Cheatography

AWS Solutions Architect (SAA-C03) Key Services Cheat Sheet

by bytebar via cheatography.com/218949/cs/48491/

Compute

EC2	Virtual servers, you manage the OS. Exam asks: instance families for compute vs memory vs storage
Lambda	Serverless functions. Exam asks: event-driven, short tasks, zero servers
Auto Scaling	Adds/removes EC2 on demand. Exam asks: spiky traffic, always pair with ELB
Elastic Beanstalk	PaaS deploys. Exam asks: fastest deploy without managing infra

Compute block for SAA-C03 sheet

Storage

S3	Object storage, 11 nines durability. Exam asks: static websites, data lakes, unstructured
S3 storage classes	Standard to Intelligent-Tiering to Glacier. Exam asks: pick by access frequency to cut cost
EBS	Block storage for one EC2 instance. Exam asks: gp3 vs io2 vs st1 by IOPS
EFS	Shared file storage across instances. Exam asks: multiple EC2 needing one filesystem
Storage Gateway	Hybrid on-prem to AWS. Exam asks: extend local storage to cloud

Storage block for SAA-C03 sheet

Networking

VPC	Your isolated network. Exam asks: public vs private subnets, design with both
ELB (ALB/NLB/GWLB)	Load balancers. Exam asks: ALB=HTTP routing, NLB=extreme TCP performance
Route 53	DNS plus routing policies. Exam asks: latency-based, geolocation, failover
CloudFront	CDN. Exam asks: cache at edge, pair with S3 or ALB origin
Direct Connect	Private dedicated link. Exam asks: consistent bandwidth, hybrid, bypasses internet

Networking block for SAA-C03 sheet

Databases

RDS	Managed relational. Exam asks: Multi-AZ for HA, read replicas for scale
Aurora	AWS-built relational. Exam asks: MySQL/Postgres compatible, fastest failover
DynamoDB	Serverless NoSQL. Exam asks: single-digit ms latency, massive scale
Elasti-Cache	In-memory cache. Exam asks: cut database load for read-heavy apps
Redshift	Data warehouse. Exam asks: analytics over petabytes, not transactions

Databases block for SAA-C03 sheet

Security & Identity

IAM	Users, roles, policies. Exam asks: least privilege; roles for EC2, never embed keys
Security Groups	Stateful instance firewall, allow only. Exam asks: SG vs NACL differences
NACLs	Stateless subnet firewall. Exam asks: rule order matters, lowest numbered first
KMS	Encryption key management. Exam asks: SSE-S3 vs SSE-KMS vs SSE-C
WAF / Shield	Web firewall / DDoS protection. Exam asks: Layer 7 filtering vs volumetric defense

Security & Identity block for SAA-C03 sheet

Design Principles

Decouple	SQS/SNS between tiers; "-loosely coupled" is almost always right
Stateless	nothing on the instance; store state in ElastiCache/DynamoDB
Multi-AZ	high availability; NOT multi--region unless disaster recovery is named
Cheapest valid	the exam rewards cost-optimized answers; serverless and managed first

Design Principles block for SAA-C03 sheet

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Footer block for SAA-C03 sheet

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