aws marketplace

Amazon Linux

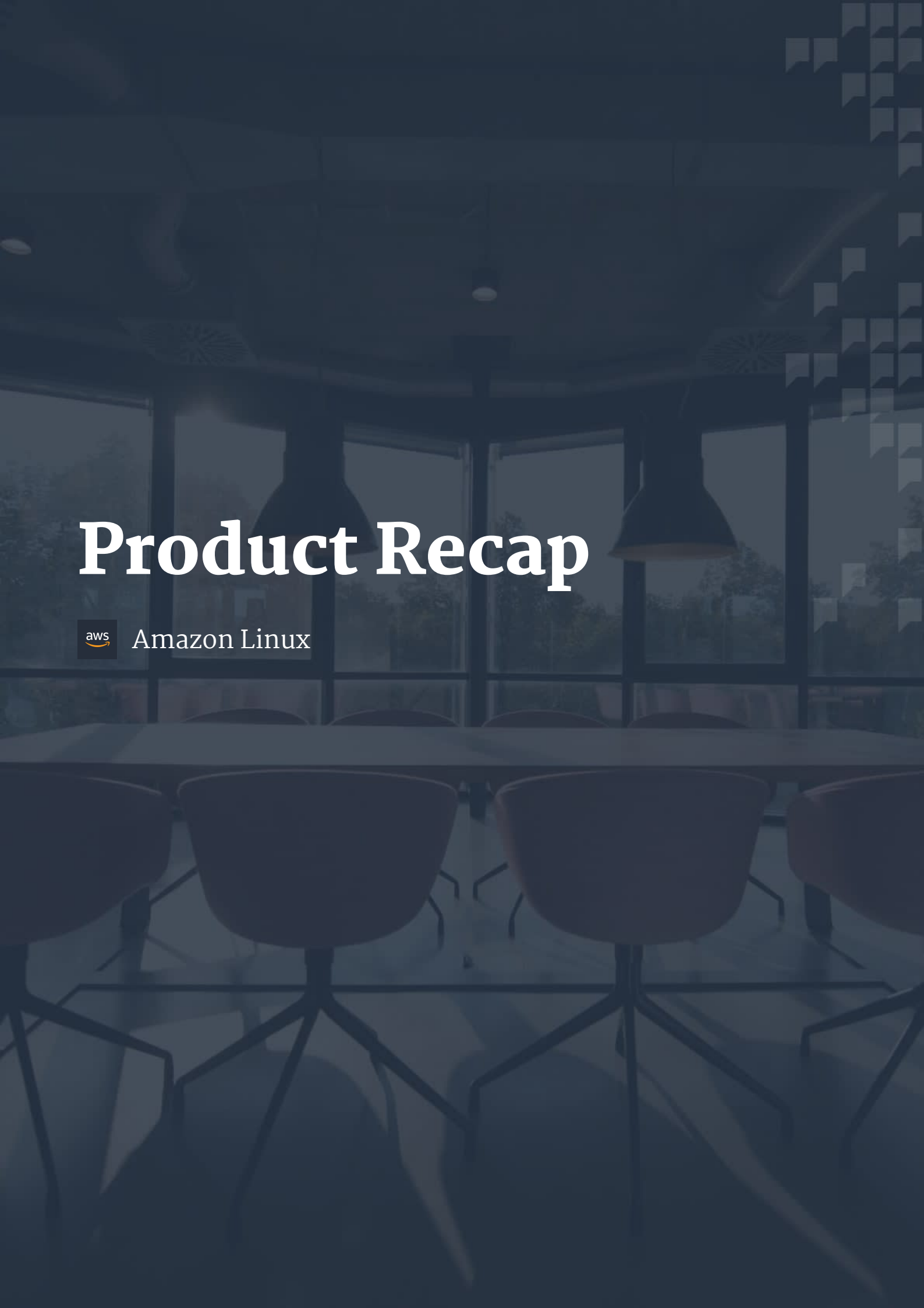
Reviews, tips, and advice from real users






Powered by PeerSpot

Contents



Product Recap

Amazon Linux

Amazon Linux Recap

Amazon Linux is a secure and stable distribution for cloud environments, optimized for AWS performance. It is widely adopted by developers seeking minimal disruption in deployment and management, offering a seamless operational experience.

