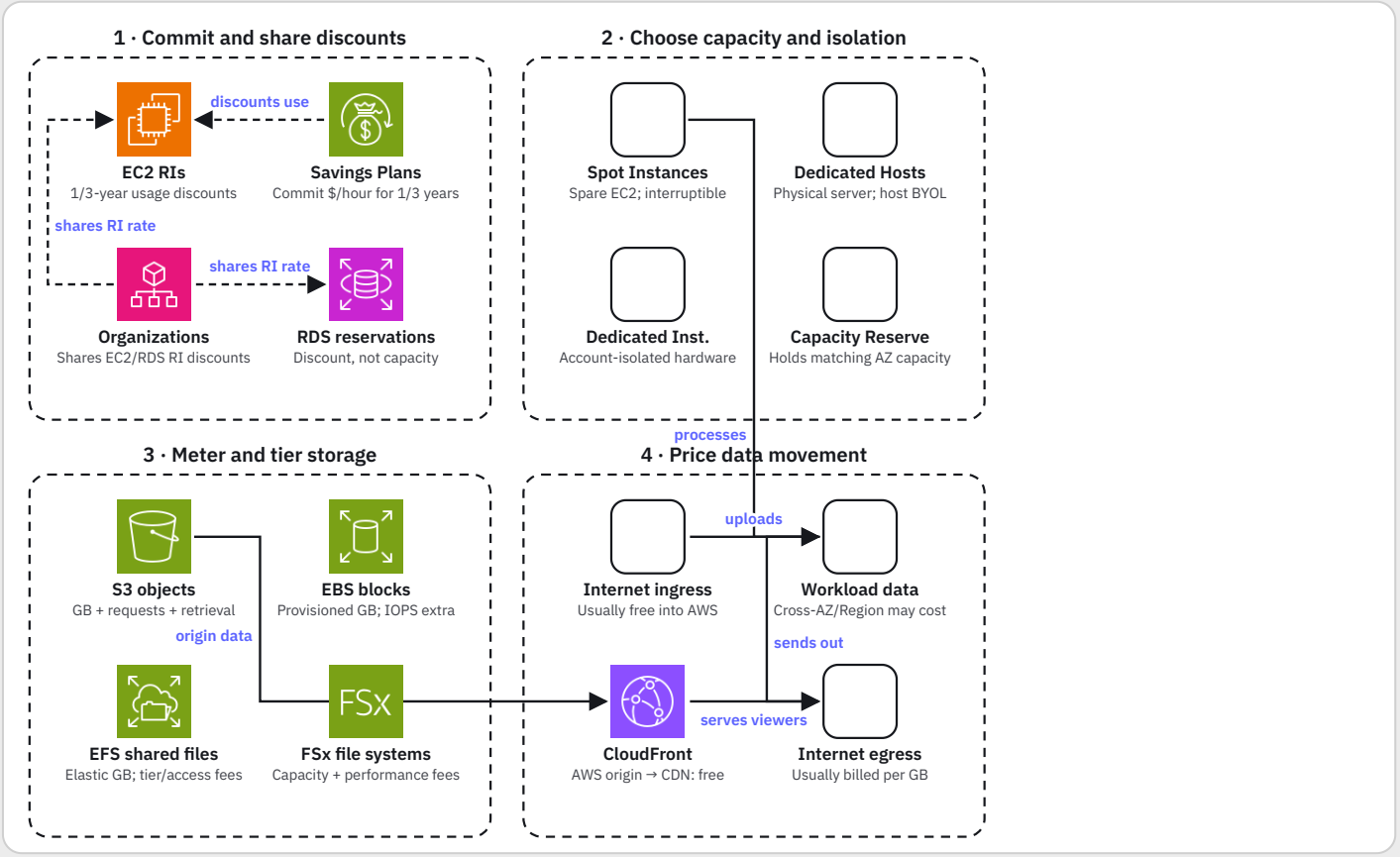
DOMAIN 4 · BILLING, PRICING, AND SUPPORT · 12% OF THE EXAM · TASK STATEMENT 4.1

Compare AWS pricing models

Commit, reserve, tier, transfer



1 Commit and share discounts

Predictable usage favors commitments; uncertain usage favors On-Demand. Compute Savings Plans span EC2 families/Regions, Fargate and Lambda; EC2 Instance Savings Plans bind family + Region. Unused commitments still cost.

