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# AWS Lambda: A Guide To Serverless Microservices



## Synopsis

AWS Lambda - A Guide to Serverless Microservices takes a comprehensive look at developing "serverless" workloads using the new Web Services Lambda service. Lambda enables users to develop code that executes in response to events - API calls, file uploads, schedules, etc - and upload it without worrying about managing traditional server metrics such as disk space, memory, or CPU usage. With its "per execution" cost model, Lambda can enable organizations to save hundreds or thousands of dollars on computing costs. With in-depth walkthroughs, large screenshots, and complete code samples, the reader is guided through the step-by-step process of creating new functions, responding to infrastructure events, developing API backends, executing code at specified intervals, and much more.

Introduction to AWS Computing  
Evolution of the Computing Workload  
Lambda Background  
The Internals  
The Basics  
Functions  
Languages  
Resource Allocation  
Getting Set Up  
Hello World  
Uploading the Function  
Working with Events  
AWS Events  
Custom Events  
The Context Object  
Properties  
Methods  
Roles and Permissions  
Policies  
Trust Relationships  
Console Popups  
Cross Account Access  
Dependencies and Resources  
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OS Resources  
OS Commands  
Logging  
Searching Logs  
Testing Your Function  
Lambda Console Tests  
Third-Party Testing Libraries  
Simulating Context  
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The Bucket  
The Role  
The Code  
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The Trigger  
Testing  
When Lambda Isn't the Answer  
Host Access  
Fine-Tuned Configuration  
Security  
Long-Running Tasks  
Where Lambda Excels  
AWS Event-Driven Tasks  
Scheduled Events (Cron)  
Offloading Heavy Processing  
API Endpoints  
Infrequently Used Services  
Real-World Use Cases  
S3 Image Processing  
Shutting Down Untagged Instances  
Triggering Code  
Deploy with New S3 Uploads  
Processing Inbound Email  
Enforcing Security Policies  
Detecting Expiring Certificates  
Utilizing the AWS API  
Execution Environment  
The Code Pipeline  
Cold vs. Hot Execution  
What is Saved in Memory  
Scaling and Container Reuse  
From Development to Deployment  
Application Design  
Development Patterns  
Testing Deployment  
Monitoring  
Versioning and Aliasing  
Costs  
Short Executions  
Long-Running Processes  
High-Memory Applications  
Free Tier  
Calculating Pricing  
CloudFormation  
Reusable Template with Minimum Permissions  
Cross Account Access  
CloudWatch Alerts  
AWS API Gateway  
API Gateway Event  
Creating the Lambda Function  
Creating a New API, Resource, and Method  
Initial Configuration  
Mapping Templates  
Adding a Query String  
Using HTTP Request Information Within Lambda  
Deploying the API  
Additional Use Cases  
Lambda Competitors  
Iron.io  
StackHut  
WebTask.io  
Existing Cloud Providers  
The Future of Lambda  
More Resources  
Conclusion

## Book Information

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## **Customer Reviews**

Excellent introduction. Very concise, not a wasted word. Will save you tons of time. A 0.01 star deduction for not mentioning that when invoking a lambda function via 'API Gateway" the function will only be allowed to run for just 10 seconds( at least as of 1/15/2016)

This is a great little book to get you started with Lambda. You can get through it pretty quickly and it has the information you need to get you up and running. I found this book to be much easier to read than the AWS Lambda documentation, and it includes handy tips you won't find in the documentation.

A short and well written introduction to AWS Lambda. Helping me grasp what it is, where it could be used, where it falls short. The book uses examples written in Node.js, and tells you how to test such functions locally before spending cheap yet valuable Lambda cycles. How to set up IAM roles and policies. How to log. How to monitor. With a brief look at AWS API Gateway - as this is one event generator, which fits perfectly with AWS Lambda.

This was a nice quick intro to AWS Lambda, easily digested in a couple hours. Kudos for that! Minor downside: code samples were formatted in fixed width boxes, so lots of line wraps, which makes even simple code snippets a bit painful to read.

I've found this book very useful and well written. I haven't tried Lambda yet but after reading this book I feel I know the concepts and ideas in a very confident way.

I've been trying to learn Lambda for a couple weeks now, but it's really difficult to learn best practices when 99% of the resources out there are two page opinionated blog posts about a single aspect of Lambda. This book puts all of the most important info in one place and is easily read in an afternoon. The author also does a good job of being unbiased. If you're just starting with Lambda then do yourself a favor and buy this book!

If you are new to AWS Lambda then this is a good place to start. It uses Node.js so if you are planning to use a different language it will take a bit to translate the examples. Covers many different aspects of Lambda and not just for to write a Lambda function.

This book was a great intro to Lambda and I'd recommend it to anyone familiar with AWS wanting to get started with Lambda. It would have been nice if the book went into more detail on each of the event triggers.

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