AWS Certified Cloud Practitioner Cheat Sheet

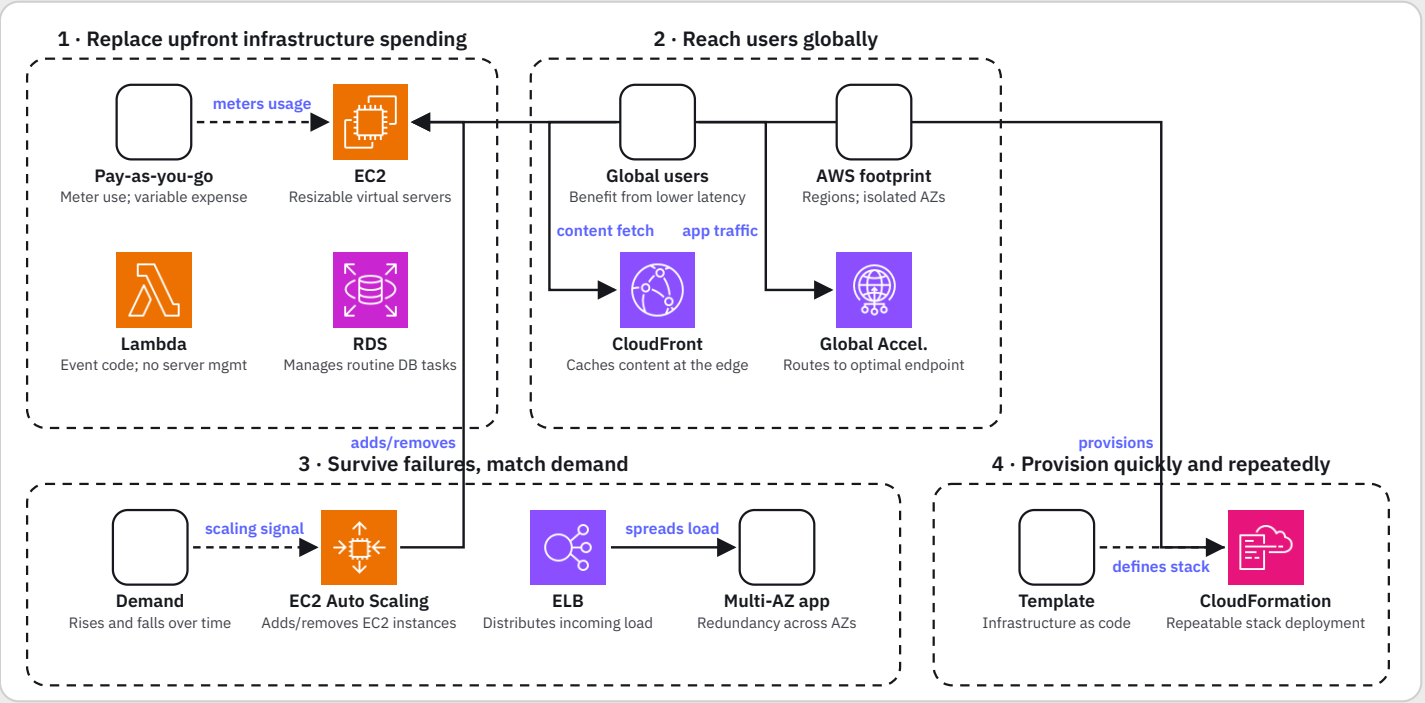
CLF-C02 · Domain 1 of 4

BlowStack

DOMAIN 1 · CLOUD CONCEPTS · 24% OF THE EXAM · TASK STATEMENT 1.1

Define the benefits of the AWS Cloud

Meter, reach, adapt, automate



1 Replace upfront infrastructure spending

Choose **variable expense** to replace large upfront infrastructure purchases. AWS economies of scale can lower unit costs; managed services reduce operational work. Usage still requires cost monitoring.

2 Reach users globally

Choose **global reach** to deploy near users without building data centers. Regions are geographic areas containing isolated AZs. CloudFront caches at edges; Global Accelerator routes traffic over AWS's global network.

3 Survive failures, match demand

Choose **high availability** for service continuity through failures: use redundant resources across AZs. Elasticity adds and releases capacity as demand changes; Auto Scaling follows configured policies.

4 Provision quickly and repeatedly

Choose **agility** for rapid experimentation and delivery. CloudFormation provisions resources from templates consistently; teams still design the architecture. Migration alone does not create resilience or savings.