2 Choose capacity and isolation

Interruption tolerance makes Spot suitable for restartable batch work. Dedicated Hosts expose server placement for licensing; Dedicated Instances isolate hardware. Capacity Reservations hold capacity without a discount.

3 Meter and tier storage

Access frequency drives tier choice. S3 IA and Amazon S3 Glacier lower storage rates but add retrieval fees/minimum durations; archive restores can take hours. S3 lifecycle rules and EFS lifecycle policies automate tiering.

4 Price data movement

Direction and path determine transfer charges, not just bytes. CloudFront caching reduces origin fetches; delivery to viewers has its own pricing. Keeping communicating resources local can reduce transfer costs.

Exam traps

- **Regional RIs** allow size flexibility for eligible Linux/default-tenancy usage; zonal RIs reserve capacity. Convertible RIs can exchange families; Standard RIs cannot.
- **RI sharing** applies unused EC2/RDS discounts across eligible organization accounts by default. The owner gets first use; sharing can be disabled. Zonal capacity is not shared.
- **Same Region ≠ free**: cross-AZ traffic can cost, while same-Region S3-to-EC2 transfer is free. Cross-Region transfer generally costs; internet ingress is generally free.

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AWS Certified Cloud Practitioner Cheat Sheet

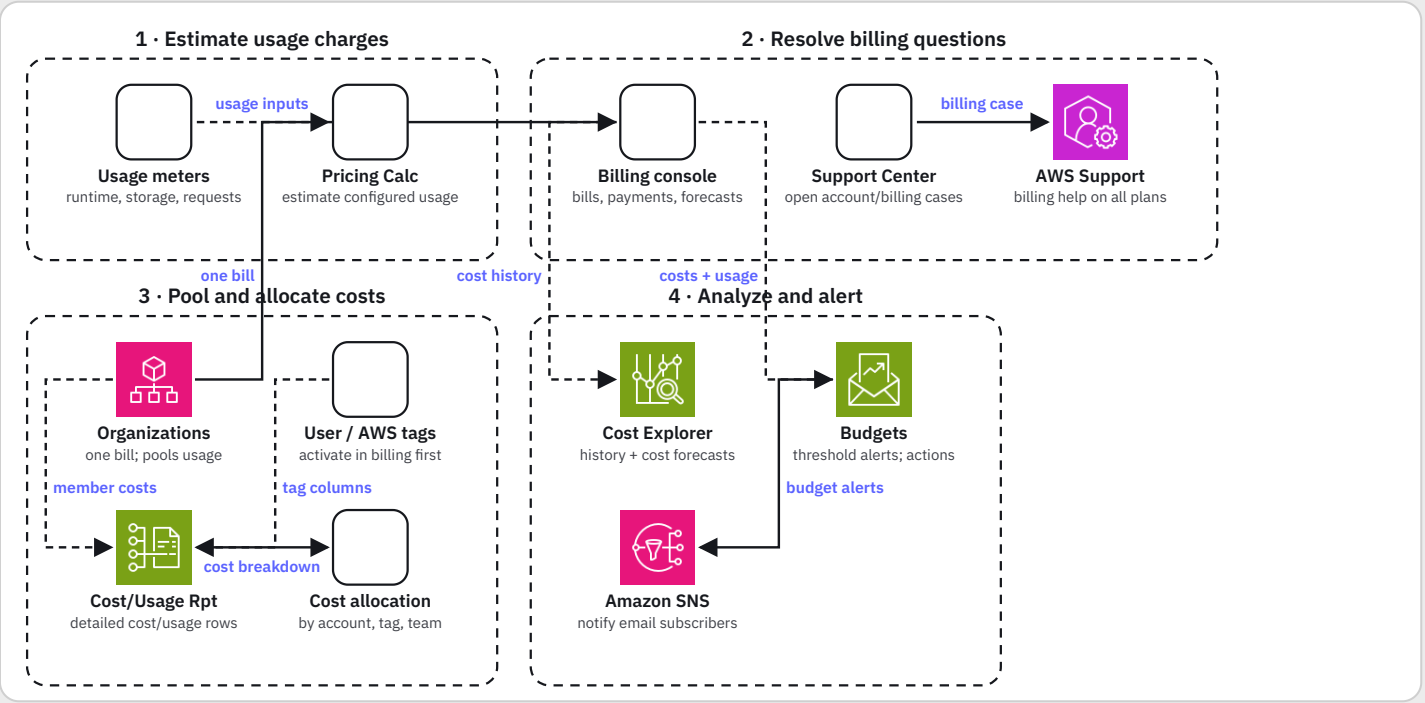
CLF-C02 · Domain 4 of 4

BlowStack

DOMAIN 4 · BILLING, PRICING, AND SUPPORT · TASK STATEMENT 4.2

