
Amazon Simple Queue Service

Getting Started Guide

API Version 2012-11-05



Amazon Simple Queue Service: Getting Started Guide

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Table of Contents

Welcome	1
Amazon SQS Resources	1
Introduction to Amazon SQS	2
Overview of Amazon SQS	2
What Can You Use Amazon SQS For?	2
Features	3
Message Lifecycle	3
About the Samples	5
Getting Set Up	6
Creating an AWS Account	6
Getting Your Access Key ID and Secret Access Key	8
Getting the Tools You Need	9
Java	9
C#	9
Working with Amazon SQS	10
Preparing the Samples	10
Java	11
C#	11
Creating a Queue	11
Java	12
C#	12
Confirming the Queue Exists	12
AWS Management Console	12
Java	13
C#	13
Add a Permission to the Queue	13
AWS Management Console	14
Sending a Message	16
Java	16
C#	17
Receiving a Message	17
Java	17
C#	18
Deleting a Message	20
Java	20
C#	20
Purging the Queue	20
AWS Management Console	21
Deleting the Queue	22
AWS Management Console	22
Where Do I Go from Here?	24
Read the Articles and Tutorials	24
Take Part in the Forum	24
Learn from the Example Code	24
AWS Account and Security Credentials	24
Document History	26

Welcome

Welcome to the *Amazon Simple Queue Service Getting Started Guide*. Amazon Simple Queue Service (Amazon SQS) is a messaging queue service: it's a service that handles message or work flows between other components in a system.

Amazon SQS Resources

You may find the following related resources useful as you work with this service.

[Amazon Simple Queue Service Developer Guide](#)

The developer guide provides a detailed discussion of the service. It includes an architectural overview and a programming reference.

[Amazon Simple Queue Service API Reference](#)

The API reference gives the WSDL location; complete descriptions of the API actions, parameters, and data types; and a list of errors that the service returns.

[Scaling Based on Amazon SQS](#)

You can use Amazon SQS queues to help determine the load on an application, and when combined with Auto Scaling, you can scale the number of Amazon EC2 instances out or in depending upon the volume of traffic.

[Amazon SQS Release Notes](#)

The release notes give a high-level overview of the current release. They specifically note any new features, corrections, and known issues.

[Product information for Amazon SQS](#)

The primary web page for information about Amazon SQS.

[Amazon SQS Discussion Forums](#)

A community-based forum for developers to discuss technical questions related to Amazon SQS.

[AWS Support](#)

The primary web page for information about support channels to help you build and run applications on AWS infrastructure services.

Introduction to Amazon SQS

Amazon Simple Queue Service (Amazon SQS) offers a reliable, highly-scalable hosted queue for storing messages as they travel between applications or microservices. It moves data between distributed application components and helps you decouple these components. Amazon SQS provides familiar middleware constructs such as dead-letter queues and poison-pill management. It also provides a generic web services API and can be accessed by any programming language that the AWS SDK supports. Amazon SQS supports both [standard](#) and [FIFO queues](#).

Topics

- [Overview of Amazon SQS \(p. 2\)](#)
- [Features \(p. 3\)](#)
- [Message Lifecycle \(p. 3\)](#)
- [About the Samples \(p. 5\)](#)

Overview of Amazon SQS

What Can You Use Amazon SQS For?

Use Amazon SQS when you need each unique message to be consumed only once and for cases such as the following:

- **Decoupling the components of an application** – You have a queue of work items and want to track the successful completion of each item independently. Amazon SQS tracks the ACK/FAIL results, so the application does not have to maintain a persistent checkpoint or cursor. After a configured visibility timeout, Amazon SQS deletes acknowledged messages and redelivers failed messages.
- **Configuring individual message delay** – You have a job queue and you need to schedule individual jobs with a delay. With standard queues, you can configure individual messages to have a delay of up to 15 minutes.
- **Dynamically increasing concurrency or throughput at read time** – You have a work queue and want to add more readers until the backlog is cleared. Amazon SQS requires no pre-provisioning.
- **Scaling transparently** – You buffer requests and the load changes as a result of occasional load spikes or the natural growth of your business. Because Amazon SQS can process each buffered request independently, Amazon SQS can scale transparently to handle the load without any provisioning instructions from you.