Developed by Amazon Web Services, Amazon Linux provides an environment streamlined for performance on AWS infrastructure. By offering long-term support and regular security updates, it ensures crucial security and reliability. It is tailored to enhance cloud-centric application development, making it a preferred choice for developers needing efficient resource management. Its compatibility with a wide range of AWS tools and services makes it highly adaptable for cloud-native solutions.

What are the key features of Amazon Linux?

- Security: Offers frequent updates and security patches for a reliable operating environment.
- Performance: Optimized for AWS, improving speed and efficiency.
- Flexibility: Easily customizable to meet specific application needs.
- Long-term Support: Provides extended software support to reduce maintenance overhead.

What benefits or ROI should users look for in Amazon Linux reviews?

- Integrated AWS Tools: Improves workflow efficiency by seamless integration with AWS ecosystem.
- Regular Updates: Ensures up-to-date security and performance features.
- Cost Efficiency: Reduces operational costs with optimized cloud resources.
- Developer Satisfaction: Enhances developer productivity with streamlined resource management.

In industries such as finance and healthcare, Amazon Linux is used to develop cloud applications that require secure data handling and robust performance. Media companies appreciate its flexibility and speed in managing high-demand scenarios, ensuring scalable content delivery and reliable performance.

Valuable Features

Excerpts from real customer reviews on PeerSpot:

- "One great feature is the ability to apply critical security patches without rebooting the server, which avoids downtime and is why we prefer to use Amazon Linux for production servers and low-latency applications."

SAURAB K GANGURDE

Senior AWS Consultant at Quantum Integrators

- "Combined with AWS managed infrastructure, it provides enterprise-grade reliability suitable for production workloads."

Deva Rugved

Software Engineer at INSTITUTE OF AERONAUTICAL ENGINEERING

- "Amazon Linux is truly a performance-first choice for anyone operating in the cloud, turning the operating system from a management burden into a strategic advantage by providing a high-security environment without the premium price tag of other enterprise Linux distributions."

BasilJiji

System Engineer at a retailer with 10,001+ employees

"The positive impact of Amazon Linux on my organization is significant, as it has improved organizational security by closing known vulnerabilities quickly, reducing the risk of hacking and malware, resulting in fewer security incidents and lower breach risk."

Terrence Ncube

Junior DevOps Engineer at Wysza Szkoa Gospodarki

"The outcomes combine massive savings of over one million in under a year by migrating workloads to Graviton-based instances running Amazon Linux, as AL two thousand twenty-three is optimized for ARM at the compiler level, allowing applications to run more effectively and function on smaller instances."

Janindra Janekumaradi

configuration and management deployment at a tech vendor with 10,001+ employees

"I would recommend using Amazon Linux without hesitation."

Hussain Gagan

FullStack Developer at EnactOn Technologies

"Amazon Linux has positively impacted my organization as we have set up production microservices requiring integration with Amazon Linux and AWS cloud workloads, providing us with peace of mind since we don't need to worry about security issues."

HemantKumar7

Senior Site Reliability Engineer at a tech vendor with 501-1,000 employees

What users had to say about valuable features:

"The best features Amazon Linux offers are that it is a freeware RHEL and I can access it from anywhere in any location.

"Amazon Linux has positively impacted my organization by providing the best security features and low space for the integration of web applications and microservices.

"I can use the integrated firewall system as well as bind the port with different types of network, including different types of ports.."

SanjaySharma6 Read full review

Sr. Associate Consultant at a tech services company with 51-200 employees

"Amazon Linux offers excellent support, which is better than other Linux distributions. The platform provides stable versions, quality packages, and reliable commands. The stability is a key attribute I appreciate about Amazon Linux.

"What stands out to me is the regular updates, patches, and package support that Amazon Linux provides.

"Amazon Linux has positively impacted my organization significantly. We were using Windows, but after switching to Amazon Linux, it is cost-optimized and very secure.

"I do not measure cost optimization or security improvements in a formal way, but we compare our current Windows server costs with the projected costs if we switched to Amazon Linux. Windows is not very secure to use, whereas Amazon Linux is very secure.."

Verified user

Cloud Operations Engineer at a tech vendor with 51-200 employees

Read full review

"In my experience, the best features Amazon Linux offers are the resource dashboarding and proactive monitoring systems that I have been utilizing in day-to-day work. Most cases are centered around using a Linux base image for containerizing applications, particularly in production on ECS or by deploying on ECS, and I am deploying my servers in EKS. Currently, I also manage automation scripting and container-based images to find EC2 instances and what servers are running in the background as part of my day-to-day activities using Amazon Linux.

