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DAY 02 | PART 2

Get the Windows Password and Log In with RDP

Decrypt the administrator password with your key pair, connect with Remote Desktop, and check what it costs.

RDP | Decrypt password | Billing

WHAT YOU WILL LEARN

Get the Windows Password and Log In with RDP

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1. Find the Connect button for a running instance
2. Upload the .pem key to decrypt the Administrator password
3. Open Remote Desktop and sign in as Administrator
4. Test internet speed from the cloud machine
5. Open Billing to see how usage is counted

HANDS-ON

Six steps to log in to Windows

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1. Select the instance and click Connect, then open the RDP client tab
2. Click Get password and upload the private key (.pem) you created at launch
3. Click Decrypt password - copy the Administrator password
4. Press Start, type mstsc and press Enter to open Remote Desktop Connection
5. Paste the Public IP / DNS in Computer and type Administrator as the user
6. Paste the password, accept the certificate warning and you land on a Windows desktop

PRO TIP The password is generated by AWS and locked with your public key. Only your matching private key can unlock it.

COMPARE

Linux vs Windows on EC2

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ITEM	LINUX EC2	WINDOWS EC2
Job of the public key	Lets you log in (SSH check)	Locks the password (encryption)
Where it is kept	~/.ssh/authorized_keys on the server	Not stored as a login file
What you type to log in	Nothing - the key proves you	User Administrator + decrypted password
Allowed key type	RSA or ED25519	RSA only

REMEMBER If you change the Administrator password inside Windows, the console's 'Get password' will keep showing the old one.

Why we looked at Billing

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Pay for what you use

EC2 costs money for every hour an instance is Running (outside the free tier).

Stopped is not free

A stopped instance has no compute charge, but the disk (EBS volume) is still billed.

Check the dashboard

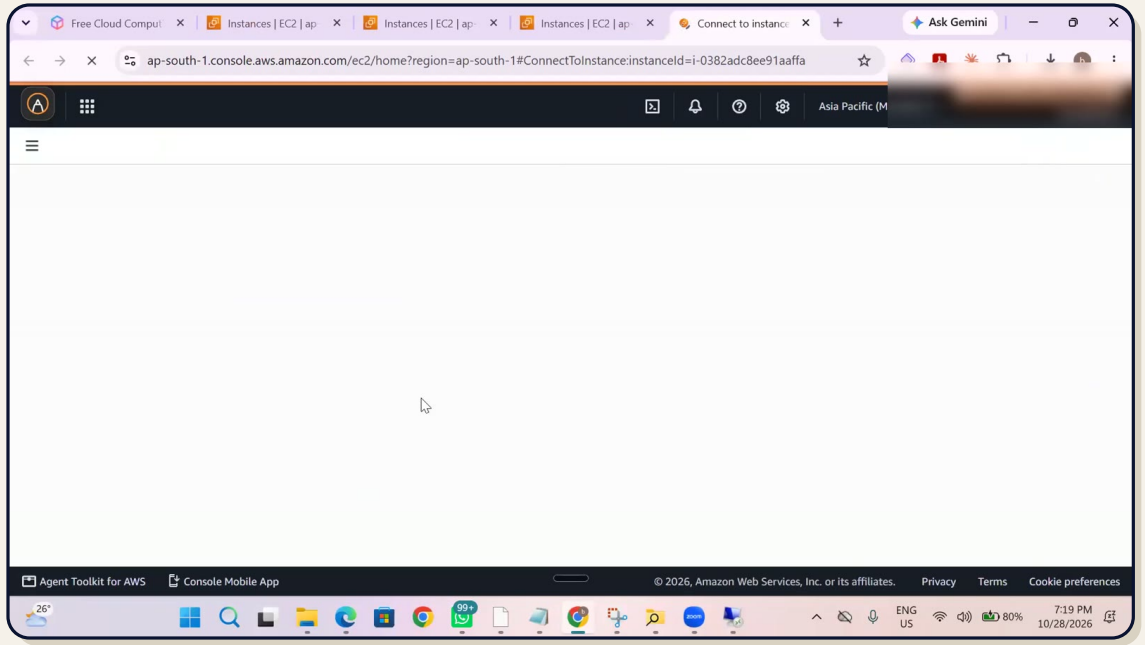
Billing and Cost Management shows month-to-date cost and free-tier usage. Check it after each practice.

