

Hands-on tutorials

# Create an Audio Transcript with Amazon Transcribe



# Create an Audio Transcript with Amazon Transcribe: Hands-on tutorials

Copyright © 2025 Amazon Web Services, Inc. and/or its affiliates. All rights reserved.

Amazon's trademarks and trade dress may not be used in connection with any product or service that is not Amazon's, in any manner that is likely to cause confusion among customers, or in any manner that disparages or discredits Amazon. All other trademarks not owned by Amazon are the property of their respective owners, who may or may not be affiliated with, connected to, or sponsored by Amazon.

# Table of Contents


Create an Audio Transcript with Amazon Transcribe ..... i

Overview ..... 1

Implementation ..... 2

Conclusion ..... 17

# Create an Audio Transcript with Amazon Transcribe

<b>AWS experience</b>	Beginner
<b>Time to complete</b>	10 minutes
<b>Cost to complete</b>	Free Tier eligible
<b>Requires</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• AWS account</li></ul> <div> <b>Note</b> Accounts created within the last 24 hours might not yet have access to the services required for this tutorial.</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Recommended browser: The latest version of Chrome or Firefox</li></ul>
<b>Last updated</b>	July 5, 2022

## Overview

In this step-by-step tutorial, you will learn how to use [Amazon Transcribe](#) to create a text transcript of a recorded audio file using the [AWS Management Console](#). Amazon Transcribe is an automatic speech recognition (ASR) service that makes it easy for developers to add speech-to-text capability to their applications. Using the Amazon Transcribe API, you can analyze audio files stored in Amazon Simple Storage Service (Amazon S3) and have the service return a text file of the transcribed speech.

As a developer, creating transcriptions of customer service calls or generating subtitles on audio and video content are common challenges requiring speech-to-text capabilities. This challenge could be solved by building your own machine learning models from scratch. However, this option is time-intensive, expensive, and requires machine learning expertise. Instead of taking the difficult route, you can use Amazon Transcribe, a pre-trained and fully managed service, which provides fast and high-quality transcriptions.

In this tutorial you will download a sample audio file then upload it to an Amazon S3 bucket that you will create. Then you will use Amazon Transcribe to create a transcript from the sample audio clip using the AWS Management Console.

This tutorial is a demo of the functionality that is available when using the AWS CLI or the [Amazon Transcribe API](#). For production or proof of concept implementations, we recommend using these programmatic interfaces rather than the Amazon Transcribe Console.

## Implementation

### Step 1: Create an S3 bucket and upload sample

In this step, you will download a sample audio file, create an S3 bucket, then upload the sample file to the S3 bucket. Amazon Transcribe accesses audio and video files for transcription exclusively from S3 buckets.

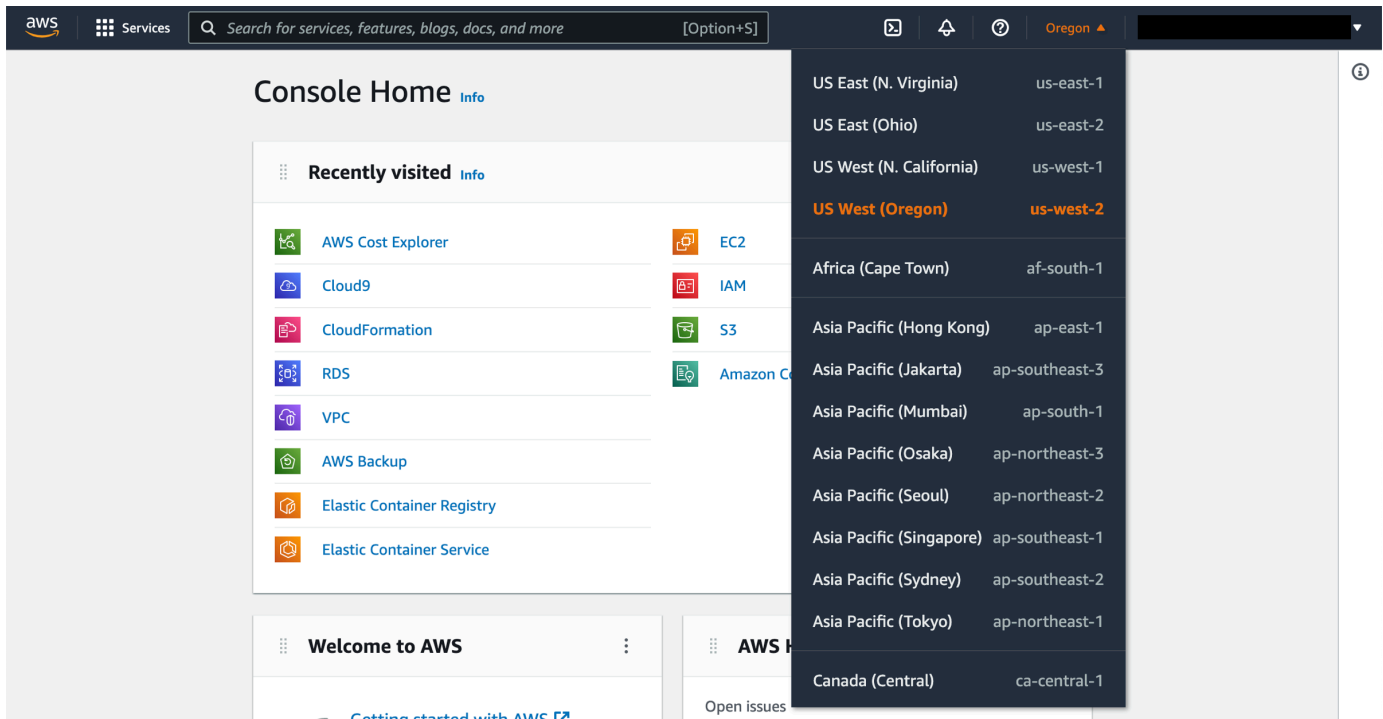
1. Download the file

To download the sample audio file to transcribe later in the tutorial, choose [transcribe-sample.mp3](#).