"Since using Amazon Linux, I have noticed a positive impact on my organization as it has become an industry standard for AWS native development. The benefits include much better resource isolation and more accurate monitoring for memory, CPU, and input-output. It makes running Docker or Kubernetes yield more predictable container performance with fewer out-of-memory kills that are hard to diagnose. Using Amazon Linux smooths the application running on Docker and Kubernetes, making it very efficient for deploying applications on cloud platforms including Amazon, Azure, and GCP.."

Janindra Janekumaradi

configuration and management deployment at a tech vendor with 10,001+ employees

Read full review

I would highlight the ease of automatic patching through the curated repositories, which ensures our instances stay compliant with minimal manual intervention.

The best features that Amazon Linux offers are, first, its Security-First design, which is a standout feature, as it comes with a minimal package set that significantly reduces our attack surface from the start. I also really value the version locking and predictable release cycles in AL2023, which gives us the stability we need for long-term production support.

“The Security-First design helps us maintain confidence that our instances are not easily compromised because of its security-first approach. The minimal package set significantly reduces our maintenance overhead. During a recent vulnerability scan, we had nearly 40% fewer findings compared to our previous standard images. Regarding version locking, it was invaluable during a major scaling event where we needed to ensure every new instance was bit-for-bit identical, preventing a mid-rollout update from breaking our custom monitoring agents.

“We have significantly improved our operational efficiencies by reducing the instance boot time. This directly impacts our organization's efficiency, making our auto-scaling much more responsive during traffic spikes. This streamlined our deployments and helped us maintain high availability with lower compute overhead. .”

Hussain Gagan
FullStack Developer at EnactOn Technologies

Read full review

“The best features Amazon Linux offers include that it is designed for Amazon users. The first one is that it is freeware. Red Hat has a subscription model. Another one is that a number of applications are pre-installed on Amazon Linux, which are helpful. It is easy to use Amazon services, and it integrates easily with Amazon services.

“For example, the Amazon services I find it integrates best with are those requiring connection to Session Manager on any Ubuntu or RHEL machine, where you have to install it first, but on Amazon Linux, it is pre-installed.

“In terms of features, it is freeware for Amazon. It is more similar to CentOS and OEL, Oracle Linux, but it is a lighter version for RHEL.

“Amazon Linux has impacted my organization positively because in any organization, the first priority is cost. For Amazon Linux, it is not required to have any subscription, unlike a RHEL-based OS. If you are going for RHEL, it is a subscription model, and we have to purchase a subscription as per our requirements. We use it as a load generation tool, so we require a number of generators, sometimes more than 100. For 100 generators, the subscription costs too much. Amazon Linux is freeware, so it is very helpful for us..”

AnilKumar13
Devops Engineer at a engineering company with 5,001-10,000 employees

Read full review

"Some of the best features of Amazon Linux are strong integration with AWS, high performance, and built-in security. It is especially optimized for AWS environments, which ensures better performance and stability in EC2 instances. It also integrates seamlessly with services like CloudWatch and Systems Manager, making monitoring and automation much easier. Another key feature is security. Amazon Linux provides regular updates, supports SELinux, and allows easy patch management, which is very important for enterprise environments. Overall, it offers a reliable, secure, and efficient platform for running production workloads in the cloud.

"Amazon Linux has positively impacted our organization by improving performance, security, and operational efficiency in our AWS environments. Since it is optimized, we have seen better stability and performance for our application workloads running on EC2 instances. It also simplifies integration with AWS services like CloudWatch, which helps us with monitoring, automation, and patch management. From a security perspective, regular updates and built-in features like SELinux have helped us maintain a strong security posture, especially for enterprise and banking clients. Overall, it has reduced operational overhead, improved system reliability, and enabled us to manage our infrastructure more efficiently at scale.

"We have seen several positive outcomes after using Amazon Linux in our environment. From a performance perspective, we observe improved system stability and uptime with fewer incidents related to OS-level issues. This helps us maintain high availability for our applications. In terms of operational efficiency, the integration with AWS services like Systems Manager has reduced manual effort in patching and maintenance, saving a significant amount of time for our team. Additionally, since Amazon Linux optimized for AWS comes at no additional licensing cost, it has helped us reduce the overall infrastructure cost compared to other operating systems. We also reduced the manual effort for patching and maintenance by around 35 to 45 percent using AWS Systems Manager automation.."

