified as 'DNS zone' and 'Global, all zones'. There are three tabs: 'Details' (selected), 'Tags', and 'Delete'. Under the 'Details' tab, the 'DNS records' section is visible, indicating that Lightsail currently supports A, CNAME, MX, NS, SRV, and TXT record types. A link to 'Learn about DNS record types' is provided. Below this, there is an '+ Add record' button and a message stating 'You have no records for this zone.' The 'Name servers' section explains that to use Lightsail for DNS management, the domain provider must be configured to use specific name servers. A red box highlights the following name server addresses: ns-1328.awsdns-38.org, ns-1838.awsdns-37.co.uk, ns-351.awsdns-43.com, and ns-712.awsdns-25.net. At the bottom of the console, there are links for 'Questions? Comments?', a copyright notice for 2008-2022, and links for 'Privacy Policy', 'Terms of Use', and a language selector set to 'English'.

4. Add an A record

After management of your domain's DNS records are transferred to Lightsail, add an A record to point the apex of your domain to your WordPress instance, as follows:

You add these name server addresses to your domain name's registrar to transfer management of your domain's DNS records to Lightsail.

In the DNS zone for your domain, choose **Add record**.



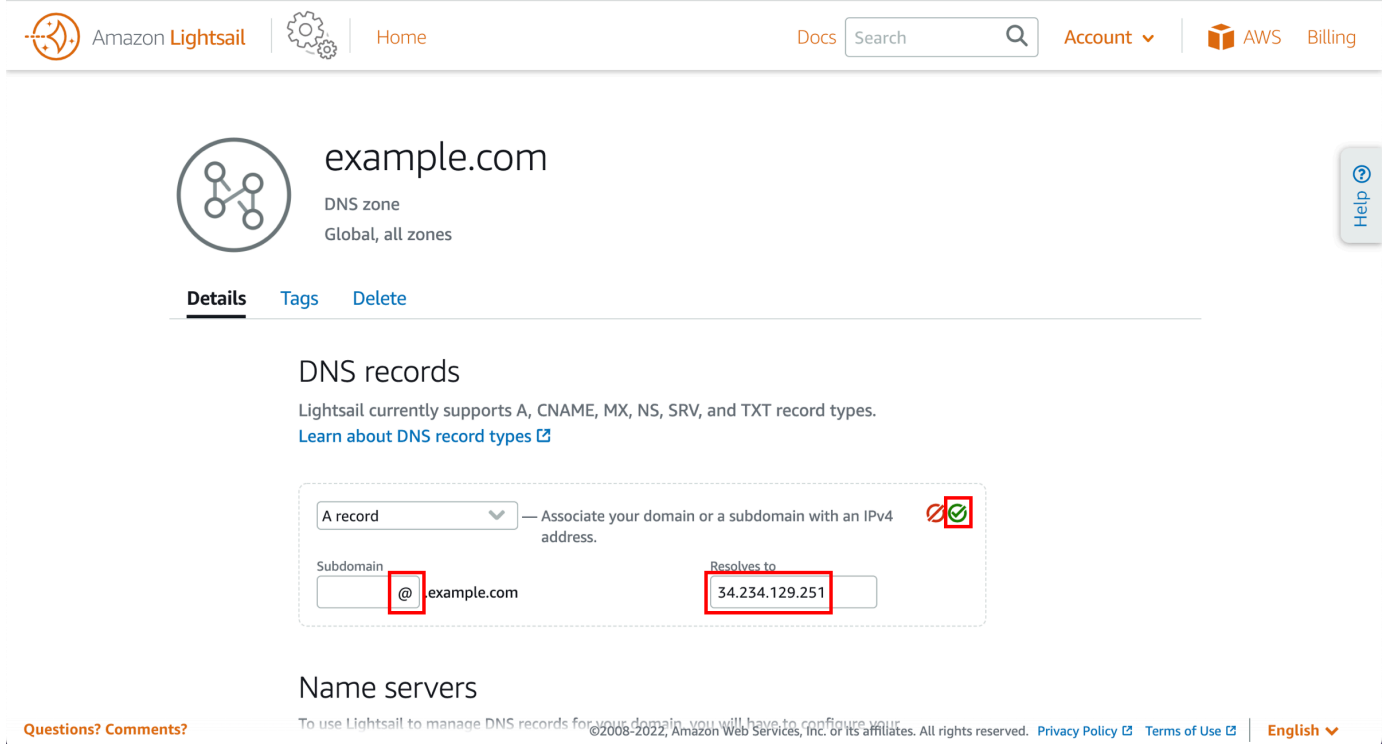
The screenshot shows the Amazon Lightsail console interface for a domain named **example.com**. The domain is associated with a DNS zone that is "Global, all zones". Below the domain name, there are tabs for "Details", "Tags", and "Delete". The "DNS records" section indicates that Lightsail currently supports A, CNAME, MX, NS, SRV, and TXT record types, with a link to "Learn about DNS record types". A red box highlights the "+ Add record" button, and a message below it states "You have no records for this zone." The "Name servers" section provides instructions on how to configure name servers and lists the following addresses: ns-1328.awsdns-38.org, ns-1838.awsdns-37.co.uk, ns-351.awsdns-43.com, and ns-712.awsdns-25.net. At the bottom of the console, there are links for "Questions? Comments?", a copyright notice for 2008-2022, and a language selector set to "English".