Exam traps

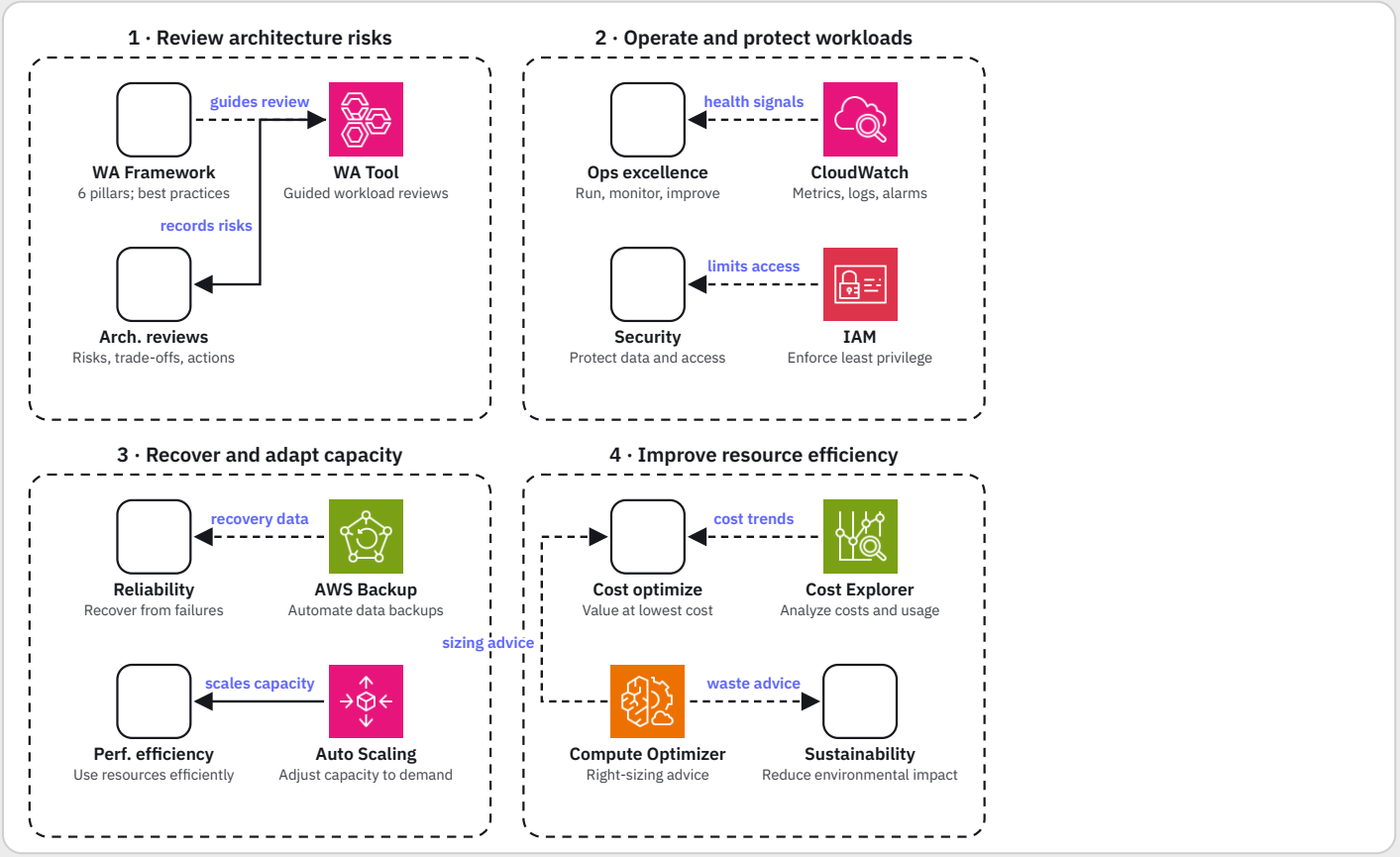
- **Pay-as-you-go is not automatically cheaper**: idle resources and unmanaged usage still cost money. Variable expense replaces large upfront purchases, not all spending.
- **CloudFront caches; Global Accelerator routes**: both can improve global performance, but Global Accelerator does not cache content.
- **Elasticity is not high availability**: changing capacity meets demand; redundant components across AZs tolerate failures. ELB distributes traffic; Auto Scaling changes instance count.