2. Open the console

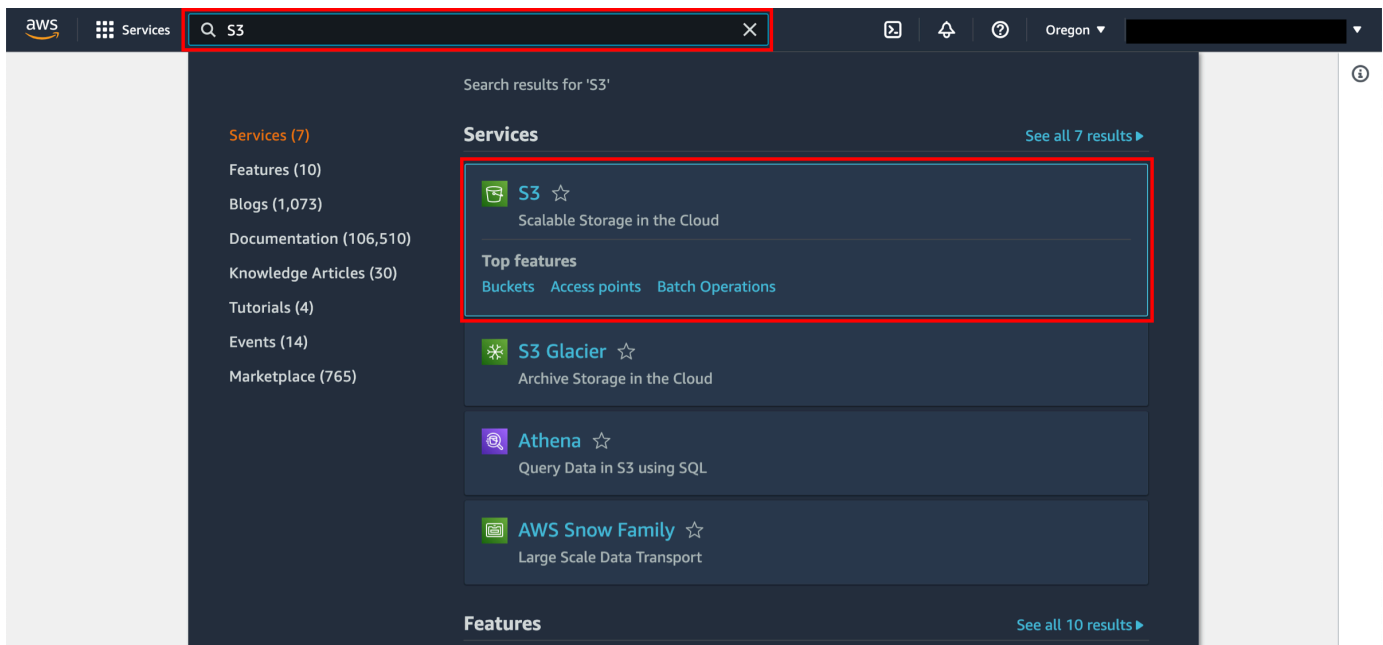
Select [AWS Management Console](#) to open the console in a new browser window, so you can keep this step-by-step guide open. When the screen loads, enter your user name and password to get started.

Using the **Region** drop down, select a Region that has Amazon Transcribe.



### 3. Open the S3 console

Type **S3** in the search bar and select **S3** to open the console.

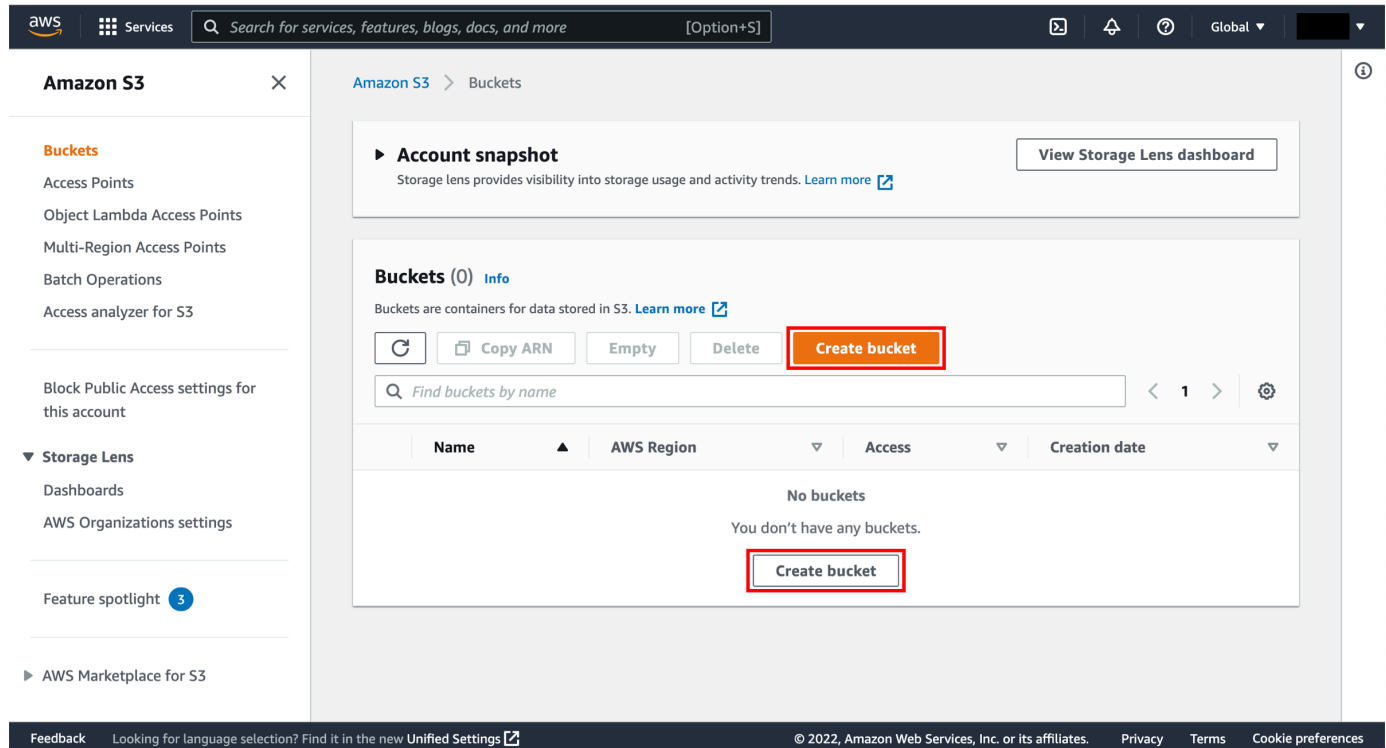


### 4. Create a bucket

In the S3 dashboard choose **Create bucket**.

