

# Why am I getting “The instance family ‘mac1’ is not supported” error on AWS EC2 Mac Instances?

If you're like me and you wanted to check out the new MacOS offering for AWS EC2, you may have hit the first bump in the road as you tried to deploy your first instance.

**Bonus price warning on this one:** AWS EC2 Dedicated Hosts are allocated by the hour on-demand EXCEPT Mac Mini (or Mac Metal as I prefer to call it) which has a **minimum 24 hour allocation:**

EC2 Mac instances are available today in US East (N. Virginia), US East (Ohio), US West (Oregon), EU (Ireland), and Asia-Pacific (Singapore) AWS Regions as EC2 Dedicated Hosts with a minimum host allocation duration of 24 hours. EC2 Mac instances are available for purchase On-Demand or as part of Savings Plan (1 year and 3 year). [Learn more](#) about AWS Mac instances here or [start a machine](#) today in the AWS Console.

## Mac Metal - Dedicated Mac Mini on EC2

The MacOS option for AWS EC2 is running a dedicated EC2 instance which is a Mac Mini. How cool is that?! While you may not be used to running an AWS EC2 Dedicated Instance, it is really easy...until you get a big error!

Here's the flow, the error, and how to fix it!

Start in your AWS EC2 console and choose Dedicated Instance to provision a new host. This also happens if you try to launch an EC2 instance using MacOS through the new instance workflow because it automatically forces Dedicated Instance as the host type.

**Resources** ↻ ⚙️

You are using the following Amazon EC2 resources in the US East (Ohio) Region:

Instances (running)	1	<b>Dedicated Hosts</b>	0
Elastic IPs	0	Instances (all states)	1
Key pairs	7	Load balancers	0
Placement groups	0	Security groups	1
Snapshots	0	Volumes	1

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Your Instance Family option will be **mac1**:

### Instance family [Info](#)

Specifies the instance family to be supported by the Dedicated Host.

mac1 ▼

As you finish up the launch wizard you are greeted with the error **“the instance family ‘mac1’ is not supported”** which is a bit of a surprise since you didn’t think there were other options needed:

✕ The instance family 'mac1' is not supported.

The fix is actually easy! Dedicated Hosts in EC2 have an option to allow multiple instance types to launch onto your Dedicated Host. Your Mac Mini can only support specific instance types so you have to **uncheck the** “Support multiple instance types” checkbox:

### Support multiple instance types [Info](#)

Launch different instance types from the same instance family on the Dedicated Host.

Enable

Now you will see your view showing an **Instance Type** droplist which you want to select **mac1.metal** as the instance type:

### Instance family [Info](#)

Specifies the instance family to be supported by the Dedicated Host.

mac1 ▼

### Support multiple instance types [Info](#)

Launch different instance types from the same instance family on the Dedicated Host.

Enable

### Instance type [Info](#)

The instance type that can be launched onto the Dedicated Host(s).

Choose instance type ▲

<b>mac1.metal</b>
Family: mac1    12 vCPU    32 GiB Memory

The Availability Zone in which the Dedicated Host is located.

us-east-2a ▼

That's it! You're off and running now with your very own dedicated Mac Metal goodness in the AWS cloud. Enjoy!