aws

Pricing Guide

Amazon Direct Connect



Amazon Direct Connect: Pricing Guide

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Amazon Direct Connect pricing

> **Important**
>
> Amazon pricing is subject to change. For current pricing, see the Amazon Direct Connect pay-as-you-go pricing page. Pricing examples in this guide are illustrative only and might not reflect current pricing.

How Amazon Direct Connect pricing works

With Amazon Direct Connect, you pay only for what you use. There is no minimum fee and no up-front commitment. You pay as you go for the resources that you provision and the data that you transfer.

Your Amazon Direct Connect charges fall into the following categories, which are described in this chapter:

- Capacity (port-hour) charges
- Data transfer out (DTO)
- Cross-connect and colocation fees

For current rates in each Amazon Region and Amazon Direct Connect location, see the Amazon Direct Connect pay-as-you-go pricing page.

Capacity (port-hour) charges

Capacity charges, also called port-hour charges, are billed for each hour that a connection is provisioned, from the time you create the connection until you delete it. Port-hour charges apply whether or not you send traffic over the connection.

The port-hour rate varies by the port speed of the connection and by the type of connection, such as a dedicated connection or a hosted connection. For more information about the difference between dedicated and hosted connections, see Dedicated and hosted connection billing.

For current port-hour rates, see the Amazon Direct Connect pay-as-you-go pricing page.

Data transfer out (DTO)

Data transfer out (DTO) refers to data that is sent from Amazon to your network over an Amazon Direct Connect connection. DTO over Amazon Direct Connect is priced based on the Amazon Direct Connect location where the data is sent and the source or destination Amazon Region.

Data transfer *into* Amazon over Amazon Direct Connect is not charged.

Example Illustrative data transfer out charge

Suppose you transfer data out from Amazon to your network through an Amazon Direct Connect location in the Contiguous United States. In this example, data transfer out is billed at an illustrative rate of $0.02 per GB. This rate is provided only as an example, is subject to change, and might not reflect current pricing. For the full per-Region and per-location data transfer out rates, see the Amazon Direct Connect pay-as-you-go pricing page.

Cross-connect and colocation fees

To use Amazon Direct Connect, you establish a cross-connect at an Amazon Direct Connect location. The cross-connect and any associated colocation fees are billed by the colocation provider or Amazon Direct Connect Partner that operates the facility, not by Amazon. Contact the facility operator for information about these charges.

Dedicated and hosted connection billing

Amazon Direct Connect offers dedicated connections and hosted connections, and the way each is billed differs at a high level:

- A *dedicated connection* is a physical connection that you request through Amazon. Amazon bills the port-hour charge for a dedicated connection directly to your Amazon account.
- A *hosted connection* is provisioned by an Amazon Direct Connect Partner on your behalf. Port-hour billing arrangements for hosted connections can involve the Partner. Contact your Amazon Direct Connect Partner for details about how your hosted connection is billed.

For current port-hour rates for dedicated and hosted connections, see the Amazon Direct Connect pay-as-you-go pricing page.

Flat-rate pricing

> **Important**
>
> Amazon pricing is subject to change. For current pricing, see the Amazon Direct Connect flat-rate pricing page. The pricing examples in this guide are for illustration only and might not reflect current pricing.

Amazon Direct Connect offers flat-rate pricing, a simplified and predictable billing model for dedicated connections. You pay a fixed hourly rate based on your connection bandwidth and a pricing tier that you select.

A pricing tier groups all data-transfer paths that share the same geographic distance category. You define each path by a source Amazon Web Services Region and an Amazon Direct Connect location. Amazon Direct Connect assigns the path to the tier that matches its distance profile, alongside all other paths with a similar geographic span. For example, a path from `us-east-1` (N. Virginia) to the Direct Connect location in Ashburn, Virginia is a Tier 1 path because both are in the same metro. In contrast, a path from `us-east-1` to a Direct Connect location in Cape Town, South Africa falls into Tier 3 because it spans a greater geographic distance.

Each tier includes zero data transfer out (DTO) charges between your Amazon Direct Connect location and the Amazon Web Services Regions that the tier covers. DTO from a Region that is not covered by your selected tier is billed at standard Direct Connect data transfer rates. Data transfer into Amazon is never charged.