Vibin Thomas

Team Lead, Technical Content Security at a tech services company with 1,001-5,000 employees

Read full review

Other Solutions Considered

We previously were using other images of Linux distributions, such as Ubuntu. In our findings, we found that Amazon Linux images or instances boot up quite well and fast. That is why we decided to switch over to Amazon Linux.

Hussain Gagan
FullStack Developer at EnactOn Technologies

Read full review

We were considering using some other Windows images, but based on Amazon Linux documentation, we determined we should go with Amazon Linux compared to Windows distributions because we thought this would be much better, and that is why we selected it.

Hussain Gagan
FullStack Developer at EnactOn Technologies

Read full review

"I did not use a different solution before Amazon Linux, but I learned about other options including Ubuntu, Google App Engine, and some other tools during my college journey in cloud computing. I learned about those approximately 7 to 10 months ago.."

Verified user
Student at a university with 501-1,000 employees

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"I evaluated several options, including Ubuntu and CentOS. As previously mentioned, Ubuntu is great for development but not optimized for AWS, and CentOS's move to a streamed model is less stable for production. Many organizations moved to Amazon Linux for a more flexible long-term support cycle.."

Janindra Janekumaradi
configuration and management deployment at a tech vendor with 10,001+ employees

Read full review

"Compared to other Linux distributions like Ubuntu or CentOS, Amazon Linux is more optimized for AWS environments, which gives better performance and seamless integration with AWS services. For example, it works very well with services like Systems Manager, making monitoring, automation, and patching much easier compared to other distributions. However, distributions like Ubuntu have a larger package repository and stronger community support, which makes them more flexible for general-purpose or non-cloud environments. Overall, I would say Amazon Linux is the best for AWS-native workloads, while Ubuntu or CentOS may be better for broader or multi-cloud use cases.."

Vibin Thomas

Team Lead, Technical Content Security at a tech services company with 1,001-5,000 employees

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"Before switching to Amazon Linux two thousand twenty-three, I typically used Amazon Linux two, Ubuntu, CentOS, and Red Hat. The end of life for those older distributions was a primary reason for switching, as security updates for Amazon Linux are ending in June two thousand twenty-six. Amazon Linux two thousand twenty-three provides modern features such as cgroup v2 and systemd-timers that older versions lack, and while Ubuntu is good for development, it is not tuned for AWS hardware out of the box. Amazon Linux two thousand twenty-three offers better performance under Graviton chips and significantly faster operations.."

Janindra Janekumaradi

configuration and management deployment at a tech vendor with 10,001+ employees

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ROI

Real user quotes about their ROI:

We have surely seen a return on investment. As mentioned, money saved is the number one metric that we have encountered. We have reduced our boot time and saved approximately $2,000 on a month-to-month basis.

Hussain Gagan
FullStack Developer at EnactOn Technologies

Read full review

"I have seen a return on investment from using Amazon Linux because it saves time and money. I only pay for the amount I am using, with no other costs involved.."

Verified user
Student at a university with 501-1,000 employees

Read full review

"We have seen a return on investment with Amazon Linux through optimization and integration with AWS services, which saves a lot of time and avoids focusing on security and patch updates as it is managed by AWS. Performance-wise, there are no network issues.."

HemantKumar7
Senior Site Reliability Engineer at a tech vendor with 501-1,000 employees

Read full review

"The ROI with Amazon Linux is high because there are zero licensing fees. By switching the compute fleet from a paid distribution to Amazon Linux, we have reduced our OS-related overhead cost by 100%. Additionally, optimized performance has allowed us to run the same workloads on slightly smaller instance types, saving us roughly 10% on monthly compute spend.."

BasilJiji
System Engineer at a retailer with 10,001+ employees

Read full review

"I do not have any specific ROI metrics since I have always used Amazon Linux for deploying my products, but I know that I have some other images that I build myself, and I know that building them, maintaining them, and deploying them is much less effective than deploying an Amazon Linux image because I have to maintain them and keep an eye on the packages used to ensure they are up to date and do not have any security issues.."

Francisco Javier Vergara
SecOps Engineer at IriusRisk

Read full review

"I see that return on investment is usually measured in efficiency gains rather than in a simple monetary form. Since the operating system itself is free and by using Amazon Linux two thousand twenty-three, many organizations have been qualifying this transaction through a mix of cloud-based operations.