Terminate when done

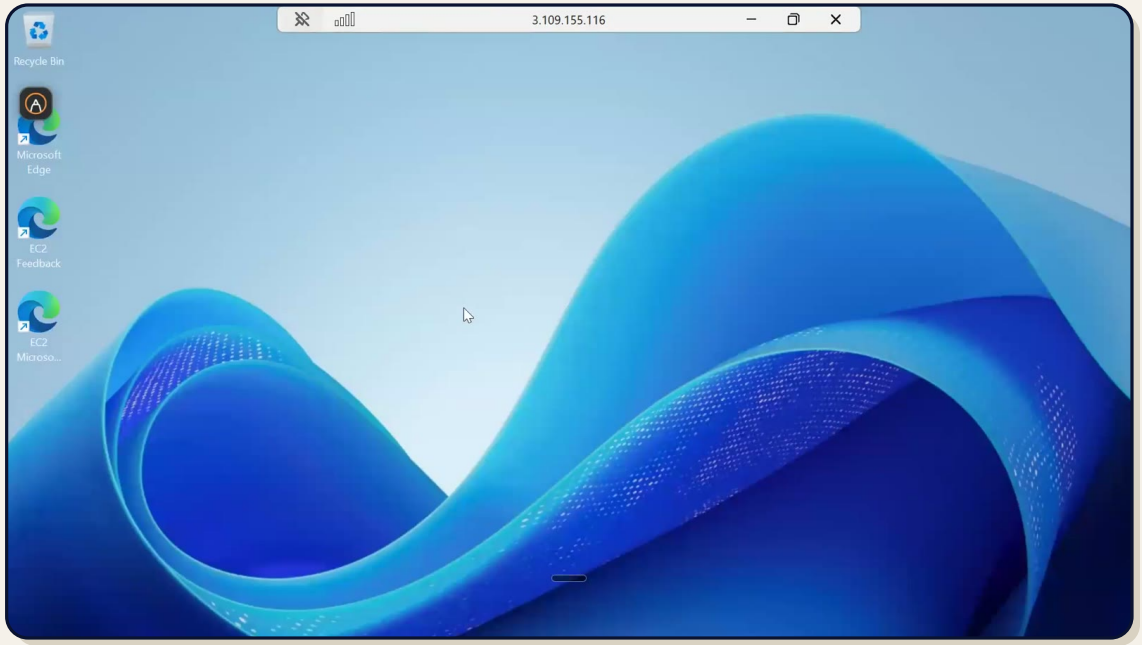
If you will not use a machine again, terminate it so nothing keeps billing.