If this is the first time you have created a bucket, you will see a screen that looks like the image pictured here.

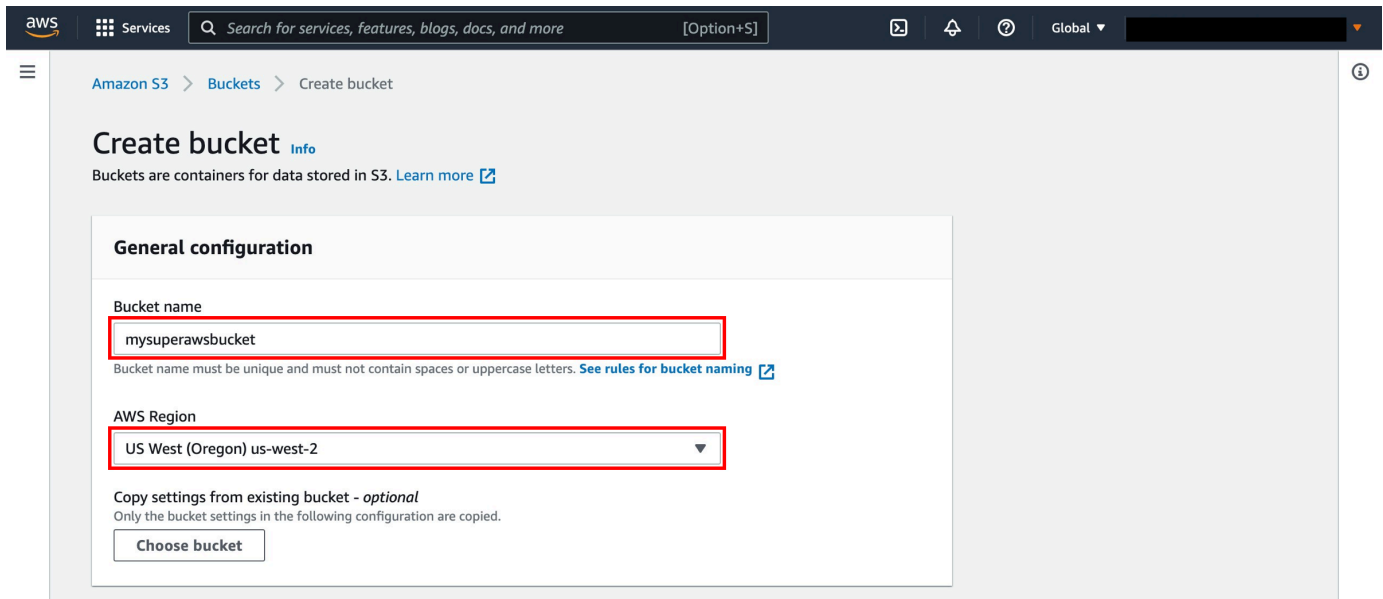
If you have already created S3 buckets, your S3 dashboard will list all the buckets you have created.



## 5. Enter a bucket name

Enter a unique bucket name. Bucket names must be unique across all existing bucket names in Amazon S3. There are a number of other [restrictions on S3 bucket names](#) as well.

Then select a Region to create your bucket in.



aws Services Search for services, features, blogs, docs, and more [Option+S]

Amazon S3 > Buckets > Create bucket

## Create bucket Info

Buckets are containers for data stored in S3. [Learn more](#)

### General configuration

**Bucket name**  
mysuperawsbucket  
Bucket name must be unique and must not contain spaces or uppercase letters. [See rules for bucket naming](#)

**AWS Region**  
US West (Oregon) us-west-2

**Copy settings from existing bucket - optional**  
Only the bucket settings in the following configuration are copied.  
[Choose bucket](#)

## 6. Review configuration details and create bucket

You have the ability to set up permissions for your S3 bucket. Leave the default values and scroll down.

You have many useful options for your S3 bucket including [Versioning](#), [Server Access Logging](#), [Tags](#), [Object-level Logging](#), and [Default Encryption](#). We won't enable these features for this tutorial.

Select **Create bucket**.

**Bucket Versioning**  
Versioning is a means of keeping multiple variants of an object in the same bucket. You can use versioning to preserve, retrieve, and restore every version of every object stored in your Amazon S3 bucket. With versioning, you can easily recover from both unintended user actions and application failures. [Learn more](#)

Bucket Versioning  
☒ Disable  
☐ Enable

**Tags (0) - optional**  
Track storage cost or other criteria by tagging your bucket. [Learn more](#)

No tags associated with this bucket.

[Add tag](#)

**Default encryption**  
Automatically encrypt new objects stored in this bucket. [Learn more](#)

Server-side encryption  
☒ Disable  
☐ Enable

**▼ Advanced settings**

**Object Lock**  
Store objects using a write-once-read-many (WORM) model to help you prevent objects from being deleted or overwritten for a fixed amount of time or indefinitely. [Learn more](#)

☒ Disable  
☐ Enable  
Permanently allows objects in this bucket to be locked. Additional Object Lock configuration is required in bucket details after bucket creation to protect objects in this bucket from being deleted or overwritten.

*Object Lock works only in versioned buckets. Enabling Object Lock automatically enables Bucket Versioning.*

*After creating the bucket you can upload files and folders to the bucket, and configure additional bucket settings.*

[Cancel](#) [Create bucket](#)

## 7. Select your bucket

You will see your new bucket in the S3 console. Click on your bucket's name to navigate to the bucket. Your bucket name will not be the same as pictured in the screenshot to the right.