5. Configure DNS settings

Continue adding the following details to complete pointing the apex of your domain to your WordPress instance:

- In the **Subdomain** box, enter an @ symbol to map the apex of your domain (such as [example.com](#)) to your instance. The @ symbol explicitly symbolizes that you're adding an apex record. It is not added as a subdomain.
- In the **Resolves to** box, choose the static IP that you attached to the WordPress instance in the previous step of this tutorial.
- Choose the green **save** icon.

Allow time for the change to propagate through the internet's DNS before your domain begins routing traffic to your WordPress instance.

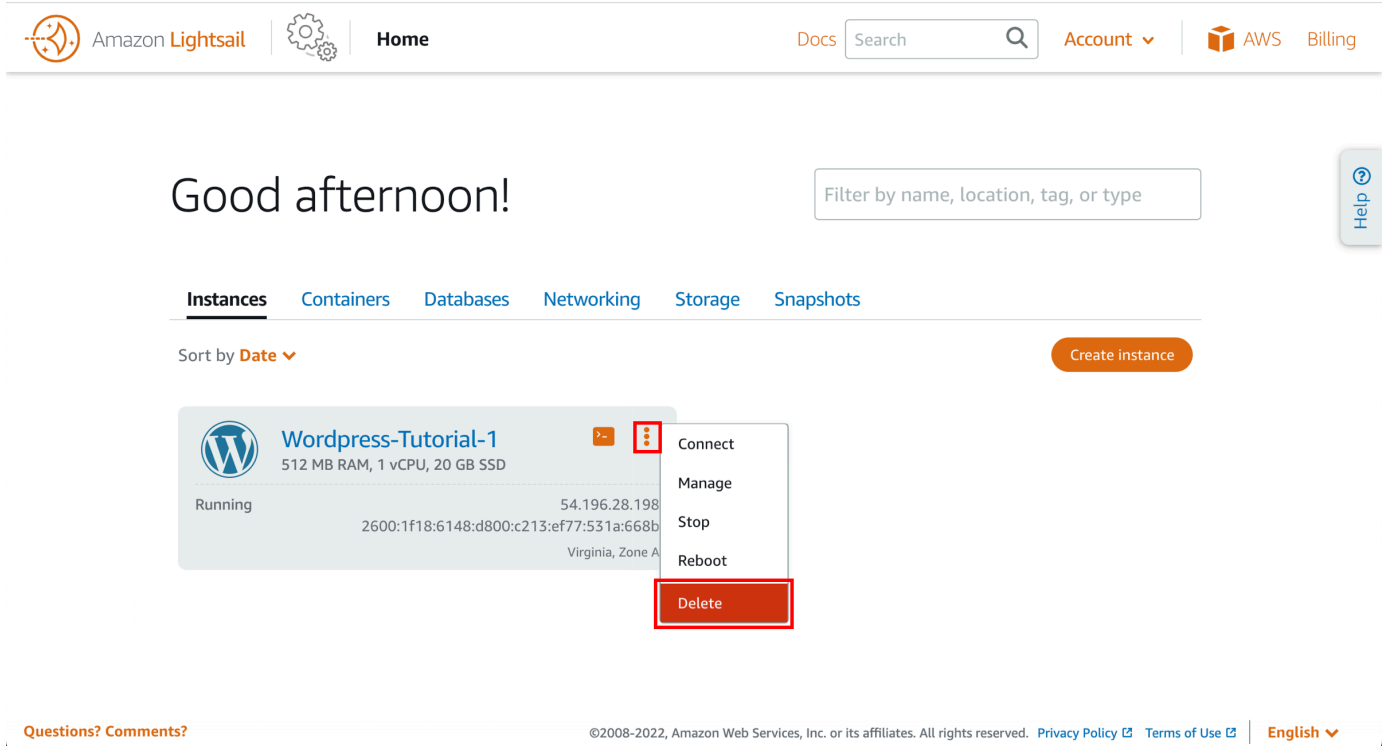


The screenshot shows the Amazon Lightsail console interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the Amazon Lightsail logo, a 'Home' link, a search bar, and links for 'Account', 'AWS', and 'Billing'. Below the navigation bar, the main content area displays the DNS zone configuration for 'example.com'. The zone is identified as 'DNS zone' and 'Global, all zones'. There are three tabs: 'Details' (selected), 'Tags', and 'Delete'. Under the 'Details' tab, the 'DNS records' section is visible. It states that Lightsail currently supports A, CNAME, MX, NS, SRV, and TXT record types, with a link to 'Learn about DNS record types'. A form for adding an 'A record' is shown, with a subdomain field containing '@example.com' and a 'Resolves to' field containing '34.234.129.251'. Below the DNS records section, the 'Name servers' section is partially visible. At the bottom of the page, there are links for 'Questions? Comments?', a copyright notice for 2008-2022 Amazon Web Services, Inc., and links for 'Privacy Policy', 'Terms of Use', and 'English'.