Understand resources for billing, budget, and cost management

Estimate, resolve, allocate, monitor



1 Estimate usage charges

Choose AWS Pricing Calculator for **planned workload costs** before deployment. Configure services, Regions, capacity, and expected usage; usage-based charges depend on billable quantities.

2 Resolve billing questions

Use AWS Support Center for **account and billing assistance**, available with Basic Support. Technical support availability and response targets depend on the support plan.

3 Pool and allocate costs

Consolidated billing pools eligible usage for **volume discounts**; account costs remain identifiable. Activate user-defined and AWS-generated cost allocation tags in billing; resource tagging alone is insufficient.

4 Analyze and alert

Use Cost Explorer to analyze trends and filter by activated tags. Use Budgets for **actual or forecast thresholds** on cost or usage; alerts do not automatically cap spending, and budget actions require configuration.

Exam traps

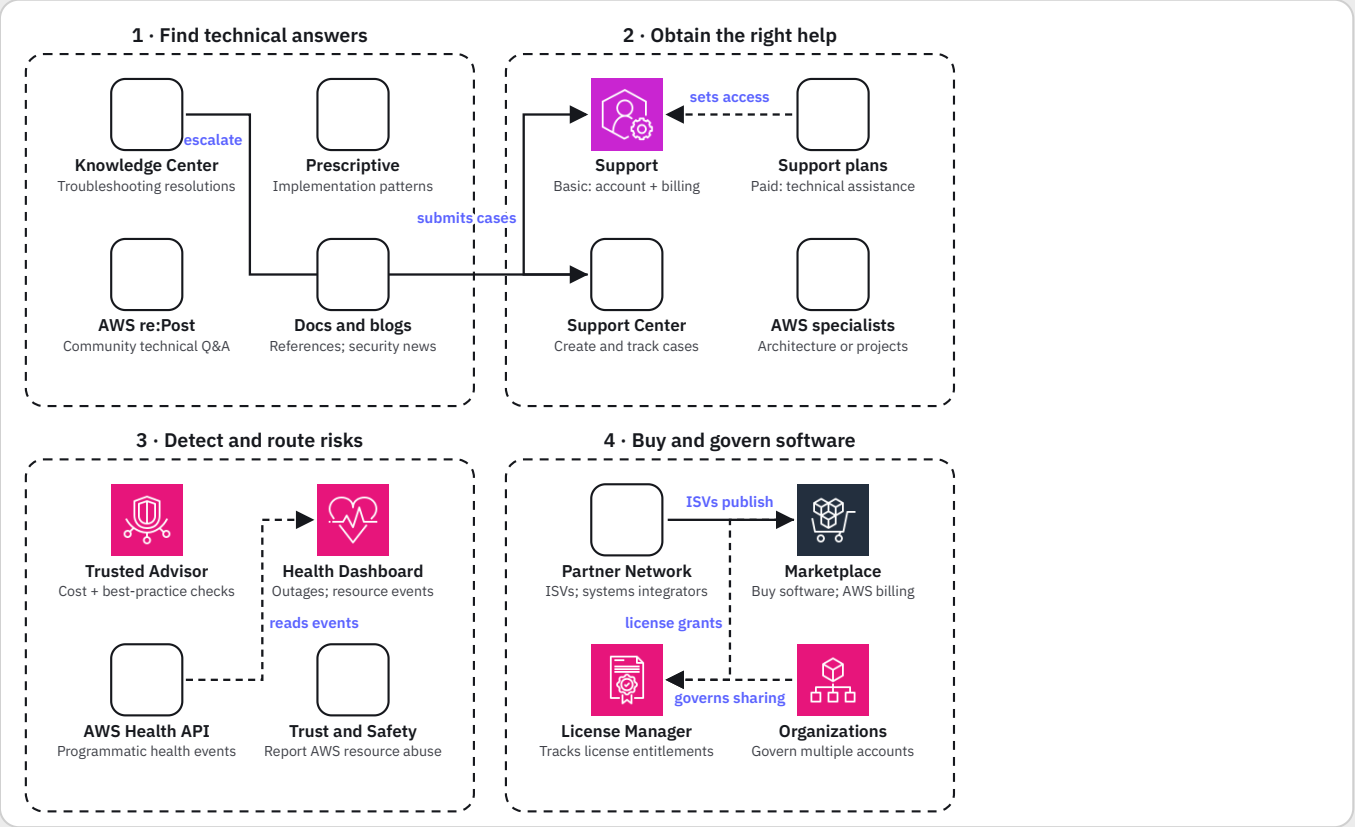
- **Calculator versus Cost Explorer**: Calculator models planned usage; Cost Explorer analyzes incurred costs and usage and forecasts future costs.
- **Cost Explorer versus Cost and Usage Report**: Explorer provides interactive analysis; the report supplies granular billing records for detailed analysis and allocation.
- **Consolidated billing is not account merging**: the management account pays the combined bill, while member accounts retain separate resources and identifiable costs.