"Since switching to Amazon Linux, I have seen improvements clearly shown in infrastructure metrics. Some wins commonly seen after switching, particularly when moving from general-purpose distributions such as Ubuntu, include approximately twenty to forty percent better price-performance ratio. The outcomes combine massive savings of over one million in under a year by migrating workloads to Graviton-based instances running Amazon Linux, as AL two thousand twenty-three is optimized for ARM at the compiler level, allowing applications to run more effectively and function on smaller instances. I have also noted faster deployments, including a forty to sixty percent reduction in AMI size, significantly faster boot times, and a boost in faster auto-scaling to reduce cold start latencies, with zero downtime regarding patching for critical vulnerabilities.."

Janindra Janekumaradi
configuration and management deployment at a tech vendor with 10,001+ employees

Read full review

Use Case

"My main use case for Amazon Linux is setting up Linux servers, monitoring servers, Kubernetes servers, testing, and setting up customer servers. I have used Amazon Linux for setting up customer monitoring solutions, such as Prometheus, Grafana, and ELK stack. I also used it for setting up a Kubernetes cluster.."

Verified user

Cloud Operations Engineer at a tech vendor with 51-200 employees

Read full review

"My main use case for Amazon Linux is that it serves as a replacement and a free version for a Red Hat-based OS for Amazon users. I use it in environments where a RHEL-based environment is required because a number of applications are pre-installed on Amazon Linux.

"My main use case for Amazon Linux involves using these Linux machines as load generators. With Amazon Linux, you are not required to install a number of applications which are helpful for other applications. We have a CR controller and generators setup, where the generators are virtual machines on Amazon on an auto-scaling basis. For this, we use Amazon Linux as a base.."

AnilKumar13

Devops Engineer at a engineering company with 5,001-10,000 employees

Read full review

“My main use case for Amazon Linux is making the virtual machine and deploying the web application and different types of network services.

“I am using the video analytics application for analytics for the ATCS and ITMS camera. I deploy all web applications on these Amazon Linux virtual machines and use it for microservices such as NGINX and Apache2.

“Amazon Linux is used by my team for the testing environment and staging environment for the UAT and for the production environment. I can use different types of this Linux environment for my team..”

SanjaySharma6
Sr. Associate Consultant at a tech services company with 51-200 employees

Read full review

Amazon Linux has been our go-to distribution for about two years in our organization for hosting our web application and managing our EC2 instances.

Day-to-day, we primarily use Amazon Linux for our application deployments. We mainly use Amazon Linux to manage our Nginx web servers and handle our routine security patching via the DNF package manager. We spend considerable time writing Bash scripts to automate log rotation and monitor resource utilization, ensuring our EC2 instances stay within performance thresholds.

“Amazon Linux helps tremendously in this scenario. The routine tasks we perform really stand out because of its tight integration with AWS services such as SSM and IAM, which makes managing permissions and remote access much smoother than on standard distributions such as Ubuntu. I have found that the kernel is specifically tuned for EC2, leading to faster boot times and better resource efficiency during automated deployments. .”

Hussain Gagan
FullStack Developer at EnactOn Technologies

Read full review

"My main use case for Amazon Linux is to host and manage applications in AWS environments. I primarily use it for deploying web servers like NGINX and Apache, running application workloads, and integrating security layers such as WAF. I also use it for configuring back-end services that are protected behind platforms like Cloudflare. In addition, I use Amazon Linux for system tasks such as patch management, log analysis, performance tuning, and ensuring secure configurations align with enterprise standards.

"In one of my recent projects, I used Amazon Linux on an EC2 instance to host a web application that was protected by Cloudflare. I was responsible for configuring the server by setting up NGINX, managing SSL/TLS certificates, and ensuring secure communication between Cloudflare and the application. I also work on optimizing the server performance and monitoring the logs to identify and troubleshoot issues. During one incident, we observed high traffic causing performance degradation, so I analyzed system and application logs on the Amazon Linux instance. We tuned the configurations and implemented rate-limiting security controls, which helped stabilize the application.."