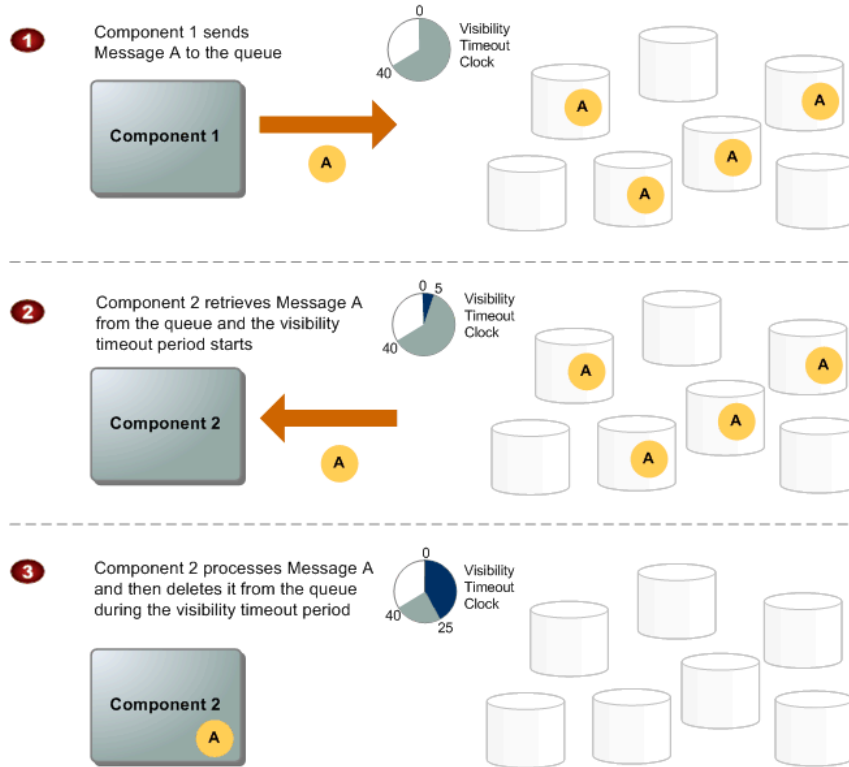
Features

Amazon SQS provides the following major features:

- **Redundant infrastructure** – Standard queues support at-least-once message delivery, while FIFO queues support exactly-once message processing. Amazon SQS provides highly-concurrent access to messages and high availability for sending and retrieving messages.
- **Multiple writers and readers** – Multiple parts of your system can send or receive messages at the same time. Amazon SQS locks the message during processing, keeping other parts of your system from processing the message simultaneously.
- **Configurable settings per queue** – All of your queues don't have to be exactly alike. For example, you can optimize one queue can for messages that require a longer processing time than others.
- **Variable message size** – Your messages can be up to 262,144 bytes (256 KB) in size. You can store the contents of larger messages using the Amazon Simple Storage Service (Amazon S3) or Amazon DynamoDB, with Amazon SQS holding a pointer to the Amazon S3 object. For more information, see [Managing Amazon SQS Messages with Amazon S3](#). You can also split a large message into smaller ones.
- **Access control** – You control who can send messages to a queue, and who can receive messages from a queue.
- **Delay queues** – You can set a default delay on a queue, so that delivery of all enqueued messages is postponed for the specified duration. You can set the delay value when you create a queue with `CreateQueue`, and you can update the value with `SetQueueAttributes`. If you update the value, the new value affects only messages enqueued after the update.
- **PCI compliance** – Amazon SQS supports the processing, storage, and transmission of credit card data by a merchant or service provider, and has been validated as compliant with Payment Card Industry (PCI) Data Security Standard (DSS). For more information about PCI DSS, including how to request a copy of the AWS PCI Compliance Package, see [PCI DSS Level 1](#).

Message Lifecycle

The following diagram describes the lifecycle of an Amazon SQS message, from creation to deletion. In this example, a queue already exists.



Message Lifecycle

1	Component 1 sends Message A to a queue, and the message is distributed across the Amazon SQS servers redundantly.
2	When Component 2 is ready to process a message, it retrieves messages from the queue, and Message A is returned. While Message A is being processed, it remains in the queue and isn't returned to subsequent receive requests for the duration of the visibility timeout.
3	Component 2 deletes Message A from the queue to prevent the message from being received and processed again once the visibility timeout expires.

Note

Amazon SQS automatically deletes messages that have been in a queue for more than maximum message retention period. The default message retention period is 4 days. However, you can set the message retention period to a value from 60 seconds to 120,9600 seconds (14 days) using the [SetQueueAttributes](#) action.

About the Samples

In the preceding section, we discussed in general terms how your system establishes a queue, confirms it's ready to use, and then starts using it. During use, the various components of your system continually send, receive, and delete messages. The examples in this guide focus specifically on the core queue operations:

- Creating a queue
- Listing your queues
- Controlling access to a queue
- Sending a message to a queue
- Retrieving messages from a queue
- Deleting messages from a queue
- Deleting a queue

The code samples available with this guide cover many of these operations. For more specific information about the samples, see [Preparing the Samples \(p. 10\)](#).

