Amazon AppStream 2.0: MATLAB® Deployment Guide

Build an Amazon AppStream 2.0 environment to stream MATLAB to your users.

October 2018

https://aws.amazon.com/appstream2/
Welcome

This guide describes how to deploy and stream the MATLAB desktop application for your company (in this example, DemoCo) by using Amazon AppStream 2.0, a fully managed, secure application streaming service that runs in the AWS Cloud.

What you’ll accomplish:

- Provision an Amazon virtual private cloud (Amazon VPC) to provide an isolated virtual network infrastructure within the AWS Cloud. Your AppStream 2.0 resources will use this environment.

- Use the AWS Management Console to perform the basic administrative tasks required to build an AppStream 2.0 environment. Specifically, you’ll:
  1. Install and configure MATLAB for streaming using an image builder.
  2. Provision a fleet of instances to stream your applications. The fleet will use the Graphics Pro instance type and adhere to scaling policies to match the number of users that you want to be able to stream concurrently.
  3. Provision a stack to create a web portal from which users can stream your applications.
  4. Configure persistent storage that users can access across application streaming sessions.
  5. Create a user pool to manage users who access your streaming applications.

What you need before starting:

- **An AWS account:** You need an AWS account to use AppStream 2.0 and other AWS services. For information about how to sign up for and activate an AWS account, see Appendix A.

- **A current email address:** During the user configuration process for your AppStream 2.0 environment, AWS sends you two emails. You must use these emails to complete the process.

- **Skill level:** You do not need prior experience with AWS to complete these exercises. A basic understanding of desktop computing is helpful but not required.
• **A MATLAB user license.** This license is required to use MATLAB. It must be valid for the MATLAB version intended for use with AppStream 2.0. Contact MathWorks® or your MATLAB reseller if you need to purchase a license. If you are a new user to MATLAB, a cloud-enabled trial license is available.

• **Online Licensing Enabled.** MATLAB is licensed many different ways. To use MATLAB with AppStream 2.0, online licensing is the preferred solution but only certain MATLAB license types allow this. If you have an Individual license, go here to enable online licensing. For all other licenses, please contact MathWorks Support to enable it. More information can be found here.

• **A MathWorks Account associated to the MATLAB license.** In the steps above, you might have created a new MathWorks Account and/or your Account was associated to your MATLAB license. If you still do not have a MathWorks Account, you will need to create one and associate it to your license as this is required to use MATLAB with online licensing. You can create a MathWorks Account here. To associate it to your MATLAB user license, go here. If unsuccessful, please contact MathWorks Support.

• **MATLAB System Requirements:** The hardware and software requirements needed for smoothly running MATLAB is available on MathWorks website. We recommend using the following instance types.

  MATLAB without GPU – stream.compute.large or stream.memory.large. Compute- and Memory-optimized instances are perfectly suited for MATLAB workloads that does not require a GPU. To learn more about the number of vCPU cores or RAM memory specifications of these instance families, see Amazon AppStream 2.0 pricing.

  MATLAB with GPU without CUDA – stream.graphics-design.xlarge. Graphics Design instances are ideal for delivering MATLAB workloads that only require GPUs for hardware accelerated graphics processing. Graphics Design instances are powered by AMD FirePro S7150x2 Server GPUs and equipped with AMD Multiuser GPU technology. Instances start from 2 vCPU, 7.5 GiB system memory, and 1 GiB graphics memory, to 16 vCPUs, 61 GiB system memory, and 8 GiB graphics memory. To learn
more about the Graphics Design instances, refer Amazon AppStream 2.0 pricing.

MATLAB with GPU and CUDA – stream.graphics-pro.4xlarge. MATLAB workloads that need GPU acceleration for use with Parallel Computing Toolbox™ can be run on Graphics Pro instances. The Graphics Pro instance family offers three different instance types to support demanding workloads. Powered by NVIDIA Tesla M60 GPUs with 2048 parallel processing cores, there are three Graphics Pro instances types starting from 16 vCPUs, 122 GiB system memory, and 8 GiB graphics memory, to 64 vCPUs, 488 GiB system memory, and 32 GiB graphics memory. To learn more about Graphics Pro instances, refer Amazon AppStream 2.0 pricing.

- **End user client recommendations:** To use MATLAB delivered through AppStream 2.0, your user will need a modern HTML browser such as Google Chrome, Mozilla Firefox, Microsoft Edge or Internet Explorer 11+

- **End user network recommendations:** AppStream 2.0 uses an adaptive streaming protocol (NICE DCV) to deliver an interactive streaming session to users. The protocol encodes pixels on a remote host, securely transmits them over the network, and renders them on a client device. It also accepts user keyboard and mouse input, enables file transfer between client and remote host, and provides clipboard support to provide an interactive experience for a user when using streamed applications. While the streaming protocol adapts to changes on the screen and only transmits pixels when required, it will use the available bandwidth on the network. Also, since the streaming session is interactive, and the application on the remote host needs to respond to user inputs on a client device, the round-trip latency will influence the responsiveness that a user will experience.