Vibin Thomas

Team Lead, Technical Content Security at a tech services company with 1,001-5,000 employees

Read full review

"In my day-to-day work, the main use cases for Amazon Linux involve a wide variety of tasks with a common theme of optimization for Amazon Cloud. Since recently updating my project, I have been using it for automation to monitor CPU utilizations and hosting backend services including REST APIs and web applications on EC2 instances, running production microservices that integrate with services including Amazon ECS and AWS Lambda, and as the defaulting operating system for EC2 instances in a SaaS platform. Additionally, I use Amazon Linux as base images for Dockerfile, node groups for Amazon EKS Kubernetes clusters, and powering CI/CD pipelines acting as Jenkins agents or building servers, using it with infrastructure as code to spin up consistent environments for development, staging, and production.

"The most valuable use case involving my work is the scripting that runs automatically via cron, which is a time-based scheduler on Amazon Linux EC2 instances. The script accomplishes mainly two groups: resource dashboarding and proactive monitoring. In resource dashboarding, I utilize the command line interface, specifically AWS CLI, to list all running resources including EC2 instances, S3 buckets, Lambda functions, and configurations to implement in the daily dashboard sent to management. Additionally, I check logs and help prevent unexpected storage issues, and these are the activities I have been using in my daily work.

"In my organization, Amazon Linux is deployed using a multi-cloud hybrid approach, supporting all four environments we have mentioned. Public cloud is the most common deployment, where I use Amazon Linux directly on Amazon EC2 to scale from small web servers to massive machine learning clusters. I also deploy it on private premises for added security.

"I primarily use AWS for my Amazon Linux deployments.."

Janindra Janekumaradi

configuration and management deployment at a tech vendor with 10,001+ employees

Read full review

Setup

The setup process involves configuring and preparing the product or service for use, which may include tasks such as installation, account creation, initial configuration, and troubleshooting any issues that may arise. Below you can find real user quotes about the setup process.

Regarding the setup, pricing, and licensing cost, I would say it is quite easy and streamlined to manage because we only have to select the Amazon Linux base image while deploying our machine or creating an EC2 instance. Clear pricing is mentioned for whatever duration we are using the machine, and the setup cost and licensing information are properly mentioned on the AWS page while we are initiating our EC2 instance. The experience is good with respect to this regard.

Hussain Gagan

FullStack Developer at EnactOn Technologies

Read full review

"My experience with pricing, setup costs, and licensing for Amazon Linux is very straightforward and completely free. I simply select it from the quick start tab when launching an EC2 instance with no additional cost or complex licensing terms to manage. The operating system is free, and I only pay for infrastructure, such as approximately zero cost for a T3 small instance, where the EC2 instances charge about zero point zero two one per hour.."

Janindra Janekumaradi

configuration and management deployment at a tech vendor with 10,001+ employees

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"I went with the free command, free tool, and free-trial experience for Amazon Linux, so I did not focus on the technical setup cost or licensing. However, I understand that Amazon Linux provides options for students, where I may need to pay just one rupee to receive 10,000 points or credits for one year. After that, I pay based on usage. It is a good service AWS provides, as it is easier and smoother.."

Verified user

Read full review

Student at a university with 501-1,000 employees

"Amazon Linux is deployed in my organization on the AWS private cloud.

We use AWS as our cloud provider.

I purchased Amazon Linux through the AWS Marketplace.."

HemantKumar7

Read full review

Senior Site Reliability Engineer at a tech vendor with 501-1,000 employees

"The experience with Amazon Linux pricing, setup cost, and licensing was seamless. The standard Amazon Linux image is provided for free by AWS. We have used the AWS Marketplace to deploy the CIS hardened versions of Amazon Linux. The licensing is straightforward and billing is consolidated directly into our AWS account, which makes the procurement very easy.."

BasilJiji

Read full review

System Engineer at a retailer with 10,001+ employees

"Deployment is faster and visibility is achieved very quickly, making it more reliable overall.

"Amazon Linux setup is somewhat challenging initially, but once familiarity with the system is gained, it works very well for applications. For full-stack web-based applications or mobile applications, Amazon Linux provides very good support for back-end and front-end deployments and the entire CI/CD process. The service can be utilized directly without extensive preliminary work.."

Pranay Jain

Read full review

Senior software developer at Simplifyvms

Customer Service and Support

"The customer support for Amazon Linux is good, as they quickly guide me through issues whenever I contact them, resolving problems within a short time.."

Janindra Janekumaradi
configuration and management deployment at a tech vendor with 10,001+ employees

Read full review

"I have never had to use customer support for Amazon Linux, but I have used AWS customer support service, and it is really helpful with a very short response time.."