The following example shows the Amazon Web Services Regions from which data transfer out is covered under flat-rate Tier 2 for connections at two Amazon Direct Connect locations: Digital Realty LHR20 (London) and Equinix LD5 (Slough). Data transfer out from any Amazon Web Services Region not listed is billed at standard Direct Connect data transfer rates.



Your monthly cost is fixed: **the hourly rate for your bandwidth and tier × the hours the connection is provisioned**. Flat-rate pricing applies to **dedicated** connections only. The recommended port-pair setup includes a redundant second port at no additional charge.

> **Note**
>
> For how port-pairs, resiliency groups, and effective bandwidth work — and how to set up and operate flat-rate connections — see Flat-rate billing for dedicated connections in the Amazon Direct Connect User Guide.

What flat-rate pricing includes

The following table shows what is included in the flat rate and what is billed separately.

	Included in the flat rate	Billed separately
Port hours	Yes – the fixed hourly rate covers the port hours and data transfer costs	None
Data transfer out originating from Amazon Web Services Regions **included** in your selected tier	Yes – no per-GB charges	None

	Included in the flat rate	Billed separately
Data transfer into Amazon	Yes – data transfer in is never charged	None
Redundant second port in a port-pair	Yes – no additional charge	None
Data transfer out originating from Regions **outside** your selected tier	No	Standard Direct Connect data transfer rates
Amazon Direct Connect SiteLink data transfer charges	No	Standard SiteLink data transfer rates
Cross-connect and colocation fees	No	Billed by your colocation provider or Amazon Direct Connect Partner
Last-mile circuit	No	Billed by your network provider
Charges from other Amazon services	No	Billed by the relevant Amazon service (for example, Transit Gateway data processing)

Pricing tiers

Flat-rate pricing uses five tiers. Each tier includes zero data transfer out charges for traffic between your Amazon Direct Connect location and the Amazon Web Services Regions that the tier covers. Data transfer out from a Region that is not covered by your selected tier is billed at standard Direct Connect data transfer rates.

The tier you need depends on two inputs:

- The **source Amazon Web Services Region or Regions** where your Amazon VPC traffic originates.
- The **Amazon Direct Connect location** where your port is provisioned.

Together, these form a **path**. Greater geographic distance between the source Region and the Amazon Direct Connect location generally maps to a higher tier.

Tier	Connectivity scope	General description
Tier 1	Local	Source Region in the same metro as your Amazon Direct Connect location
Tier 2	Regional	Source Region in the same general geographic area, like a continent
Tier 3	Continental	Source Region farther across a continental or geographical area
Tier 4	Long-haul	Source Region across a large geographical area or a different continent
Tier 5	Any Amazon Region globally	Source Region farther across a large geographical area or different continents

This table is guidance only and should not be read as strict categories. To confirm the tier for a specific path, use the Amazon Direct Connect flat-rate pricing page.

Choosing between billing modes

The following table compares pay-as-you-go and flat-rate billing modes. For how to set the billing mode and switch a connection between modes, see Flat-rate billing for dedicated connections in the Amazon Direct Connect User Guide. For current rates in each mode, see the Amazon Direct Connect pay-as-you-go pricing page and the Amazon Direct Connect flat-rate pricing page.

	Pay-as-you-go	Flat-rate
Capacity charges	Per port-hour	Fixed hourly rate by bandwidth and tier
Data transfer out	Per-GB DTO charges apply	No DTO charges for Regions in your selected tier

	Pay-as-you-go	Flat-rate
Cost predictability	Low	High
Redundancy	Customer-managed; at additional cost	In-built with port-pairs
Eligible connections	Dedicated and hosted	Dedicated only

Key considerations when selecting a pricing tier

A Direct Connect connection can reach resources that span multiple Amazon Web Services Regions through Direct Connect gateways (DXGW), Transit Gateways, and Amazon Cloud WAN. Because these resources can route traffic to more than one Region, a flat-rate connection with these resources attached might receive traffic from Regions that your selected tier does not cover.

Review your tier before attaching a multi-Region resource to a flat-rate connection. Confirm that the tier covers every Amazon Web Services Region you want included under flat-rate pricing.

Expansion to new Regions. Extending your topology to a new Region after provisioning might require a tier change. Traffic from a Region outside your tier is billed at standard data transfer rates until the tier is raised.

