AWS Cost Optimisation Checklist

Introduction

Effective cost management in AWS is essential for businesses looking to maximise value from their cloud investments. This comprehensive guide covers proven tactics, detailed explanations, and Terraform snippets to reduce your AWS spend without compromising performance.

1. Leverage Reserved Instances and Savings Plans

Reserved Instances (RI) and Savings Plans offer significant discounts (up to 72%) compared to on-demand instances.

- Reserved Instances: Ideal for steady workloads with predictable usage.
- Savings Plans: Provide flexible coverage across EC2, Lambda, and Fargate.

2. Rightsize EC2 Instances

Regularly review your instances to ensure you aren't over-provisioning. AWS Compute Optimizer provides recommendations based on resource utilisation metrics.

3. Implement Intelligent Storage Strategies

S3 Intelligent-Tiering automatically moves objects between access tiers, optimising storage costs.

4. Automate Shutdown of Idle Resources

Shutting down non-production environments outside business hours significantly reduces costs.

5. Switch to Graviton-Based Instances

AWS Graviton processors deliver price-performance improvements over traditional instances, ideal for general-purpose, compute-intensive workloads, and microservices.

6. Efficient Snapshot and Backup Policies

Snapshots can quickly become expensive if unmanaged. Implement lifecycle policies to expire snapshots or move them to cheaper storage options.

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7. Clean Up Unused Resources

Regularly audit your AWS environment for resources no longer in use such as unattached EBS volumes and idle Load Balancers.

8. Set Budgets and Alerts

AWS Budgets and Cost Explorer can provide proactive cost management.

Conclusion

Implementing these practices can substantially reduce your AWS spend. Regular monitoring, automation, and continuous optimisation are key. Leverage tools like AWS Cost Explorer and Terraform for effective ongoing cost management.

For further assistance, visit https://www.adesoji.dev.