FROM THE CLASS

Decrypt, connect, verify



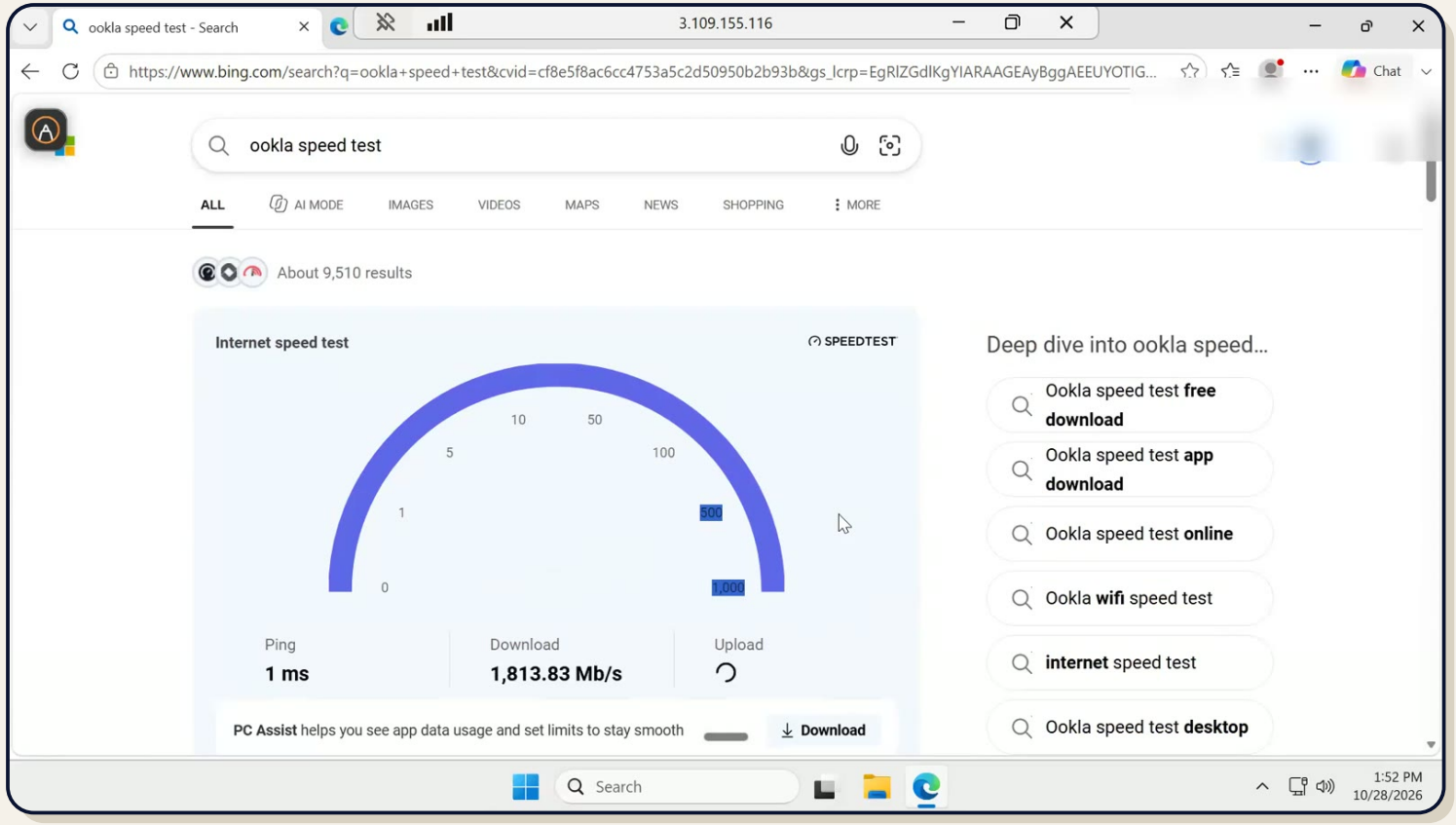
Get Windows password: upload the key pair file



Remote Desktop opening the new Windows machine

FROM THE CLASS

Speed test from the cloud



A moment from the recording for this part.

Fast network

The Windows machine in Mumbai downloads at well over 1 Gbps - much faster than most home connections.

Why it matters

Cloud servers sit in data centres with huge bandwidth, so installs and downloads finish in seconds.

QUICK RECAP

What to remember

- Connect > RDP client > Get password > upload .pem > Decrypt
- mstsc opens Remote Desktop on Windows
- Only the matching private key can decrypt the password
- Stopped instances still pay for storage
- Terminate practice machines you no longer need

PRACTICE

Practice questions

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Q1 **What do you upload to decrypt the Windows administrator password?**

A. The .ppk of someone else
B. The private key (.pem) used at launch
C. Your AWS password
D. Nothing

Q2 **Which program opens Remote Desktop quickly?**

A. notepad
B. mstsc
C. calc
D. cmd

Q3 **You stopped an instance. What do you still pay for?**

A. Compute time
B. EBS storage
C. Nothing
D. Data transfer in

Q4 **Which key type does NOT work for Windows instances?**

A. RSA
B. ED25519
C. Both
D. Neither

PRACTICE

Practice questions - answers

Q1 **What do you upload to decrypt the Windows administrator password?**

Answer: B. The private key (.pem) used at launch

Only the matching private key can decrypt it.

Q2 **Which program opens Remote Desktop quickly?**

Answer: B. mstsc

Press Start, type mstsc and press Enter.

Q3 **You stopped an instance. What do you still pay for?**

Answer: B. EBS storage

Stopped = no compute charge, but the disk stays billed.

Q4 **Which key type does NOT work for Windows instances?**

Answer: B. ED25519

Windows supports RSA key pairs only.