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DOMAIN 1 · CLOUD CONCEPTS · TASK STATEMENT 1.2

Identify design principles of the AWS Cloud

Review, operate, recover, optimize



1 Review architecture risks

Choose the Framework for architectural best practices and the Tool for structured workload reviews. **Architecture reviews** identify risks and improvement actions; they do not automatically fix workloads.

2 Operate and protect workloads

Operational excellence improves how workloads are operated through observability and learning. Security protects information and systems; **least privilege** grants only the permissions required.

3 Recover and adapt capacity

Choose reliability for **failure recovery** and performance efficiency for efficient resources that meet demand. AWS Backup automates policy-based backups; AWS Auto Scaling adjusts capacity under configured policies.

4 Improve resource efficiency

Cost optimization targets spending; sustainability targets environmental impact. **Right-sizing** matches capacity to observed demand. Cost Explorer analyzes spending; Compute Optimizer recommends changes, not automatic resizing.

Exam traps

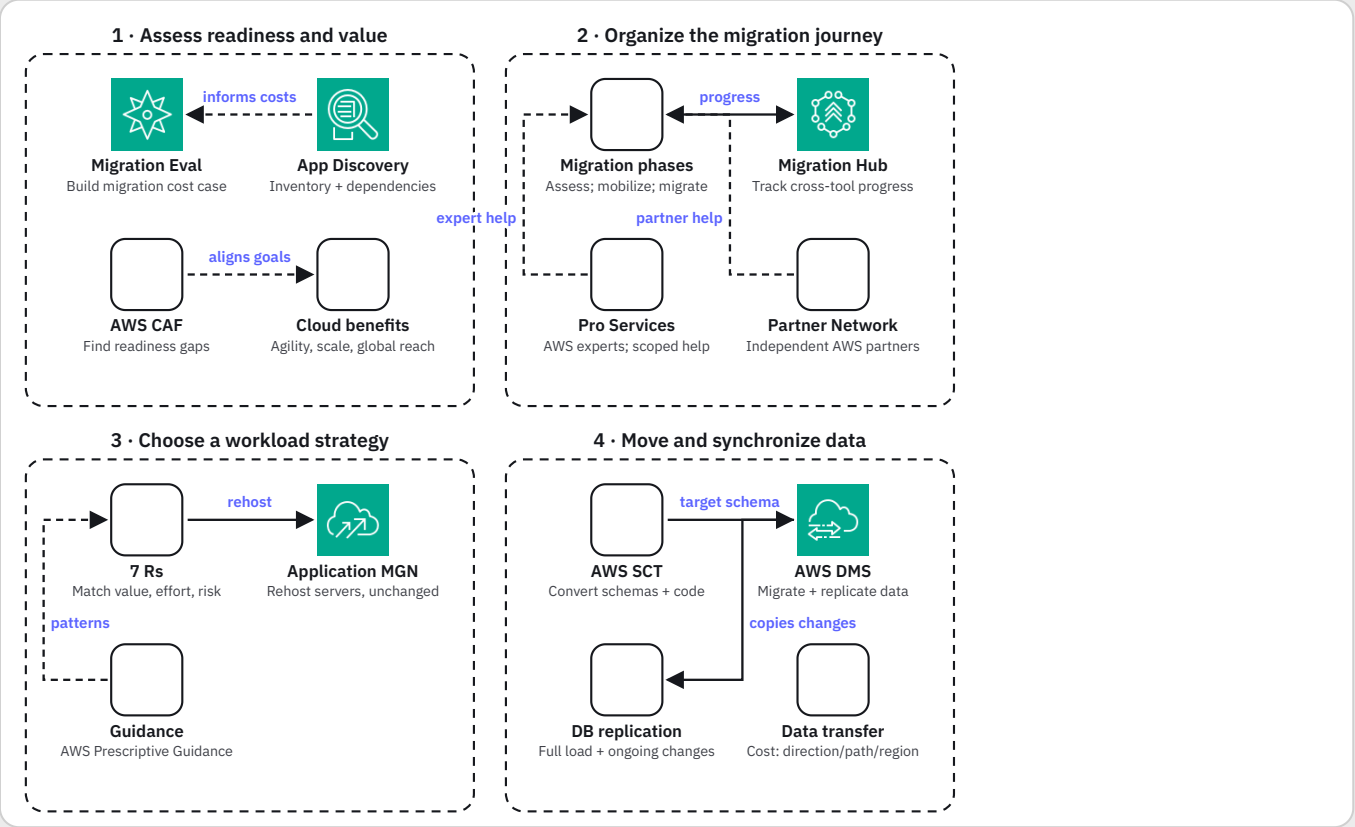
- **Reliability is not security**: restoring service after failure addresses reliability; preventing unauthorized access addresses security.
- **Pillars overlap**: scaling and right-sizing can improve performance, cost, and sustainability. The question's primary objective determines the best pillar.
- **Backups are not high availability**: retained copies support recovery, but do not by themselves keep a workload serving traffic during a failure.