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DOMAIN 4 · BILLING, PRICING, AND SUPPORT · TASK STATEMENT 4.3

Identify AWS technical resources and AWS Support options

Find, escalate, monitor, procure



1 Find technical answers

Use AWS Knowledge Center for **troubleshooting**, AWS Prescriptive Guidance for implementation patterns, and AWS re:Post for community Q&A. Official documentation, whitepapers, and AWS Security Blog explain services and practices.

2 Obtain the right help

Basic excludes technical cases. **AWS Business Support+** adds 24/7 technical help; AWS Enterprise Support adds a designated TAM; AWS Unified Operations adds proactive operational assistance.

3 Detect and route risks

Use **AWS Trusted Advisor** for optimization, not outage status. AWS Health Dashboard shows service/resource events; AWS Health API enables automation. Report suspected Acceptable Use Policy violations to AWS Trust and Safety.

4 Buy and govern software

Use **AWS Marketplace** to buy ISV software; License Manager tracks entitlements and Organizations governs accounts. AWS Partner Network connects ISVs/integrators and offers partner training, certification, events, and opportunities.

Exam traps

- **AWS Professional Services** delivers scoped projects; AWS Solutions Architects provides architecture guidance. Neither replaces AWS Support for troubleshooting cases.
- **Volume Discounts** depend on eligible usage and pricing tiers, not automatic APN membership discounts. Consolidated billing can aggregate eligible usage.
- **Basic Support** includes limited Trusted Advisor checks. Full checks and AWS Health API access depend on the plan; initial response targets are not resolution guarantees.

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DOMAIN 4 · BILLING, PRICING, AND SUPPORT · WHAT TO REMEMBER

Concepts and services of Billing, Pricing, and Support

Concepts to know

Commitment Discounts

Reserved Instances and Savings Plans exchange one- or three-year commitments for lower rates on eligible usage. Choose commitments for **predictable baseline demand**, On-Demand for flexibility, and Spot for interruption-tolerant workloads.

AWS Support plans

Basic Support includes account and billing assistance, not technical support cases. Choose paid coverage by **technical support needs**, contact channels, case severity, and target initial response times—not guaranteed resolution times.

Cost Allocation

Cost allocation attributes spending to accounts, teams, or workloads. Activate AWS-generated or user-defined cost allocation tags for billing reports; **consolidated billing combines payment**, while member-account costs remain identifiable.

Core services

AWS Pricing Calculator

Choose it to **estimate planned workload costs** from service configurations, Regions, and expected usage. Estimates support architecture comparisons; they are not actual bills.

AWS Cost Explorer

Choose it to **analyze incurred costs and usage**, filter or group spending by account, service, or activated cost allocation tag, and forecast future costs.

AWS Budgets

Choose it to **alert on actual or forecast spending** against configured thresholds. Optional budget actions can apply controls; a budget alone does not automatically cap charges.

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