The amount of bandwidth used when transmitting pixels is proportional to the changes on the screen and the resolution of the display monitor(s) used by the client device. The changes on the screen and the resolution are determined by the type of application (3D versus business application) and usage pattern
(switching between windows and menus quickly). A 3D application may require a high-resolution monitor and trigger large changes to the screen when a user is interacting with complex hi-fidelity models. To transmit these changes on the screen quickly and provide a responsive experience to the user, the protocol will use a large amount of bandwidth momentarily. On the other hand, a business application may only involve text input. While changes to text on screen can be transmitted with very small amount of bandwidth, switching quickly between windows or menus within even a text-based application will result in large changes to the screen and hence drive momentary increases in bandwidth used. The round-trip network latency influences the responsiveness that a user experiences when entering input and viewing changes on the screen. While other factors such as quality of network, client device performance, and remote host instance selection can also influence the responsiveness, latency should be considered as one of the primary factors. In general, lower latency connections will deliver more responsive and performant streaming experience. Below are the recommendations for sample MATLAB use-cases.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Use case</th>
<th>Recommended bandwidth available per user</th>
<th>Recommended maximum roundtrip latency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MATLAB without GPU</td>
<td>1-2 mbps</td>
<td>&lt; 150 ms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATLAB with GPU – Streaming with low fidelity datasets with 2K monitors</td>
<td>5-6 mbps</td>
<td>&lt; 100 ms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATLAB with GPU – Streaming high fidelity datasets with 4K monitors</td>
<td>10-12 mbps</td>
<td>&lt; 50 ms</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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Step 8: Manage user access with an AppStream 2.0 user pool

Step 7: Create an AppStream 2.0 stack and a streaming URL

Step 6: Provision a fleet

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Step 1. Sign in to the AWS Management Console and select an AWS Region

If you do not have an AWS account, you must first complete the steps in Appendix A.


2. Type your email address or your AWS account ID, and choose Next.

3. Type your AWS account password, and choose Sign In.

4. In the menu in the upper right corner of the console, select the AWS Region for your environment. AWS currently hosts services in 18 different geographical areas.

5. Select one of the following seven Regions in which AppStream 2.0 is available:

![N. Virginia Support](image)

Step 2: Create network resources

In this section, you will create an Amazon virtual private cloud (VPC) and other network resources required for your AppStream 2.0 environment. The following steps use a
template in AWS CloudFormation to automatically create and configure the necessary network resources. To manually create and configure network resources, see Appendix B.

1. Make sure that you are signed in to the AWS Management Console.

2. From the choices below, open the CloudFormation template link associated with the AWS Region in which you want to build your AppStream 2.0 environment.

   - **US East (N. Virginia)**
   - **US West (Oregon)**
   - **EU (Frankfurt)**
   - **EU (Ireland)**
   - **Asia Pacific (Singapore)**
   - **Asia Pacific (Sydney)**
   - **Asia Pacific (Tokyo)**

   The AWS CloudFormation console displays the URL of a template that is used to create your network resources and the name of the resulting AWS CloudFormation stack.

3. In the bottom right corner of the window, choose **Create**. AWS CloudFormation starts creating the resources and displays a status message to indicate progress.
4. When the creation process completes, usually within five minutes, the AWS CloudFormation console displays the status CREATE_COMPLETE.

5. Navigate to the Amazon VPC console at https://console.aws.amazon.com/vpc/.

6. In the navigation pane, under Virtual Private Cloud, choose Your VPCs. In the list of VPCs, you should see the following VPC that was automatically created:

   Figure 3: VPC created by AWS CloudFormation.

   **Note:** The VPC ID value will differ for your VPC.

7. In the navigation pane, under Virtual Private Cloud, choose Subnets. In the list of subnets, you should see the following subnets that were automatically created:
You have now successfully created your network resources by using AWS CloudFormation. You can proceed to Step 3.

**Step 3: Create an AppStream 2.0 image builder**

AppStream 2.0 uses EC2 instances to stream applications. You launch instances, called *image builders*, from base images that AppStream 2.0 provides. To create your own custom image, you connect to an image builder instance, install and configure your applications for streaming, and then create your image by creating a snapshot of the image builder instance.

To install and configure applications to stream to your users, you must create an image builder instance as described in the following procedure.

**Deploy an image builder instance to install applications**


2. If you have not previously configured any AppStream 2.0 settings, the following page appears:
3. Choose Get started.

4. In the lower right corner of the page, choose Skip (this guide walks you through a different process for getting started with AppStream 2.0).

5. In the navigation pane, choose Images, Image Builder, Launch Image Builder.

6. In the Step 1: Choose Image window, in the list of images, select the image builder with the name Graphics-Pro-Image-Buildermm-dd-yyyy, where mm-dd-yyyy represents the most recent date. Base images include the latest updates to
Microsoft Windows and the AppStream 2.0 agent software. You use this base image to create a custom image that includes your own applications.

7. At the bottom of the page, choose Next.

8. In Step 2: Configure Image Builder, the following image builder configuration options are displayed:

9. Type the following information and then choose Review.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Configure image builder fields</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Option</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Display Name</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Instance Family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Instance Type</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Default Internet Access</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VPC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subnet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Security group(s)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Active Directory Domain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Optional)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10. Choose Review, and confirm the details for the image builder. To change the configuration for any section, choose Edit and make your changes.
11. After you finish reviewing the configuration details, choose Launch. If an error message notifies you that you don’t have sufficient limits to create the image builder, submit a limit increase request through the AWS Support Center. For more information, see AWS Service Limits.

12. The image builder creation process takes about 15 minutes to complete. During this process, the status of the image builder displays as Pending while AppStream 2.0 provisions the necessary resources.

13. Click the Refresh icon periodically to update the image builder status. After the status changes to Running, the image builder is ready to use and you can create a custom image.

   **Note:** Charges accrue for an image builder instance while it is running, even if no user is actively connected. You can stop or delete the image builder at any time. No user fees are incurred when users connect to an image builder. For more information, see AppStream 2.0 Pricing.

**Step 4: Connect to the image builder and install applications**

Now that you have provisioned an image builder, you can use it to install and configure the applications to stream to users. First, you must establish a remote connection to the instance to install and configure your applications.

**Connect to the image builder instance**


2. In the navigation pane, choose Images, Image Builder.

3. Select the image builder instance that you created earlier (DemoCo_Image1_mmddyyyy). Verify that its status is Running and choose Connect.