The screenshot shows the Amazon S3 console interface. On the left, there's a sidebar with navigation options like Buckets, Access Points, and Storage Lens. The main content area shows the 'Buckets' page for the 'mysuperawsbucket'. It includes an 'Account snapshot' section with metrics like Total storage (8.3 KB), Object count (1), and Avg. object size (8.3 KB). Below this, there's a 'Buckets (2)' section with a table listing the buckets. The 'mysuperawsbucket' is highlighted with a red box. The table has columns for Name, AWS Region, Access, and Creation date.

Name	AWS Region	Access	Creation date
mysuperawsbucket	US West (Oregon) us-west-2	Bucket and objects not public	May 12, 2022, 17:34:04 (UTC-07:00)

## 8. Upload the sample file

You are in your bucket's home page.

Select **Upload**.

The screenshot shows the Amazon S3 console interface for the 'mysuperawsbucket'. The 'Objects' tab is selected, showing a list of objects. The 'Upload' button is highlighted with a red box. Below the list, there's a message stating 'No objects' and 'You don't have any objects in this bucket.' with another 'Upload' button highlighted with a red box.

## 9. Select the sample file and upload it

Upload the transcribe-sample.mp3 file by selecting **Add files** and selecting the file or dragging the transcribe-sample.mp3 file to the upload box.

### Select Upload.

The screenshot shows the AWS S3 console's 'Upload' page for the bucket 'mysuperawsbucket'. The interface includes a breadcrumb trail 'Amazon S3 > Buckets > mysuperawsbucket > Upload'. Below the breadcrumb, there's a section titled 'Upload' with an 'Info' link. A message states: 'Add the files and folders you want to upload to S3. To upload a file larger than 160GB, use the AWS CLI, AWS SDK or Amazon S3 REST API. [Learn more](#)'. A dashed box contains the instruction: 'Drag and drop files and folders you want to upload here, or choose **Add files**, or **Add folders**.' Below this, a section titled 'Files and folders (1 Total, 410.2 KB)' shows a table with one file: 'transcribe-sample.5fc2109bb28268d10fbc677e64b7e59256783d3c.mp3' of type 'audio/mpeg' and size '410.2 KB'. Above the table are buttons for 'Remove', 'Add files' (highlighted with a red box), and 'Add folder'. Below the table is a search bar 'Find by name' and pagination controls '< 1 >'. Further down, there are sections for 'Destination' (showing 's3://mysuperawsbucket'), 'Destination details', 'Permissions', and 'Properties'. At the bottom right, there are 'Cancel' and 'Upload' buttons, with the 'Upload' button highlighted by a red box.

### 10. Copy the S3 URI

On successful upload, select the **transcribe-sample.mp3** file in your bucket. A file detail page will be displayed for the transcribe-sample.mp3 file.

Copy the S3 URI link to the file and save it for use later in the tutorial.

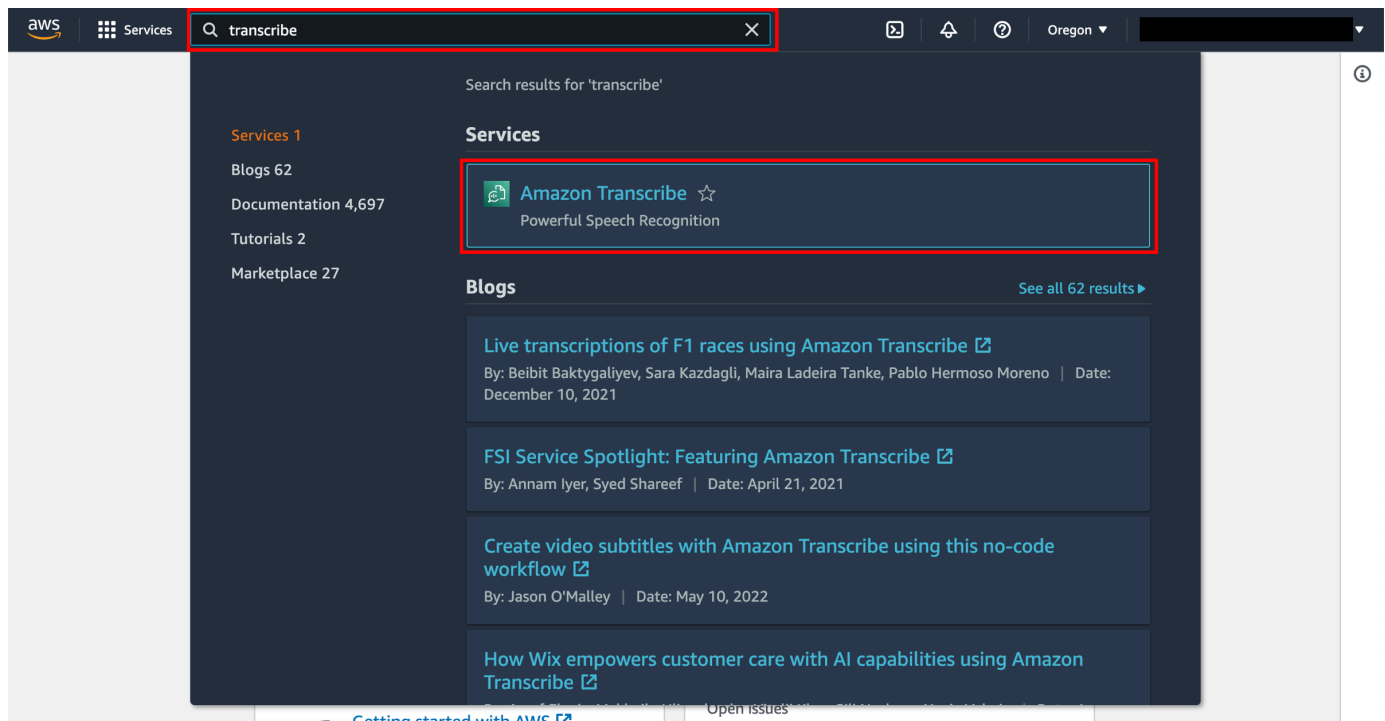
The screenshot shows the Amazon S3 console interface. On the left, the 'Amazon S3' sidebar is visible with options like Buckets, Access Points, and Storage Lens. The main content area shows the details of a specific object. The breadcrumb navigation at the top reads: Amazon S3 > Buckets > mysuperawbucket > transcribe-sample.5fc2109bb28268d10fbc677e64b7e59256783d3c.mp3. The object name is displayed prominently, followed by an 'Info' link. Below the name are three buttons: 'Copy S3 URI' (highlighted with a red box), 'Download', and 'Open'. There is also an 'Object actions' dropdown menu. Below these buttons are tabs for 'Properties', 'Permissions', and 'Versions'. The 'Properties' tab is selected, showing an 'Object overview' section. This section is divided into two columns. The left column contains: Owner (redacted), AWS Region (US West (Oregon) us-west-2), Last modified (June 1, 2022, 11:06:18 (UTC-07:00)), and Size (410.2 KB). The right column contains: S3 URI (s3://mysuperawbucket/transcribe-sample.5fc2109bb28268d10fbc677e64b7e59256783d3c.mp3), Amazon Resource Name (ARN) (arn:aws:s3:::mysuperawbucket/transcribe-sample.5fc2109bb28268d10fbc677e64b7e59256783d3c.mp3), and Entity tag (Etag) (bf153e303affbb6e54feb0a233879d4d).