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DOMAIN 1 · CLOUD CONCEPTS · TASK STATEMENT 1.3

Understand the benefits of and strategies for migration to the AWS Cloud

Assess, plan, choose, migrate



1 Assess readiness and value

AWS CAF: Business, People, Governance, Platform, Security, Operations. Aligns readiness with outcomes: reduced business risk, improved ESG performance, increased revenue and operational efficiency.

2 Organize the migration journey

Migration phases: Assess readiness and business case; mobilize people, foundations and plans; migrate and modernize workloads. AWS Professional Services provides scoped assistance; AWS Partner Network connects customers with partners.

3 Choose a workload strategy

7 Rs: Rehost (lift-and-shift), relocate (move platform), replatform (small changes), repurchase (replace), refactor/re-architect (redesign), retain (keep), retire (remove). AWS Prescriptive Guidance supplies actionable patterns.

4 Move and synchronize data

Different database engines: AWS SCT converts schemas and supported code; AWS DMS moves data. Ongoing replication lets the source keep serving until cutover, reducing downtime rather than guaranteeing zero downtime.

Exam traps

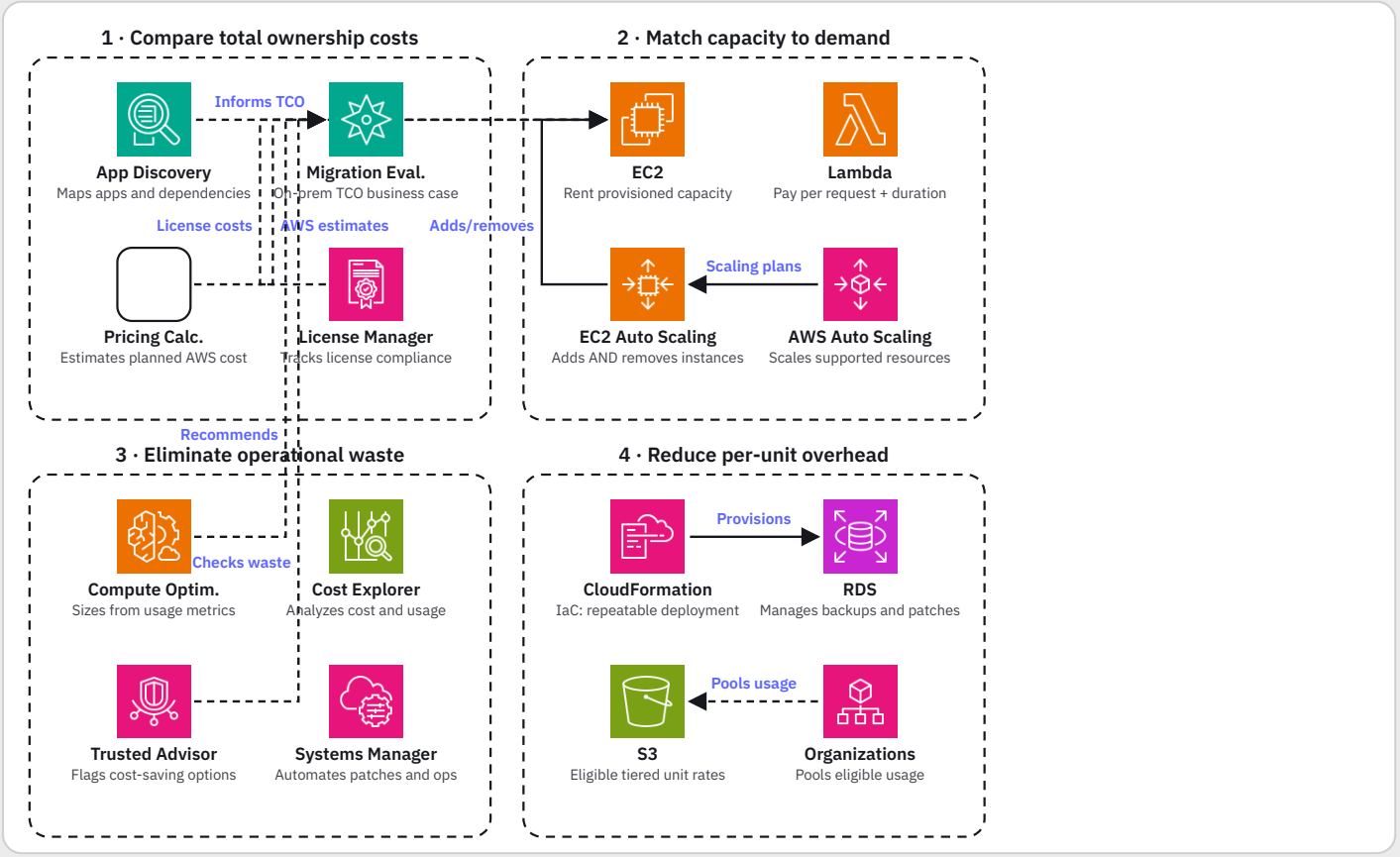
- **Rehost ≠ refactor**: AWS Application Migration Service moves servers without redesign. Refactor changes architecture; migration alone does not guarantee lower costs or greater resilience.
- **Replication ≠ schema conversion**: AWS DMS moves data and replicates changes; AWS SCT converts schemas. DMS does not support replication between two on-premises databases.
- **Assess ≠ track**: AWS Migration Evaluator builds a business case; AWS Application Discovery Service maps dependencies; AWS Migration Hub tracks migration progress across tools.

