



AWS COST & SECURITY CHECKLIST 2026

The practical guide to reduce costs, minimize risks, and scale AWS without losing control



WHY THIS CHECKLIST MATTERS IN 2026?

Over the past few years, AWS has evolved from being just infrastructure into a mission-critical business asset.

However, most organizations still face three recurring challenges:

- Cloud costs are growing faster than the business
- Security risks that remain invisible until an incident occurs
- Lack of operational visibility across DevOps, Security, and Finance teams
- This checklist was designed to help you quickly assess the real state of your AWS environment and prioritize high-impact actions.

⚠ THIS IS NOT A THEORETICAL DOCUMENT.

IT IS A PRACTICAL TOOL FOR TECHNICAL LEADERS WHO NEED TO MAKE INFORMED DECISIONS.

WHO IS THIS CHECKLIST FOR?

- ✓ **CTOS**
- ✓ **VP / HEAD OF ENGINEERING**
- ✓ **IT DIRECTORS**
- ✓ **INFRASTRUCTURE & CLOUD MANAGERS**
- ✓ **DEVOPS & SECURITY TEAMS**

HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE? (5 MINUTES)

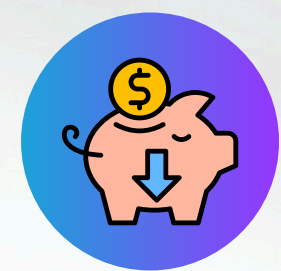
For each item, select one option:

- ✓ Yes – Implemented and actively monitored
- ⚠ Partial – Exists, but without clear ownership or control
- ✗ No – Not implemented or unknown

By

By the end, you will be able to:

- Identify potential cost savings
- Detect critical risks
- Prioritize a 30 / 60 / 90-day action plan



SECTION 1: COST OPTIMIZATION (FINOPS)

Item	Yes	Partial	No
Active use of Cost Explorer and Budgets	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Consistent tagging by team/project	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Monthly identification of underutilized resources	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Optimized Reserved Instances / Savings Plans	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Automatic shutdown of non-production environments	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

IN OUR EXPERIENCE, 20%–40% OF AWS SPEND CAN TYPICALLY BE OPTIMIZED WITHOUT IMPACTING PERFORMANCE.

SECTION 2: AWS SECURITY

Item	Yes	Partial	No
MFA enabled for all critical accounts	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
IAM configured with least-privilege principles	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Centralized logging (CloudTrail / GuardDuty)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Automated and tested backups	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Alerts configured for critical events	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

MOST INCIDENTS ARE NOT CAUSED BY SOPHISTICATED ATTACKS, BUT BY POORLY MANAGED CONFIGURATIONS.

SECTION 3: OPERATIONS & DEVOPS

Item	Yes	Partial	No
Centralized infrastructure and application	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Documented incident response runbooks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
MTTR measured and continuously improved	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Automated CI/CD pipelines	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Infrastructure as Code (IaC) implemented	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

LACK OF CLEAR PROCESSES INCREASES OPERATIONAL RISK AND SLOWS DOWN GROWTH.

RESULTS INTERPRETATION

HOW TO READ YOUR RESULTS

● MOSTLY “YES”

STRONG MATURITY LEVEL.

➔ **FOCUS ON ADVANCED OPTIMIZATION AND AUTOMATION.**

● MOSTLY “PARTIAL”

A SILENT RISK ZONE.

➔ **PRIORITIZE VISIBILITY, STANDARDIZATION, AND CONTROL.**

● MOSTLY “NO”

HIGH EXPOSURE TO UNNECESSARY COSTS AND RISKS.

➔ **A TECHNICAL EVALUATION IS STRONGLY RECOMMENDED.**

IF YOU MARKED SEVERAL "PARTIAL" OR "NO" ANSWERS, YOU MAY BE FACING:

- MONEY LEFT ON THE TABLE
- RISKS WITHOUT VISIBILITY
- LATENT OPERATIONAL ISSUES



WE OFFER:

AWS COST & SECURITY QUICKSCAN – 10 DAYS

INCLUDES:

- ✓ IDENTIFICATION OF COST-SAVING OPPORTUNITIES
- ✓ PRIORITIZED CRITICAL RISKS
- ✓ 30 / 60 / 90-DAY ROADMAP
- ✓ EXECUTIVE RESULTS REVIEW

**Schedule your QuickScan
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