   **Note:** If the status is Stopped, select the instance, and choose Actions, Start. Click the Refresh icon periodically to update the instance list until the status is Running.
4. The new browser tab opens, displaying options for logging into the image builder instance. Choose **Local User, Administrator**.

![Figure 7: The image builder instance login options window.](image)

**Note:** If a new browser tab does not open, configure your browser to allow pop-ups from https://console.aws.amazon.com/.

5. After a few moments, you are connected to the image builder instance with administrator rights.

**Install MATLAB**

1. Launch a browser (Firefox is provided with the image builder) and browse to [https://www.mathworks.com/downloads/](https://www.mathworks.com/downloads/). Choose **Download R2018a or later**. In the next page, choose **Windows (64-bit)**.

2. After the download is complete, launch the downloaded executable. This process will extract the installation files to a known file location in image builder.

3. Once the extraction is complete, the installation process will start automatically.

4. In the prompted dialog, choose **Log in with a MathWorks Account** for the installation method choice and choose **Next**.

5. In the next screen, provide your MathWorks Account login credentials (username and password) and choose **Next**. If you are successfully authenticated, you will proceed to the next step in installation.

6. In the next screen, choose **Install** and click **Next**.
7. Choose one of your licenses in the next screen and choose **Next**.

8. Leave the default installation folder path unchanged and choose **Next**.

9. Select the MATLAB products that you want to install and choose **Next**.

10. Leave the options unchanged in the next screen and choose **Next, Install**.

11. In the final screen after installation, uncheck the option to activate MATLAB and choose **Finish**.

**Configure MATLAB to use online licensing mode**

1. Transfer the license configuration file linked here `license_info.xml` to a known file location in your local computer.

2. Choose the folder icon in the streaming session toolbar to launch the **My Files** web dialog. Click **Temporary Files** folder.

3. Use the **Upload Files** option to upload the license info xml file to the image builder.

4. Once the file is uploaded, copy the xml to the licenses folder under the MATLAB directory. If Release 2018a was installed, the location is `- C:\Program Files\MATLAB\R2018a\licenses`

5. This change ensures that MATLAB always uses the online licensing mode to authorize use.

6. Launch MATLAB, sign in with your MathWorks Account credentials and verify that the application launches successfully.
Step 5: Use Image Assistant to create an AppStream 2.0 image

At this point, you have launched an image builder instance and installed MATLAB on the image builder. Now you’ll prepare the applications for streaming, optimize them for streaming performance, and create your image.

In this section, you’ll do the following:

- Create an application catalog by using Image Assistant.
- Disable the Internet Explorer Enhanced Security Protection feature.
- Test the application by using a local user account that has the same permissions that end users will have in their streaming sessions.
- Optimize the application’s launch performance.
- Configure the image.
- Finish creating the image.

Create your AppStream 2.0 application catalog

The process of creating an AppStream 2.0 application catalog includes specifying the name, display name, executable file to launch, and icon to display for each application that you plan to stream.

1. From the image builder desktop, open Image Assistant.

2. In the Add Applications to Image dialog box, on the Add Apps tab, choose Add App.
3. Navigate to the location of the MATLAB executable (for example - C:\Program Files\MATLAB\R2018a\bin), select the application executable, and then choose Open.

4. In **Edit Application Setting**, type the following information and choose **Save**.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Option</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Name</strong></td>
<td>Name of the application executable. This field is automatically populated and not editable.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Display Name</strong></td>
<td>The name of the application that is displayed to end users. Type MATLAB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Launch Path</strong></td>
<td>The location of your application executable file. Accept the default value.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Icon Path</strong></td>
<td>Accept the default value of C:\ProgramData\Amazon\Photon\AppCatalogHelper...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Launch Parameters</strong></td>
<td>--useStartupFolderPref “C:\Users\PhotonUser\My Files”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Working Directory</strong></td>
<td>Leave this blank.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
5. Now that you have added MATLAB to your catalog, choose Next.

**Disable Internet Explorer Enhanced Security Configuration**

Applications use Internet Explorer to open http links embedded in the applications. When you launch one of these links, Internet Explorer displays a warning message for every webpage that it opens. This behavior is due to the Internet Explorer Enhanced Security Configuration, a security setting of IE that blocks access to web content and application scripts for security reasons. This setting may prevent MATLAB from functioning properly. We can safely disable this feature to proceed further. To disable this feature for AppStream 2.0 users, do the following.

6. Connect to your image builder as **Administrator**.

7. Open **Server Manager** from the Windows Task bar.

8. Choose **Local Server -> IE Enhanced Security Configuration**.

9. Choose Off option for both Administrators and Users.

![Figure 6: IE ESC - Server Manager in Image Builder](image)

10. Choose **Admin Commands -> Switch User -> Template User** to switch to Template User account.

11. Once you are logged into the Template User account, launch **Internet Explorer**.
12. Choose **Settings** -> **Internet Options** from the top right menu of Internet Explorer. In the prompted dialog, choose **Advanced**.

13. Click the **Reset** button. Click **Reset** again in the prompted dialog. Close **Internet Explorer**.

14. Switch to **Administrator** account. Launch **Image Assistant**. Choose **Next** to proceed to the Configure step. From this tab, click **Save settings**. This will save the template user settings as default user settings.

15. Switch to test user. Launch Internet explorer. Confirm that the message “Internet Explorer Enhanced Security configuration is not enabled” is displayed in the home page. Browse to any website to confirm that IE is not displaying any blocking prompts.

**Test your applications by using a local user account**

An image builder includes a test user account that enables you to test your applications by using the same policies and permissions as your users. Follow these steps to confirm that your applications open correctly.