## Step 2: Create transcription job

In this step, you will create and run a transcription job using the Amazon Transcribe console.

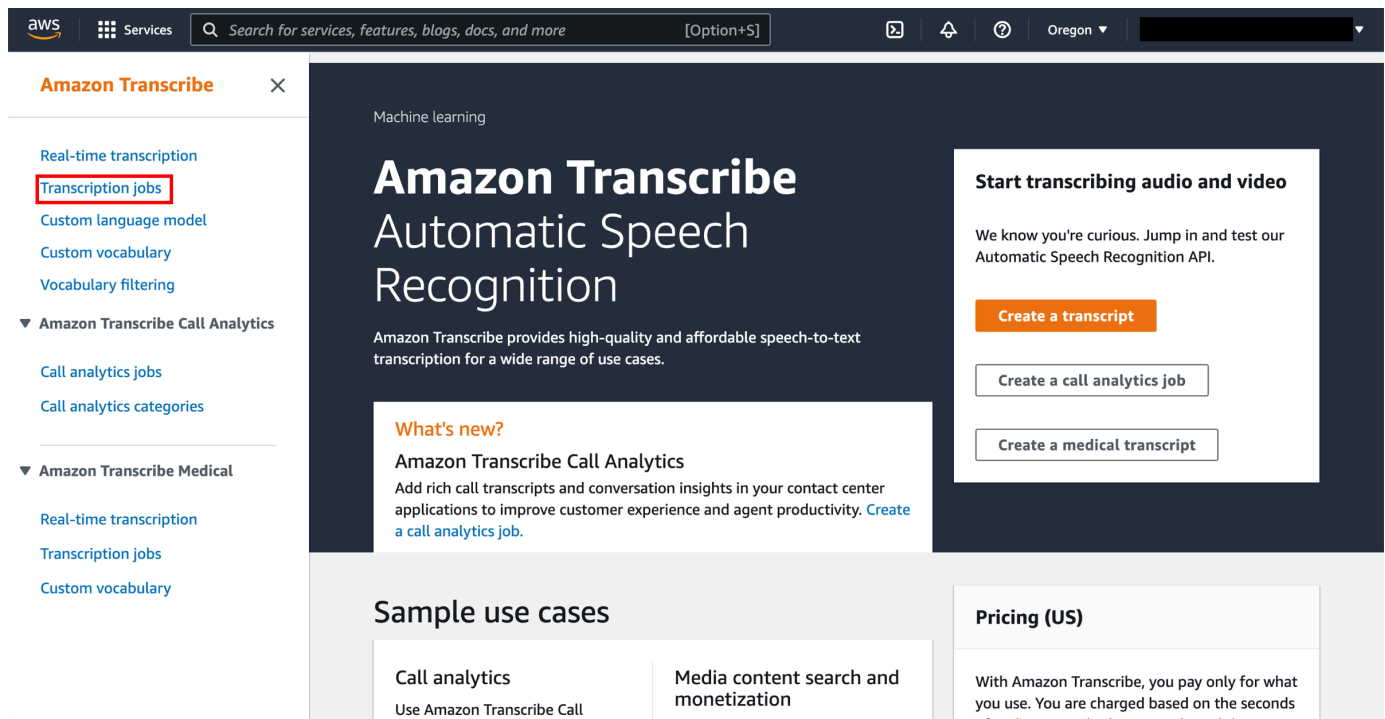
### 1. Open the Transcribe console

From the top menu bar, select **Services** then begin typing **Transcribe** in the search bar and select **Amazon Transcribe** to open the service console.