Francisco Javier Vergara
SecOps Engineer at IriusRisk

Read full review

"The customer support for Amazon Linux is providing great help. All the requirements that we give to them are met immediately with their assistance, and they are doing a great job.."

BasilJiji
System Engineer at a retailer with 10,001+ employees

Read full review

"Customer support for Amazon Linux exists, but I have never needed to use it, although I know it is available. I would rate the customer support at a seven on a scale of one to ten.."

Heber Merces
Analista Cloud PL at NuageIT

Read full review

"Regarding community support and customer services, AWS provides extensive documentation and security advisors for Amazon Linux. Most issues can be resolved using official AWS documentation, AWS knowledge bases, community forums, and internal support teams.."

Deva Rugved
Software Engineer at INSTITUTE OF AERONAUTICAL ENGINEERING

Read full review

"I have interacted with the AWS support team for issues related to Amazon Linux, and the experience has been generally positive. The support team is knowledgeable and responsive, especially for critical issues. They provide detailed guidance and help in troubleshooting complex problems efficiently. In most of our cases, we are able to resolve issues quickly with their assistance. The documentation they share is also very helpful. Overall, the support experience has been reliable and professional.."

Vibin Thomas
Team Lead, Technical Content Security at a tech services company with 1,001-5,000 employees

Read full review

Other Advice

"The advice I would give to others looking into using Amazon Linux is that it is highly scalable and provides different types of microservices, so I kindly recommend these services for a reliable cost. My review rating for Amazon Linux is 7 out of 10.."

SanjaySharma6
Sr. Associate Consultant at a tech services company with 51-200 employees

Read full review

"Amazon Linux is better than other Linux distributions such as Ubuntu and other standard Linux options. I recommend using Amazon Linux because it is managed by Amazon and has excellent support and stability. I would rate this solution an eight out of ten.."

Verified user
Cloud Operations Engineer at a tech vendor with 51-200 employees

Read full review

"I did not purchase Amazon Linux through the AWS Marketplace.

"If anyone is using the AWS platform and they require a RHEL-based OS, they must use Amazon Linux. It easily integrates with any services in AWS, and it is pre-installed with a few required tools, so it is very helpful.

"I have no additional thoughts about Amazon Linux before we wrap up.

"I found this interview fine, and I do not think there is anything I should change for the future.

"I give this product a review rating of 8.."

AnilKumar13
Devops Engineer at a engineering company with 5,001-10,000 employees

Read full review

Amazon Linux is quite customizable and highly flexible, especially when using cloud-init for automated, repeatable configuration during boot. For specialized workloads, I leverage Amazon Linux Extras library or specific repositories to pull in optimized runtimes such as Docker or Python without bloating the base image.

The documentation and community support are top-notch. It is deeply integrated with the rest of the AWS ecosystem, making it easy to find specific configuration steps for services such as IAM or EC2.

“It handles security and compliance requirements quite well, as the documentation is excellent. The security of Amazon Linux is also excellent, so we do not have to worry about that. The compliance for Amazon Linux is top-notch for our organization.

“I would recommend using Amazon Linux without hesitation. In my experience, the customer support is quite reliable. Amazon Linux is quite stable, the documentation is great, and it is tightly integrated with the AWS service, so most of the support comes through the AWS support channel rather than a separate Linux support channel. I would recommend others who are going to use it feel confident using Amazon Linux without hesitation. The overall rating for this product is 9 out of 10. .”

Hussain Gagan
FullStack Developer at EnactOn Technologies

Read full review

“The biggest advantage I find in using Amazon Linux is the ability to determine updates throughout the version repositories. In older versions, I ran a yum update, but now I can pin different packages based on commands I run. This advantage allows me to test updates in a staging environment and be one hundred percent certain that the exact same packages will be applied in production, eliminating issues where something worked on one machine or worked yesterday. It is also beneficial as it boosts faster boot times, supports Amazon Graviton ARM

processors, and optimizes the operating system for those processors. Moreover, it efficiently uses fewer resources including CPU and RAM, allowing my applications to run on smaller, cheaper instance types with secure by default configurations.

“I recommend Amazon Linux for its free use, stable performance, faster control, and scalability, making it suitable for everyone.

“To clarify, I did not purchase Amazon Linux through the AWS Marketplace because it is directly provided by AWS at no additional cost, so a purchase or subscription is not required. Unlike many other enterprise Linux distributions, such as Red Hat Enterprise Linux that require a paid subscription, Amazon Linux is offered by AWS as a free operating system for use on EC2 instances. There is no need to visit the marketplace to buy it.