1. In the **Test** tab, choose **Switch User**, **Test User**.

   You are now logged into the same Windows Server 2012 R2 instance as a local user who has regular (non-administrative) user rights.

2. Open Image Assistant. In **Test Applications**, MATLAB application that you added are displayed.

3. Choose the application to open it. Sign in with your MathWorks Account credentials to launch the application.

4. If you get a license error, contact your administrator.

5. After successful authentication, wait for the application to launch fully. After validating the launch, sign out from the application and close the application window.

6. Choose **Switch User**.
7. On the **Local User** tab, choose **Administrator**.

8. On the Image Assistant **Test** tab, choose **Next**.

**Optimize the launch performance of your applications**
During this step, Image Assistant opens your applications one after another, identifies their launch dependencies, and performs optimizations to ensure that applications launch quickly.

1. On the **Optimize** tab, choose **MATLAB, Launch**.

2. Wait for MATLAB to completely start, as prompted by a message from Image Assistant.

3. After you complete the first run experience for the application and verify that it functions as expected, choose **Continue**.

**Configure the image**
1. On the **Configure Image** tab, type the following information.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Option</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Name</strong></td>
<td>The unique name identifier for the image, such as <code>DemoCo_Image_MATLAB_v1_mmddyyyy</code>, using any of the following characters: a-Z,0–9,-,_,. Note: The name cannot begin with &quot;Amazon,&quot; &quot;AWS,&quot; or &quot;AppStream.&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Display Name</strong></td>
<td>A user-friendly name to display in the console</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Description</strong></td>
<td>An optional description for the image: for example, <em>Image v1 created by (your initials or name) on mm/dd/yyyy.</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Finish creating the image

Complete the following steps to disconnect from the remote session and start the image creation process.

1. Review the image details, and choose **Disconnect and Create Image**.

2. The remote session disconnects within a few moments. When the **Lost Connectivity** message appears, close the browser tab.

![Image showing the Lost Connectivity message](image)

*Figure 7: The Lost connectivity message indicating that the image creation process has started.*

3. Return to the [Amazon AppStream 2.0 console](https://console.aws.amazon.com/appstream/) and choose **Images, Image Registry**. While your image is being created, the image status in the image registry of the console appears as **Pending**. While your image is being created, you cannot connect to it.

4. Click the **Refresh** icon periodically to update the status. Image creation takes about 20 minutes. After your image is created, the image status changes to **Available** and the image builder is automatically stopped.
**Note:** To make changes to your image, such as adding other applications or updating existing applications, you must create a new image. To do so, restart and reconnect to the image builder, make your changes, and then repeat the Image Assistant process to create a new image that includes the changes.

**Step 6: Provision a fleet**

An AppStream 2.0 fleet defines the hardware, network, Active Directory (if applicable), and scaling configuration for your application streaming infrastructure. For more information, see [Amazon AppStream 2.0 Stacks and Fleets](https://docs.aws.amazon.com/appstream2/latest/userguide/stacks-fleets.html).

In this section, you’ll do the following:

- Provide details for your fleet.
- Choose an image.
- Configure the fleet.
- Configure the network.

**Provide fleet details**

2. In the navigation pane, choose **Fleets, Create Fleet**.
3. For **Step 1: Provide Fleet Details**, type the following text and choose **Next**.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Option</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>The unique name identifier for the fleet, such as <em>DemoCo_Fleet_v1_mmddyyyy</em>, using any of the following characters: a-Z,0–9,-,_,.&lt;br&gt;&lt;br&gt;Note: The name cannot begin with &quot;Amazon,&quot; &quot;AWS,&quot; or &quot;AppStream.&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Display Name</td>
<td>The name displayed in the console, such as <em>DemoCo Fleet v1 April 2018.</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Description</td>
<td>An optional description for the fleet. For example, <em>Fleet v1 created by (your initials or name) on mm/dd/20yy.</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Choose an image

For Step 2: Choose an image, choose the image that you created, scroll to the bottom of the page, and then choose Next.

Configure the fleet

1. For Step 3: Configure fleet, in Choose instance type, you define the hardware configuration for each of the instances that make up your fleet. Because you created the image by using the Graphics Design family, the instance type is already populated. However, you can select any of the four instance type options that are presented.

2. For this exercise, select the Graphics Pro instance family, and then choose stream.graphics-pro.4xlarge. For more information, see Amazon AppStream 2.0 Instance Families.

3. Under Fleet Type details, choose a fleet type that suits your needs. The fleet type determines the availability of streaming instances and affects your costs. You can choose either of the following:
   - **Always-on**: Instances run all the time, even when no users are streaming applications. When this option is selected, instances are immediately available for the next user to connect to immediately.
   - **On-Demand**: Instances run only when users are streaming applications. Idle instances that are available for streaming are in a stopped state. When this option is selected, a user must wait for one to two minutes for an instance to start up.

   For this exercise, select the On-Demand option.

4. Under User session details, define the maximum amount of time that users can be connected to streaming sessions and how long streaming sessions should remain active after users disconnect.
   - **Maximum session duration** defines how long user streaming sessions can remain active. If users are still connected to a streaming session five
minutes before this limit is reached, they are prompted to save any open documents before being disconnected. Choose **8 hours**.

- **Disconnect timeout** defines how long user streaming sessions can remain active after users are disconnected. If users try to reconnect to the streaming session after a disconnection or network interruption within this time interval, they are connected to the previous session. After the disconnect timeout expires, the session is terminated, and the user must start a new session to reconnect. Leave the default setting of **15 minutes**.

5. Under **Fleet capacity**, set **Minimum capacity** to 2 and **Maximum Capacity** to 4.

**Notes:**
- Capacity is defined in terms of the number of instances within a fleet and, consequently, every unique user streaming session that is served by a separate instance.
- The minimum capacity for your fleet is the minimum number of users who are expected to be streaming at the same time.
- The maximum capacity for your fleet is the maximum number of users who are expected to be streaming at the same time.