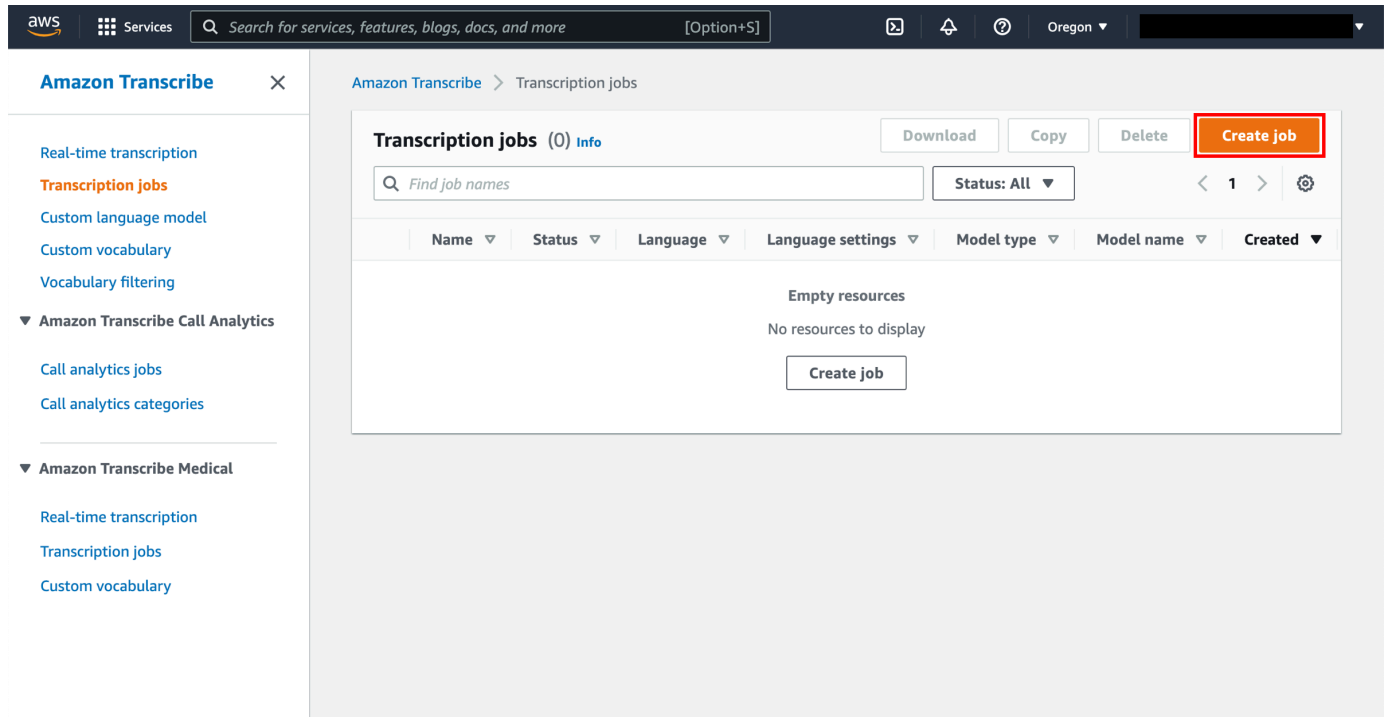
## 2. Open the Transcription jobs page

On the Amazon Transcribe console main page, open the navigation pane and click **Transcription jobs**.



## 3. Create Transcription job

On the **Transcription jobs** page, click **Create job**.



#### 4. Specify job details

On the **Create transcription job** page, in the **Name** field, type **sample-transcription-job**.

Leave the default **Language** as **English**.

Leave the default **Model type** as **General model**.

In the **Input file location on S3** field, paste the link to the sample file in your S3 bucket. The link to your sample file will be different than the one shown in the screenshot to the right.

You can use the **Custom vocabulary** feature to help Amazon Translate recognize words and phrases that are specific to your application, such as a non-English name like Etienne. You won't use this feature in this tutorial.

Step 1  
Specify job details

Step 2  
Configure job - optional

## Specify job details [Info](#)

### Job settings

**Name**

sample-transcription-job

The name can be up to 200 characters long. Valid characters are a-z, A-Z, 0-9, . (period), \_ (underscore), and - (hyphen).

**Language settings**

You can transcribe your audio file in a language that you specify or have Amazon Transcribe identify and transcribe it in the predominant language.

☒ **Specific language** [Info](#)

If you know the language spoken in your source audio, choose this option to get the most accurate results. The options available for additional processing vary between languages.

☐ **Automatic language identification** [Info](#)

If you don't know the language spoken in your audio files, choose this option. You have access to fewer options for additional processing than if you choose **Specific language**.

☐ **Automatic multiple languages identification** [Info](#)

If there are multiple languages spoken in your audio files and you're not sure what these languages are, choose this option. This selection provides limited additional processing options compared to **Specific language**.

**Language**

Choose the language of the input audio.

English, US (en-US)

**Model type** [Info](#)

Choose the type of model to use for the transcription job.

☒ **General model**

To use a model that is not specialized for a particular use case, choose this option. Configuration options vary between languages.

☐ **Custom language model**

To use a model that you trained for your specific use case, choose this option. This model has fewer configuration options than the general model.

► **Additional settings**

### Input data [Info](#)

**Input file location on S3**

Choose an input audio or video file in Amazon S3.

s3://mysuperawsbucket/transcribe-sample.5fc2109bb28268d10fbc677e64b7e59256

[Browse S3](#)

Valid file formats: MP3, MP4, WAV, FLAC, AMR, OGG, and WebM.

## 5. Specify output data

Leave the default **Output data location type** as **Service-managed S3 bucket**.

Amazon Transcribe supports WebVTT (VTT) and SubRip (SRT) file types for subtitles. In the **Subtitle file format** field, you can choose either or both file types for output. If you select both types, you get two files that are exported to the same S3 bucket. Neither format is used in this tutorial.

Select **Next**.

**Output data**

Output data location type info [Info](#)

☒ **Service-managed S3 bucket**  
The output will be removed after 90 days when the job expires.

☐ **Customer specified S3 bucket**  
The output will not be removed from bucket even after the job expires.

Subtitle file format [Info](#)

☐ SRT (SubRip)

☐ VTT (WebVTT)

**Tags - optional**

A tag is a label you can add to a resource as metadata to help you organize, search, or filter your data. Each tag consists of a key and an optional value, in the form 'key:value'.

No tags associated with the resource.

[Add new tag](#)

You can add up to 50 more tags.

[Cancel](#) [Next](#)

## 6. Create job

You can configure additional audio, content, and custom vocabulary settings on the **Configure job** page.

For this tutorial, leave the default choices and select **Create job**.

**Output data**

Output data location type info [Info](#)

☒ **Service-managed S3 bucket**  
The output will be removed after 90 days when the job expires.

☐ **Customer specified S3 bucket**  
The output will not be removed from bucket even after the job expires.

Subtitle file format [Info](#)

☐ SRT (SubRip)

☐ VTT (WebVTT)

**Tags - optional**

A tag is a label you can add to a resource as metadata to help you organize, search, or filter your data. Each tag consists of a key and an optional value, in the form 'key:value'.

No tags associated with the resource.

[Add new tag](#)

You can add up to 50 more tags.