“Overall, I would rate Amazon Linux at an eight out of ten..”

Janindra Janekumaradi
configuration and management deployment at a tech vendor with 10,001+ employees

Read full review

“Overall, Amazon Linux has been a reliable and efficient operating system for our cloud environments. Its tight integration with AWS services, strong security posture, and consistent performance make it a solid choice for enterprise workloads. With some improvements in the depth of documentation and package flexibility, it can become even better.

“Maintaining and updating Amazon Linux is relatively easy in our environment, mainly due to the integration with AWS services. We use tools like AWS Systems Manager to automate the patch management and updates across multiple instances, which significantly reduces the manual effort. Additionally, the package management using YUM or DNF is straightforward and efficient. Overall, the combination of automation and simple package management makes it easy to maintain and secure an up-to-date environment.

"Amazon Linux provides strong security and compliance support, which makes it suitable for regulated environments. It offers regular security updates and integrates well with AWS security services like IAM and CloudWatch. This helps with monitoring, access control, and patch management. Additionally, features like SELinux and secure default configurations help strengthen the overall security posture. In our experience, this has helped us align with enterprise security standards and compliance requirements, especially when working with banking and financial sector clients.

"The documentation and learning resources for Amazon Linux are generally good, especially when combined with AWS documentation. There are detailed guides for installation, configuration, and integration with AWS services, which make it easier for new team members to get started. However, compared to distributions like Ubuntu, the community support sometimes requires additional effort during troubleshooting. Overall, the documentation is helpful for onboarding, particularly for teams already familiar with AWS environments.

"Amazon Linux provides very good performance and efficient resource usage, especially in an AWS environment. It is lightweight and optimized for EC2 instances, consuming fewer system resources compared to some other operating systems, which helps in improving performance. In our experience, applications run more efficiently, ensuring better stability and lower overhead, particularly for production workloads. Compared to others, the difference may not always be significant, but Amazon Linux performs better when tightly integrated with AWS services.

"My advice would be to choose Amazon Linux if you are primarily working in AWS environments, as it is highly optimized for performance, security, and seamless integration with AWS services. I would also recommend leveraging AWS tools like Systems Manager for automation and patching and CloudWatch for monitoring to get the full benefit of the platform. At the same time, it is important to evaluate your use case. If you need a broader package ecosystem or multi-cloud capabilities, you may want to compare it with other distributions like Ubuntu. Overall, for AWS-native workloads, Amazon Linux is a very reliable and efficient choice.

"The reason I would not give a full ten out of ten is mainly due to areas like package

availability and community support, which can still be improved. I gave this review a rating of eight because overall, it is a very solid and dependable platform..”

Vibin Thomas
Team Lead, Technical Content Security at a tech services company with 1,001-5,000 employees

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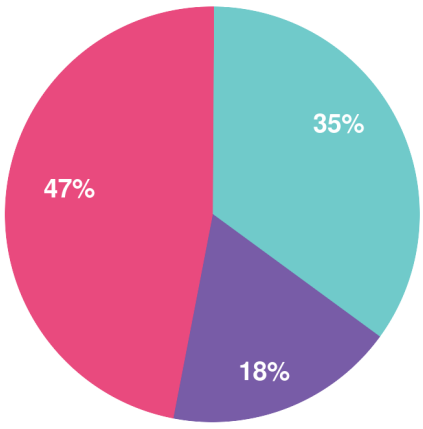
Computer Software Company	11%
Outsourcing Company	10%
Comms Service Provider	9%

Company Size

by reviewers



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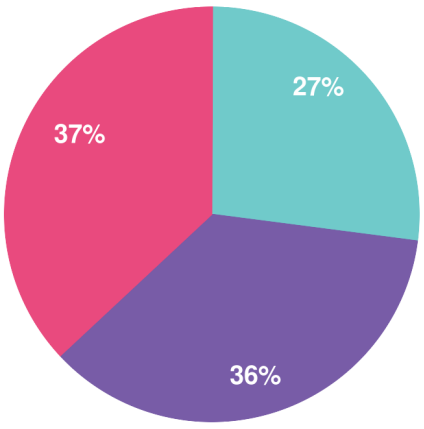

Large Enterprise Midsize Enterprise Small Business

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