6. Choose **Next**.

**Configure the network**

1. For **Step 4: Configure Network**, make sure that the **Default Internet Access** check box is not selected. This option does not need to be selected because you already configured a VPC with a NAT gateway to provide internet access.

2. For **VPC**, select **vpc-xxxxxxxxx (AppStream2 VPC)**.

3. For **Subnet 1**, choose **subnet-xxxxxxx | (10.0.1.0/24)**. This is the AppStream2 Private Subnet1.

4. For **Subnet 2**, choose **subnet-xxxxxxx | (10.0.2.0/24)**. This is the AppStream2 Private Subnet2.
5. Choose **Next**.

6. Confirm the fleet configuration details. To change settings for any section, choose **Edit**, and make the needed changes. After you finish reviewing the configuration details, choose **Create**.

7. In the pricing acknowledgement dialog box, select the acknowledgement check box, and choose **Create** to begin provisioning your fleet with the initial set of running instances.

![Create AppStream 2.0 Fleet [On-Demand]](image)

*Figure 8: The AppStream 2.0 streaming instance pricing acknowledgement dialog box.*

**Note:** If an error message notifies you that you don’t have sufficient limits to create the fleet, submit a limit increase request to the AWS Support Center. For more information, see [Amazon AppStream 2.0 Service Limits](#).

Fleet provisioning usually takes 10 minutes to finish. While your fleet is being created and fleet instances are provisioned, the status of your fleet displays as **Starting** in the **Fleets** list. Choose the **Refresh** icon periodically to update the fleet status until the status is **Running**.

8. After the status changes to **Running**, the fleet is available and you can use it to create a stack.
Step 7: Create an AppStream 2.0 stack and a streaming URL

An AppStream 2.0 stack consists of a fleet, user access policies, and storage configurations. You create a stack to start streaming applications to users.

In this section, you’ll do the following:

- Provide details for your stack and associate your stack with a fleet.
- Enable persistent storage for the stack.
- Create a streaming URL.

Provide stack details and associate the stack with a fleet


2. In the navigation pane, choose Stacks, Create Stack.

3. For **Step1: Stack Details**, type the following information and choose Next.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Option</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>The unique name identifier for the stack, such as DemoCo_Stack_mmddyyyy, using any of the following characters: a-Z,0–9,-,_. Note: The name cannot begin with &quot;Amazon,&quot; &quot;AWS,&quot; or &quot;AppStream.&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Display Name</td>
<td>The name displayed in the console, such as DemoCo Stack April 2018.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Description</td>
<td>An optional text box where you can enter details of the stack:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Redirect URL</td>
<td>An optional URL to which users are redirected at the end of their streaming session. Type: <a href="https://aws.amazon.com">https://aws.amazon.com</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Enable persistent storage for the stack

1. For **Step 2: Enable Storage**, make sure that the **Enable Home Folders** option is selected. When this option is selected for an AppStream 2.0 stack, users of the stack are presented with a persistent storage folder in their AppStream 2.0 sessions. Data stored by users in their Home Folders is backed up to an Amazon S3 bucket that is automatically created in your AWS account. You can also enable **Google Drive for G Suite** or **OneDrive for Business** as user storage options if you use of these storage providers. For more information, see Persistent Storage with AppStream 2.0.

   ![Figure 9: The Enable Home Folders page, displaying the Amazon S3 bucket that is automatically created.](image)

2. Choose **Review**.

3. Confirm the stack configuration details. To change the settings for any section, choose **Edit** and make the needed changes. After you finish reviewing the configuration details, choose **Create**.

After a few moments, the **Stacks** list reappears. Your stack is listed with a status of **Active**.

Create a streaming URL

To quickly test application streaming without setting up users, create a temporary URL that can be pasted into a new browser window.

1. In the navigation pane, choose **Stacks**.

2. For **Stacks**, select the stack that you just created.
3. Choose **Actions, Create streaming URL**.

![Create streaming URL menu item](image)

*Figure 10: The Create streaming URL menu item.*

4. In the **Create streaming URL** dialog box, type the following information and choose **Get URL**.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Option</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>User id</strong></td>
<td>An ID for the user of the streaming URL. For this exercise, type <em>DemoCoTestUser1</em>. Note: This entry is not tied to Active Directory or an LDAP type of directory service. It is simply an identifier for creating a unique URL.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Session Expiration</strong></td>
<td>The length of time that this URL is available to use. For this exercise, choose <strong>1 hour</strong>.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5. The **Create streaming URL** dialog box refreshes, displaying the user ID that you entered and the URL that AppStream 2.0 generated for the user.

6. Choose **Copy Link** to copy the full URL to the clipboard.
7. The **Create streaming URL** dialog box refreshes again, confirming that the link was successfully copied to the clipboard. Close the **Create Streaming URL** dialog box.

**Notes:**

- Providing access to an AppStream 2.0 streaming session through a console-generated link as described in this procedure is for testing only.
- In a production environment, several authentication and authorization options are available to provide your users with access to AppStream 2.0. These options include federation through SAML 2.0, the AppStream 2.0 user pool (a built-in identity management feature), and custom identity solutions. For more information, see [Setting up SAML](#) and [Manage Access with the AppStream 2.0 User Pool](#).

8. In a browser, open a new tab, paste the streaming URL into the address bar, and press **Enter**. AppStream 2.0 displays an application catalog page that lists the applications that you have configured for streaming.

9. Choose the MATLAB icon to stream the application, and confirm that it functions as expected.
Step 8: Manage user access with an AppStream 2.0 user pool

An AppStream 2.0 user pool is a built-in identity management feature that you can use to enable users to access their streamed applications. Alternatively, you can use SAML 2.0 to federate through Microsoft Active Directory or any other custom identity solution provider that supports SAML 2.0.