[Cancel](#) [Next](#)

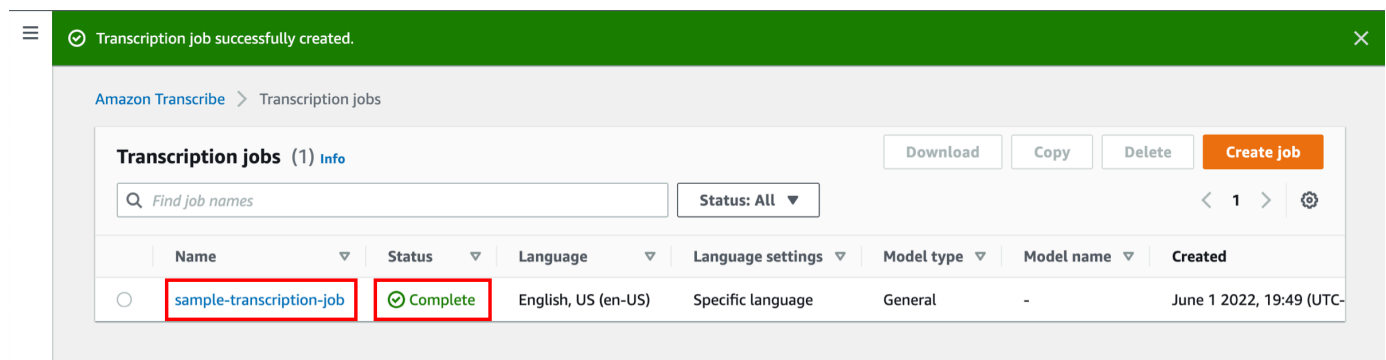
## Step 3: Review transcription results

In this step, you will learn how to check on the progress and review the results of your transcription job.

### 1. Monitor the status of the job

After you click the **Create job** button, you will be taken to the **Transcription jobs** screen. It will show the status of **sample-transcription-job**. The status can be **In progress**, **Complete**, or **Failed**.

When the status is **Complete**, click on the **sample-transcription-job** link in the **Name** column to view the transcription results.



Amazon Transcribe > Transcription jobs

Transcription jobs (1) Info

Find job names Status: All

	Name	Status	Language	Language settings	Model type	Model name	Created
<input type="radio"/>	<a href="#">sample-transcription-job</a>	Complete	English, US (en-US)	Specific language	General	-	June 1 2022, 19:49 (UTC-

### 2. Check the transcription output

Next you will see the **sample-transcription-job** details. Scroll down to the **Transcription** panel to view the transcription job output.

In the **JSON** pane you can view the transcription results as it would be returned from the Transcribe API or AWS CLI.



Transcription preview

Download ▾

Select download to save a local copy of the transcription.

Text

Audio identification

Subtitles

Machine learning is employed in a range of computing tasks where designing and programming explicit algorithms with good performance is difficult or infeasible. Example applications include email filtering, detection of network intruders and computer vision. Machine learning is closely related to computational statistics, which also focuses on predictions making through the use of computer. It has strong ties to mathematical optimization, which delivers methods, theory and application domains to the field.

Tags (0)

Manage Tags

Key	Value
No tags associated with the resource.	

▼ Application integration

to automate and manage transcription job, use the following call. [Intro](#)

Example API request

```

1 {
2   "TranscriptionJobName": "sample-transcription-job",
3   "LanguageCode": "en-US",
4   "MediaSampleRateHertz": 44100,
5   "MediaFormat": "mp3",
6   "Media": {
7     "MediaFileUri": "s3://mysuperawsbucket/transcribe
                        -sample
                        .5fc2109bb28268d10fbc677e64b7e59256783d3c.mp3"
8   }
9 }

```

Copy

Example API response

```

1 {
2   "TranscriptionJob": {
3     "TranscriptionJobName": "sample-transcription
                        -job",
4     "TranscriptionJobStatus": "COMPLETED",
5     "LanguageCode": "en-US",
6     "MediaSampleRateHertz": 44100,
7     "MediaFormat": "mp3",
8     "Media": {
9       "MediaFileUri": "s3://mysuperawsbucket
                        /transcribe-sample
                        .5fc2109bb28268d10fbc677e64b7e59256783d3c
                        .mp3"
10    },
11   "Transcript": {
12     "TranscriptFileUri": "https://s3.us-west-2
                        .amazonaws.com/aws-transcribe-us-west-2
                        -prod/661972857966/sample-transcription
                        -job/6fde908a-1a43-42b8-9eb2-09f8a357696d