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DOMAIN 1 · CLOUD CONCEPTS · TASK STATEMENT 1.4

Understand concepts of cloud economics

Compare, scale, rightsize, automate



1 Compare total ownership costs

TCO includes hardware, facilities, power, staff, licenses, migration and ongoing usage. Migration Evaluator supports the migration business case; Pricing Calculator estimates configured AWS usage.

2 Match capacity to demand

Elasticity releases idle capacity instead of buying for occasional peaks. Renting shifts upfront CapEx toward ongoing OpEx. EC2 bills provisioned capacity; Lambda bills requests and execution duration.

3 Eliminate operational waste

Rightsizing uses utilization to choose resource types and sizes that meet performance needs; repeat as demand changes. Cost Explorer reveals spending patterns. Systems Manager reduces manual operational work.

4 Reduce per-unit overhead

Economies of scale can lower unit prices; Organizations pools eligible usage for volume tiers. Managed services reduce administration. Repeatable IaC reduces manual errors, but does not guarantee correct configuration.

Exam traps

- **OpEx is not always variable**: recurring commitments can be fixed. Moving to AWS does not guarantee lower TCO; idle resources, licenses and migration effort still cost money.
- **BYOL is not automatic portability**: vendor terms determine eligibility. License-included bundles covered software; AWS License Manager tracks licenses but does not grant license rights.
- **Rightsizing differs from elasticity**: rightsizing selects suitable resource types and sizes; elasticity adjusts capacity with demand. Recommendations do not automatically resize every resource.

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DOMAIN 1 · CLOUD CONCEPTS · WHAT TO REMEMBER

Concepts and services of Cloud Concepts

Concepts to know

Benefits of migrating to the AWS Cloud

Cloud adoption offers agility, global reach, elasticity, and reduced upfront investment. Choose **elasticity for changing demand**, high availability for fewer interruptions, and agility for faster experimentation and deployment.

AWS Well-Architected Framework

Six pillars guide workload design: operational excellence, security, reliability, performance efficiency, cost optimization, and sustainability. Match the goal: **reliability supports recovery**; performance efficiency matches resources to workload needs.

Total Cost of Ownership

TCO compares direct and indirect costs across deployment options. Include hardware, facilities, power, staffing, licensing, migration, and cloud usage; choose **overall lifecycle cost**, not just server prices, when evaluating migration savings.

Core services



AWS Database Migration Service (AWS DMS)

Choose it to **migrate and replicate database data** with minimal downtime. Ongoing replication captures changes; AWS Schema Conversion Tool (AWS SCT) handles schema conversion between engines.



AWS Migration Evaluator

Choose it to **build a migration business case** using existing workload and cost data. It supports comparisons between on-premises costs and projected AWS costs.



AWS Pricing Calculator

Choose it to **estimate AWS costs before deployment** from selected services, Regions, configurations, and expected usage; AWS Cost Explorer analyzes existing spending and usage.

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