Note: This guide describes how to manage user access to AppStream 2.0 with the user pool. For information about configuring third-party SAML 2.0 identity provider solutions to work with AppStream 2.0, see AppStream 2.0 Integration with SAML 2.0.

To enable users in the user pool to open applications after they sign in to the AppStream 2.0 user portal, you must assign each user to at least one stack that contains applications. After you assign the user to a stack, AppStream 2.0 sends an optional notification email to the user with instructions about how to access the stack and a URL. The user can access the stack by using the URL until you delete the stack or unassign the user from the stack.

In this section, you’ll configure an AppStream 2.0 user pool and grant a user access to AppStream 2.0 by doing the following:

- Create a user in the user pool. AppStream 2.0 then sends a welcome email with instructions and a temporary password.
- Assign the stack that you created to the user.

Create a user


2. In the navigation pane, choose User Pool, Create User.

3. In the Create User dialog box, type the following information and choose Create User.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Option</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Email</td>
<td>An active email address that you can access.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Option</td>
<td>Value</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Name</td>
<td>The first name of the user.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Last Name</td>
<td>The last name of the user.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. After a few moments, the **User Pool** list refreshes, and the user is listed and enabled.

![Image of User Pool dashboard](image)

*Figure 13: The User Pool dashboard showing the newly created user.*

**Assign a stack to the user**

1. In the navigation pane, choose **User Pool**, and select the user that you created.

2. Choose **Actions**, **Assign Stack**.

3. In the **Assign Stack** dialog box, for **Stack**, select the `DemoCo_Stack_mmddyyyy` stack that you created earlier.

4. Leave the **Send email notification to user** option selected.

5. Choose **Assign Stack**.

6. After a few moments, the **User Pool** list refreshes. The user that you created appears under **User Details** with `DemoCo_Stack_mmddyyyy` as an assigned stack.
Step 9: Test the end user authentication and application streaming experience

In the previous section, you added a user to the user pool by providing a name and an email address and then assigned a stack to the user. AppStream 2.0 sent an email to the email address after each action. To test the end user experience, sign in to AppStream 2.0 as the user that you created and start a streaming session.

1. Open the first notification email that you received, and open the Login page link. The AppStream 2.0 portal sign-in page opens in your browser.
2. Type the email address used for the user that you created and the temporary password that was provided in the email, and then choose Log in.

3. When prompted, type a new password, confirm it, and then choose Set Password. The AppStream 2.0 application catalog page opens, displaying the applications that are available for streaming.

4. Choose an application to begin streaming.
Step 10: Take the next step with AppStream 2.0

Congratulations, you have now successfully created an AppStream 2.0 environment to stream applications. Below is an architectural diagram illustrating the AppStream 2.0 environment you created:
This guide provided an introduction to AppStream 2.0 by walking you through basic configuration and deployment exercises for MATLAB. To increase your understanding of AppStream 2.0 and take advantage of more features, consider doing the following:

1. Try using different instance types and sizes to match your application’s requirements. For information about the different instance types and sizes available for AppStream 2.0, and their pricing, see Amazon AppStream 2.0 Pricing.

2. Enable single sign-on (SSO) access to your streamed applications through SAML 2.0. When you do this, your users can use their existing credentials to sign into AppStream 2.0 streaming sessions through your own web portal. For more information, see Single Sign-on Access to AppStream 2.0 Using SAML 2.0.

3. Join your AppStream 2.0 fleets and image builders to domains in Microsoft Active Directory. Your users can then benefit from access to Active Directory network resources such as printers and file shares from within their streaming sessions. You can also apply Group Policy settings to your streaming instances and users to meet the needs of your organization. For more information, see Using Active Directory with AppStream 2.0.

4. Configure your fleet scaling policies to increase or decrease the number of instances available to users in response to changes in user demand or according to time of day. For more information, see Fleet Auto Scaling for Amazon AppStream 2.0.

**Important:** Remember to delete the resources that you created in these exercises to avoid further charges to your account. For information about how to delete AppStream 2.0 resources, see Appendix E. For more information about AppStream 2.0 pricing, see Amazon AppStream 2.0 Pricing.
Appendix A: Create and activate an AWS account

If you do not already have an AWS account, complete the following steps to create and activate one. During this process, you do the following:

- Create your AWS account.
- Add a payment method.
- Verify your phone number.
- Select an AWS Support plan.
- Watch for three account confirmation emails.

Create your AWS account

1. In a browser window, open the Amazon Web Services webpage.
2. Choose Create an AWS Account. If you've signed in to AWS recently, you might see Sign In to the Console instead. If Create a new AWS account isn't visible, choose Sign in to a different account, Create a new AWS account.
3. On the Create an AWS Account page, type a valid email address, a password and password confirmation, and an AWS account name.
4. You must note the account name, email address, and password that you choose for your AWS account because you need these credentials to sign in to AWS.
5. Choose Continue.
6. On the Contact Information page, the option to choose a company account or personal account is available. These two account types function identically. For the exercises in this guide, choose Personal Account, and then enter the requested contact information.
7. Review the AWS Customer Agreement, and select the corresponding check box.
8. Choose Create Account and Continue.
**Note:** After you receive an email to confirm that your account is created, you can sign in to your new account by using the email address and password that you provided. However, you must continue with the activation process before you can use AWS services.

**Add a payment method**
On the **Payment Information** page, type the requested information associated with your payment method. If the address for your payment method is the same as the address you provided for your account, choose **Secure Submit**.

Otherwise, choose **Use a new address**, type the billing address for your payment method, and then choose **Secure Submit**.