Clean up resources

1. Delete instance

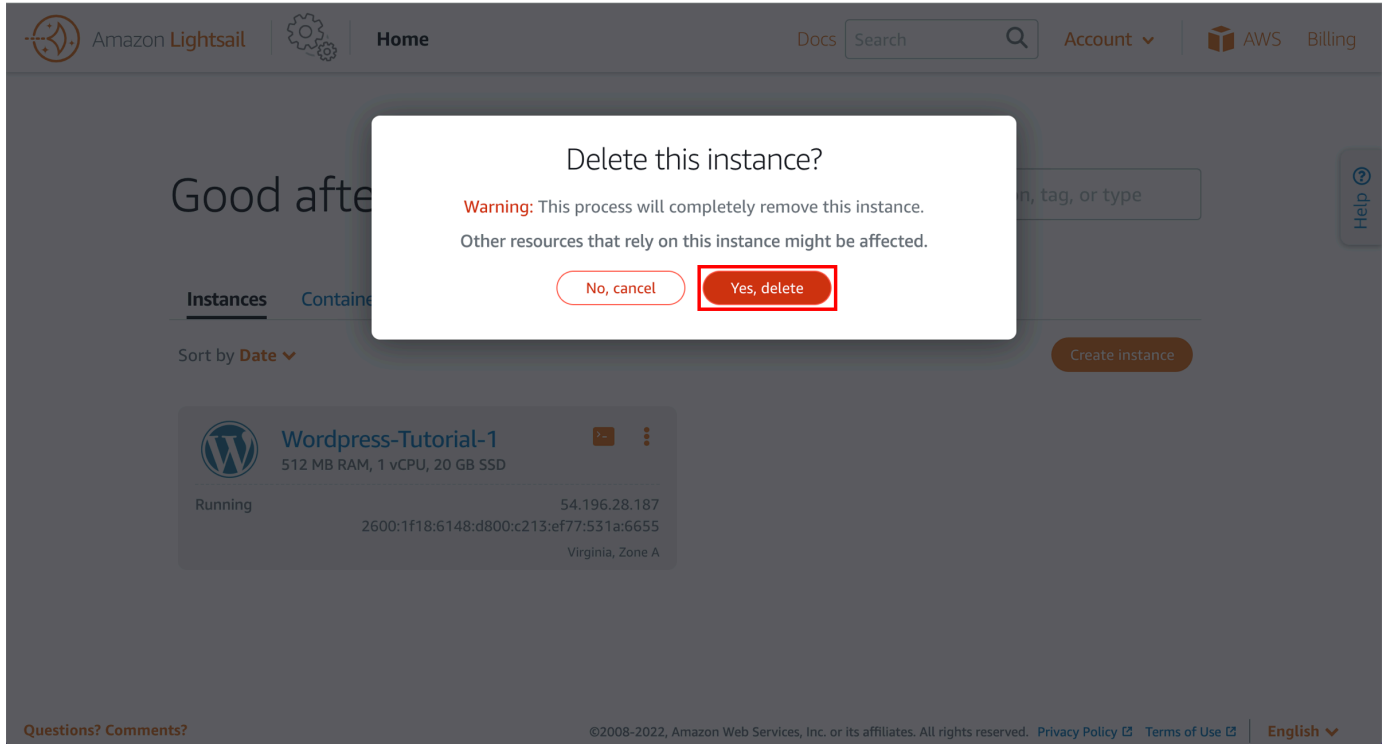
On the **Instances** tab of the [Lightsail home page](#), choose the ellipsis (:) icon next to the WordPress instance you just created and choose **Delete**.



The screenshot shows the Amazon Lightsail console interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the Amazon Lightsail logo, a search bar, and links for 'Docs', 'Account', 'AWS', and 'Billing'. Below the navigation bar, a large heading says 'Good afternoon!' followed by a search filter box. A horizontal menu contains 'Instances', 'Containers', 'Databases', 'Networking', 'Storage', and 'Snapshots'. Under 'Instances', there is a 'Sort by Date' dropdown and a 'Create instance' button. A table lists instances, with one instance named 'Wordpress-Tutorial-1' highlighted. A context menu is open over this instance, showing options: 'Connect', 'Manage', 'Stop', 'Reboot', and 'Delete'. The 'Delete' option is highlighted with a red box. At the bottom of the console, there are links for 'Questions? Comments?', copyright information, and language settings.

2. Confirm deletion

Choose **Yes, delete** from the prompt.



The screenshot shows the Amazon Lightsail console with a confirmation dialog box overlaid. The dialog box is titled 'Delete this instance?' and contains a warning: 'Warning: This process will completely remove this instance. Other resources that rely on this instance might be affected.' Below the warning are two buttons: 'No, cancel' and 'Yes, delete'. The 'Yes, delete' button is highlighted with a red box. The background shows the same instance 'Wordpress-Tutorial-1' as in the previous screenshot, but it is dimmed.

Congratulations

Congratulations! You have used Amazon Lightsail to launch and deploy a WordPress instance.

Amazon Lightsail is a great choice to develop, build, and deploy a variety of applications like WordPress, websites, and blog platforms.