```

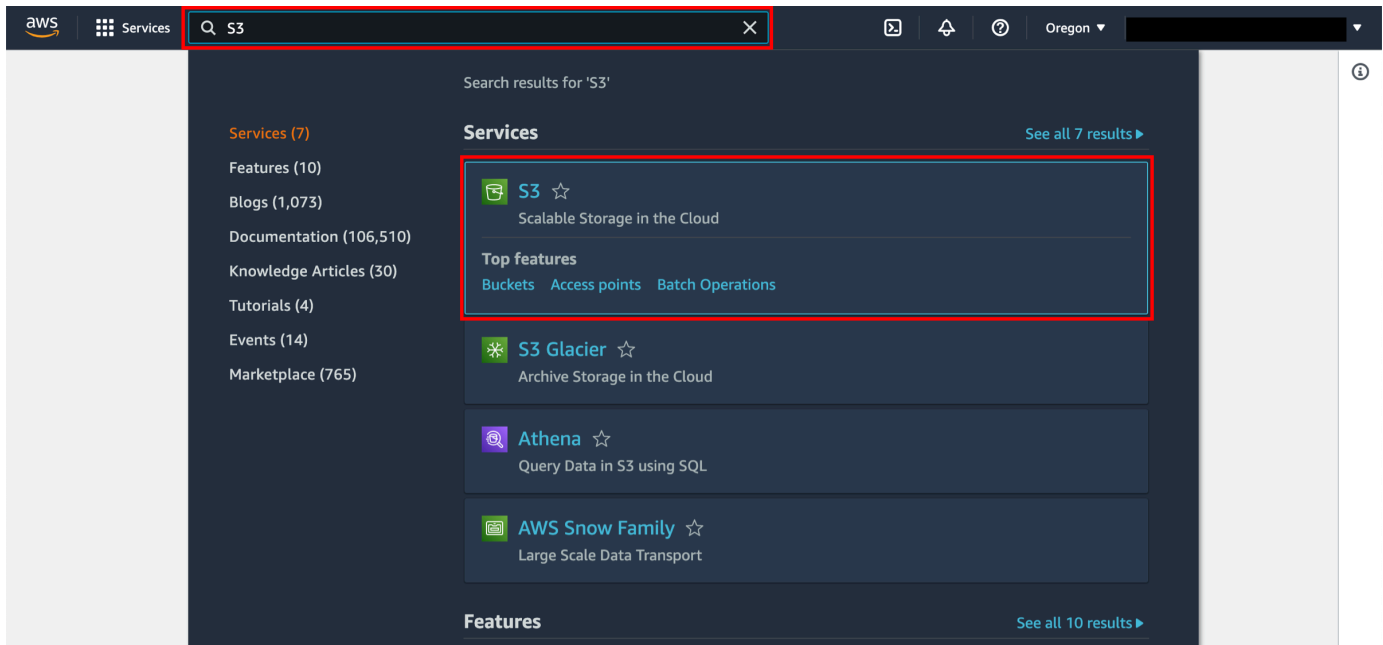
Copy

## Clean up resources

In this step, you will delete the sample file from your S3 bucket to avoid unnecessary charges.

### 1. Open the S3 console

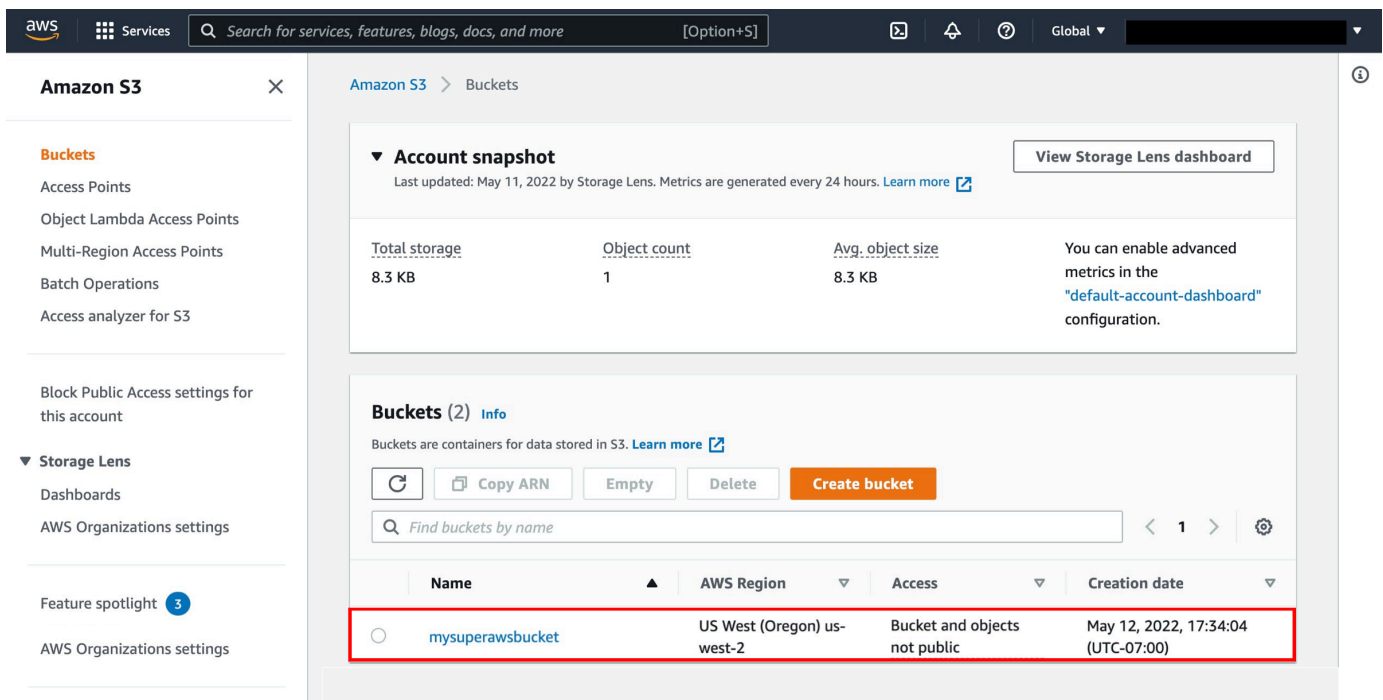
In this upper navigation menu, begin typing **S3** in the search bar and select **S3** to open the console.



## 2. Navigate to the bucket

Scroll through your S3 buckets and find the bucket that you created earlier in this tutorial.

Click on this bucket name to view the contents of the bucket. Your bucket name will be different in the screenshot to the right.



## 3. Delete the sample file

Select the **transcribe-sample.mp3** file contained within your bucket and select **Delete**. Confirm the deletion.

The screenshot shows the Amazon S3 console interface. On the left is a navigation pane with 'Amazon S3' selected. The main area displays the 'mysuperawsbucket' bucket. Under the 'Objects' tab, there is a list of objects. A single object is listed: 'transcribe-sample.5fc2109bb28268d10fbc677e64b7e59256783d3c.mp3'. This object is highlighted with a red box. Above the object list, there is a toolbar with buttons for 'Copy S3 URI', 'Copy URL', 'Download', 'Open', 'Delete', and 'Actions'. The 'Delete' button is highlighted with a red box. The object details show it is an 'mp3' file, uploaded on 'June 1, 2022, 11:06:18 (UTC-07:00)', with a size of '410.2 KB' and a 'Standard' storage class.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Name	Type	Last modified	Size	Storage class
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	transcribe-sample.5fc2109bb28268d10fbc677e64b7e59256783d3c.mp3	mp3	June 1, 2022, 11:06:18 (UTC-07:00)	410.2 KB	Standard

## Conclusion

As you have seen in this tutorial, Amazon Transcribe enables voice to text at scale. Use Amazon Transcribe for a wide range of audio or videos files, such as customer service calls, business meetings, broadcast TV, and on-demand videos.