**Verify your phone number**
1. On the **Phone Verification** page, type a phone number that you can use to accept incoming calls.

2. Type the code displayed in the captcha.

3. When you’re ready to receive the call, choose **Call me Now**. In a few moments, you’ll receive an automated call from AWS that prompts you to enter your PIN to validate the AWS account.

4. When you receive the call, enter the provided PIN on your phone’s keypad.

5. After the process is complete, choose **Continue**.

**Choose an AWS Support plan**
On the **Select a Support Plan** page, choose **Basic**. For information about AWS Support, see [AWS Support Features](#).

After you choose a Support plan, a confirmation page indicates that your AWS account is being activated. Accounts are usually activated within a few minutes, but the process may take up to 24 hours. If you attempt to sign in to the AWS Management Console before your account is active, the following message appears:
Your service sign-up is almost complete!

Thanks for signing up with Amazon Web Services. Your services may take up to 24 hours to fully activate. If you’re unable to access AWS services after that time, here are a few things you can do to expedite the process:

1. Make sure you provided all necessary information during signup. Complete your AWS registration.
2. Check your email to see if you have received any requests for additional information. If you have, please respond to those emails with the information requested.
3. Verify your credit card information is correct. Also, check your credit card activity to see if there’s a $1 authorization (this is not a charge). You may need to contact your card issuer to approve the authorization.

If the problem persists, please contact Support:

[Contact Support]

*Figure 18: Message that appears if you sign in before your account activation is complete.*

Watch for three AWS account confirmation emails

When you sign up for your account, you receive three account confirmation emails:

- The first email, with a subject line of “Welcome to Amazon Web Services,” confirms the creation of your AWS account and is sent almost immediately after you verify your phone number.

- The second email, with a subject line of “AWS Support (Basic) Sign-Up Confirmation,” confirms the AWS Support option that you selected during the account creation process.

- The third email, with a subject line of “Your AWS Account is Ready - Get Started Now,” is sent after your AWS account ID is ready to use. After you receive this email, you can access AWS services by using the [AWS Management Console](https://aws.amazon.com).
Appendix B. Manually create and configure network resources

Step 2 of this guide described how to use a CloudFormation template to automatically create and configure the necessary network resources for your AppStream 2.0 environment. To manually create and configure network resources, follow the steps in this appendix. At the end of this appendix, the topology of your “DemoCo” VPC should look similar to the following diagram:

![Diagram](image)

*Figure 19: DemoCo VPC architecture.*

**Note:** The CIDR block assignments for the private subnets might be reversed depending on the availability zones used by the VPC wizard.
**AppStream VPC requirements**

At a minimum, AppStream 2.0 requires a VPC that includes one public subnet and two private subnets. A public subnet has direct access to the internet through an internet gateway. A private subnet requires a Network Address Translation (NAT) gateway or NAT instance to access the internet.

**Allocate an Elastic IP address**

Before you create your VPC, you must allocate an Elastic IP address in your AppStream 2.0 region. An Elastic IP address enables your streaming instances to be accessible through an internet gateway.

1. Open the Amazon EC2 console at [https://console.aws.amazon.com/ec2](https://console.aws.amazon.com/ec2).
2. In the navigation pane, under **Network & Security**, choose **Elastic IPs**.
3. Choose **Allocate New Address** and then choose **Allocate**.
4. Note the Elastic IP address and then choose **Close**.

![Figure 20: An allocated Elastic IP address.](image)

**Create a VPC by using the VPC Wizard**

The easiest way to start building your VPC environment is to use the VPC Wizard. The wizard guides you through the process of creating a public subnet, private subnet, NAT gateway, and internet gateway, with the correct route table configurations.

1. Open the Amazon VPC console at [https://console.aws.amazon.com/vpc/](https://console.aws.amazon.com/vpc/).
2. In the navigation pane, choose **VPC Dashboard, Start VPC Wizard**.
3. In **Step 1: Select a VP Configuration**, choose **VPC with Public and Private Subnets**, Select.

![Diagram](image)

**Figure 21: Creating a VPC with the VPC Wizard.**

4. In **Step 2: VPC with Public and Private Subnets**, type the following information and then choose **Create VPC**.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Option</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>IPv4 CIDR block</td>
<td>10.0.0.0/20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IPv6 CIDR block</td>
<td>Accept the default value: No IPv6 CIDR Block</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VPC Name</td>
<td>AppStream2 VPC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public subnet’s IPv4 CIDR</td>
<td>Accept the default value: 10.0.0.0/24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Availability Zone</td>
<td>Accept the default value: No Preference</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public subnet name</td>
<td>AppStream2 Public Subnet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private subnet’s IPv4 CIDR</td>
<td>Accept the default value: 10.0.1.0/24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Availability Zone</td>
<td>Accept the default value: No Preference</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private subnet name</td>
<td>AppStream2 Private Subnet1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Option</strong></td>
<td><strong>Value</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Elastic IP Allocation ID</strong></td>
<td>Click in the text box and select the value that corresponds to the Elastic IP address you created. This address is assigned to the NAT gateway.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Service endpoints</strong></td>
<td>Choose Add Endpoint.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Service</strong></td>
<td>Select the entry in the list that ends with &quot;s3&quot; (the com.amazonaws.xx-rrrr-x.s3 service that corresponds to the region in which the VPC is being created). <strong>Note:</strong> This is not the default value.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Subnet</strong></td>
<td>Select Private subnet.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Policy</strong></td>
<td>Accept the default value: Full Access</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Enable DNS hostnames</strong></td>
<td>Accept the default value: Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Hardware tenancy</strong></td>
<td>Accept the default value: Default</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Note:** The VPC names and subnet names are for identification purposes only. You can use different names.