SiteLink data transfer is not covered by the flat rate. SiteLink data transfer is not covered by any pricing tier. SiteLink sends data between Direct Connect locations without traversing an Amazon Web Services Region, so it falls outside the tier model. SiteLink data transfer is billed at standard SiteLink rates regardless of your tier.

Pricing examples

The following examples use the illustrative rates in this guide. Substitute current published rates before you rely on any figure.

Example 1 – Single-Region workload

You create a 10 Gbps Amazon Direct Connect flat-rate port-pair at the Direct Connect location in Equinix DC2, Ashburn (Northern Virginia). Amazon provisions two ports on different devices, so your usable bandwidth is 10 Gbps.

You attach your Amazon VPC in US East (N. Virginia), `us-east-1`, to a Direct Connect gateway through a virtual private gateway (VGW), and route traffic over the port-pair to your on-premises network.

Your source Region metro (IAD) and your Amazon Direct Connect location metro (IAD) are the same, so you select **Tier 1**.

Path	us-east-1 ↔ Equinix DC2 Ashburn (Tier 1)
Usable bandwidth	10 Gbps
Data transfer out charges	**None**

Your cost is the same whether you transfer 10 TB or 500 TB, because a flat-rate connection has no separate per-GB data transfer charge for Regions in your selected tier.

Example 2 – Multi-Region workload and the tier trade-off

You create a 100 Gbps Amazon Direct Connect flat-rate port-pair at the Direct Connect location in San Francisco. You attach the port-pair to a Direct Connect gateway to reach Amazon VPCs in both US East (N. Virginia), `us-east-1`, and Europe (Frankfurt), `eu-central-1`. Workloads in both Regions can now send traffic through the San Francisco port-pair.

Your topology contains two paths, and they fall in different tiers:

Source Region	Path	Tier
us-east-1 (N. Virginia)	us-east-1 ↔ SF DX Location	Tier 3
eu-central-1 (Frankfurt)	eu-central-1 ↔ SF DX Location	Tier 4

You have two options:

Option	Trade-off
Option A – Select Tier 3	Flat-rate pricing covers the N. Virginia path, which carries the bulk of your traffic. Data transfer out on the Frankfurt path is billed at

Option	Trade-off
	standard Direct Connect data transfer rates. This is the better choice when your Frankfurt volume is modest.
Option B – Select Tier 4	Flat-rate pricing covers both paths, because a higher tier includes every Region covered by lower tiers. This is the better choice when your Frankfurt volume is high enough that standard data transfer charges on that path would exceed the monthly cost difference to Tier 3 pricing.

The trade-off is the core decision in flat-rate pricing: pay more for broader tier coverage, or keep a lower tier and pay standard data transfer rates on the paths outside it.

Frequently asked questions

Does the flat rate include data transfer?

Yes, for the Amazon Web Services Regions covered by your selected pricing tier. There are no per-gigabyte data transfer out charges on those paths. Data transfer out from a Region outside your selected tier is billed at standard Direct Connect data transfer rates. Data transfer into Amazon is never charged.

What kinds of traffic are included in my flat-rate pricing?

Private, public, and transit traffic. SiteLink traffic is not covered as part of flat-rate pricing.

What do I get besides bandwidth?

Every flat-rate port-pair includes a redundant second port on a different device at no additional charge, so resiliency is built into the flat rate.

Is the pricing tier assigned automatically?

No. You select the tier when you create the connection, and you set it per connection. Choose the tier that covers all the Amazon Web Services Regions you want included under flat-rate pricing.

What happens if my traffic originates from a Region outside my tier?

That traffic is billed at standard Direct Connect data transfer rates.

Does the flat rate cover Amazon Direct Connect SiteLink?

No. SiteLink data transfer is billed at standard SiteLink data transfer rates, and no pricing tier includes it.

Am I responsible for any other costs?

Yes. You remain responsible for your relationship with any colocation or network providers, including cross-connect fees and last-mile circuit charges for their side of the connection. Charges from other Amazon services that you use over the connection, such as Transit Gateway data processing, also still apply.

Document history

The following table describes the releases for the Amazon Direct Connect Pricing Guide. For notification about updates to this documentation, you can subscribe to an RSS feed.

Change	Description	Date
Initial release	Initial release of the Amazon Direct Connect Pricing Guide.	September 15, 2026