5. After a few minutes, when a message in the VPC dashboard notifies you that the VPC is created, choose OK.

**Add a second private subnet**

1. In the navigation pane, choose Subnets.

2. Select the subnet with the name AppStream2 Private Subnet1. On the Summary tab, below the list of subnets, make a note of the Availability Zone for this subnet.
3. At the top of the same page, choose Create Subnet. Enter the following information in the Create Subnet dialog box and then choose Yes, Create.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Option</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Name tag</td>
<td>AppStream2 Private Subnet2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VPC</td>
<td>Select the VPC with the name AppStream2 VPC.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Availability Zone</td>
<td>Select an Availability Zone other than the one you are using for AppStream2 Private Subnet1. Selecting a different Availability Zone increases fault tolerance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IPv4 CIDR block</td>
<td>10.0.2.0/24 (This is a subset of the CIDR block for your VPC.)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Modify the subnet route tables

1. In the navigation pane, choose Subnets, and then select the subnet with the name AppStream2 Public Subnet.

2. On the Route Table tab, note the ID of the route table (similar to rtb-XXXXXXXXXX).

3. In the navigation pane, choose Route Tables and select the route table with the ID that you noted in the previous step.
4. For **Name**, open the empty field, type *AppStream2 Public Route Table*, and then select the check mark to save your changes.

![Figure 23: Opening the name field for the route table that serves the AppStream2 Public Subnet.](image)

5. Make sure that **AppStream2 Public Route Table** is still selected. On the **Routes** tab, verify that the route table includes the following two routes:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Destination</th>
<th>Target</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10.0.0.0/20</td>
<td>local</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.0.0.0/0</td>
<td><code>igw-XXXXXXXX</code></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

These two routes function as follows for all resources within a subnet that is associated with the route table:

- **Local**: All traffic from the resources destined for IPv4 addresses within the 10.0.0.0/20 CIDR block is routed locally within the VPC.
- **Outbound**: Traffic destined for all other IPv4 addresses is routed to the internet gateway (identified by `igw-XXXXXXXX`) that was created by the VPC Wizard.

To modify the route table, choose **Edit** and make the needed changes. For more information, see [Route Tables](#).

6. In the navigation pane, choose **Subnets** and select the subnet named **AppStream2 Private Subnet1**.

7. On the **Route Table** tab, note the ID of the route table (similar to `rtb-XXXXXXXX`).

8. In the navigation pane, choose **Route Tables** and select the route table with the ID you noted in the previous step.

9. For **Name**, open the empty field, type *AppStream2 Private Route Table*, and then select the check mark to save your changes.
10. Make sure that **AppStream2 Private Route Table** is still selected, and on the **Routes** tab, verify that the route table includes the following routes:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Destination</th>
<th>Target</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10.0.0.0/20</td>
<td>local</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.0.0.0/0</td>
<td>nat-XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pl-YYYYYYYYY (com.amazonaws.&lt;region&gt;-&lt;#&gt;.s3)</td>
<td>vpce-ZZZZZZZZZ</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

These three routes function as follows for all resources within a subnet that is associated with the route table:

- **Local**: All traffic from the resources destined for IPv4 addresses within the 10.0.0.0/20 CIDR block is routed locally within the VPC.

- **Storage**: Traffic destined for S3 buckets is routed to the S3 endpoint (identified by `vpce-ZZZZZZZZZ`).

- **Outbound**: Traffic destined for all other IPv4 addresses is routed to the NAT gateway (identified by `nat-XXXXXXXXX`).

To modify the route table, choose **Edit** and make the needed changes. For more information, see **Route Tables**.

11. In the navigation pane, choose **Subnets** and select the subnet with the name **AppStream2 Private Subnet2**.

12. On the **Routes** tab, verify that the route table is the one named AppStream2 Private Route Table. If the route table is different, choose **Edit** and select this route table.
Appendix C. Clean up your AppStream 2.0 resources

Although you can continue to use this AppStream 2.0 environment, keep in mind that you pay for your running resources. For more information, see Amazon AppStream 2.0 Pricing.

Cleaning up the resources that you created frees up resources and helps you avoid unintended charges to your account.

Stop and delete your image builder


2. In the navigation pane, choose Images, Image Builder.

3. Confirm whether the image builder that you created in Step 3 in this guide is in a stopped state. If not, select the image builder and choose Actions, Stop. If you created multiple image builders, repeat this step for each image builder that you created.

4. After the image builder has stopped, choose Actions, Delete. Repeat this step for each image builder that you created.

Revoke stack permissions for users in the user pool

1. In the navigation pane, choose User Pool.

2. Select the user you created in Step 9 in this guide and choose Actions, Unassign stack. This action revokes the stack permissions for the user.

Disassociate your fleets from your stack and delete your stack

1. In the navigation pane, choose Stacks.

2. Select the stack you created and choose Actions, Dissociate Fleet. This action dissociates the fleet from the stack.

3. To delete the stack, choose Actions, Delete.

Stop and delete your fleet

1. In the navigation pane, choose Fleets.
2. Confirm whether the fleet that you created in Step 6 in this guide is in a stopped state. If not, select the fleet and choose Actions, Stop.

3. After the fleet has stopped, choose Actions, Delete.
Appendix D. Additional resources

For more information about AppStream 2.0, visit the following resources:

- [Amazon AppStream 2.0 Product Details](#)
- [Amazon AppStream 2.0 Pricing Details](#)
- [Amazon AppStream 2.0 FAQs](#)
- [Amazon AppStream 2.0 Developer Guide](#)
- [Amazon AppStream 2.0 API Reference](#)
- [Amazon AppStream 2.0 CLI Reference](#)
- [Amazon AppStream 2.0 Try It Now Demo](#)
- [Amazon AppStream 2.0 Resources](#)