For information about the other operations you can perform with Amazon SQS, see the [Amazon Simple Queue Service Developer Guide](#).

Getting Set Up

This section walks you through each of the tasks you must complete before you can submit an Amazon SQS request. They are presented in the best order to follow so that you can run the samples as quickly as possible. The following tables shows the sections you need to read if you're already an AWS user, or if you're brand new to AWS.

Existing AWS User	New AWS User
1. Getting the Tools You Need (p. 9)	1. Creating an AWS Account (p. 6) 2. Getting Your Access Key ID and Secret Access Key (p. 8) 3. Getting the Tools You Need (p. 9)

Creating an AWS Account

To access any web service AWS offers, you must first create an AWS account at <http://aws.amazon.com>. An AWS account is simply an Amazon.com account that is enabled to use AWS products; you can use an existing Amazon.com account login and password when creating the AWS account.

From your AWS account you can view your AWS account activity, view usage reports, and manage your AWS account access identifiers.

To set up a new account

1. Open <http://aws.amazon.com/>, and then choose **Create an AWS Account**.
2. Follow the online instructions.

Part of the sign-up procedure involves receiving a phone call and entering a PIN using the phone keypad.

Important

We do not recommend that you use your AWS root account information to interact with Amazon SQS directly. Instead, we recommend an approach such as the following:

1. Create an AWS Identity and Access Management (IAM) group named `Administrators`.
2. Grant the group full permissions for all AWS services.

3. Create an IAM user for yourself.
4. Add the user to the `Administrators` group.
5. Use the IAM user information to interact with Amazon SQS directly.

For more information, see [Creating an Administrators Group](#) in the *IAM User Guide*.

Getting Your Access Key ID and Secret Access Key

To make calls to Amazon SQS programmatically (for example, using programming languages such as Java and C# or through the AWS Command Line Interface (AWS CLI)), you need an access key ID and a secret access key. If you plan to interact with Amazon SQS only through the Amazon SQS console, you do not need an access key ID or a secret access key, and you can skip ahead to [Working with Amazon SQS \(p. 10\)](#).

Note

The access key ID and secret access key are specific to AWS Identity and Access Management and shouldn't be confused with credentials for other AWS services, such as Amazon EC2 key pairs.

To get your access key ID and secret access key

Access keys consist of an access key ID and secret access key, which are used to sign programmatic requests that you make to AWS. If you don't have access keys, you can create them by using the AWS Management Console. We recommend that you use IAM access keys instead of AWS root account access keys. IAM lets you securely control access to AWS services and resources in your AWS account.

Note

To create access keys, you must have permissions to perform the required IAM actions. For more information, see [Granting IAM User Permission to Manage Password Policy and Credentials](#) in the *IAM User Guide*.

1. Open the [IAM console](#).
2. In the navigation pane, choose **Users**.
3. Choose your IAM user name (not the check box).
4. Choose the **Security Credentials** tab and then choose **Create Access Key**.
5. To see your access key, choose **Show User Security Credentials**. Your credentials will look something like this:
 - Access Key ID: AKIAIOSFODNN7EXAMPLE
 - Secret Access Key: wJalrXUtnFEMI/K7MDENG/bPxrFiCYEXAMPLEKEY
6. Choose **Download Credentials**, and store the keys in a secure location.

Your secret key will no longer be available through the AWS Management Console; you will have the only copy. Keep it confidential in order to protect your account, and never email it. Do not share it outside your organization, even if an inquiry appears to come from AWS or Amazon.com. No one who legitimately represents Amazon will ever ask you for your secret key.

Related topics

- [What Is IAM?](#) in the *IAM User Guide*
- [AWS Security Credentials](#) in *AWS General Reference*

Getting the Tools You Need

If you want to use the sample code that goes with this guide, you must install the programming tools listed in this section. If you plan to interact with Amazon SQS only through the AWS Management Console, you do not need any of these programming tools, and you can skip ahead to [Working with Amazon SQS \(p. 10\)](#).

Note

Code examples are provided in this guide only for Java and C#. However, you can write code in additional programming languages. For more information, see the documentation for the AWS SDKs for [Go](#), [JavaScript](#), [PHP](#), [Python](#), and [Ruby](#).

You can use the AWS Command Line Interface (AWS CLI) to interact with Amazon SQS through the command line. For more information, see [Getting Set Up with the AWS Command Line Interface](#) and the [Amazon SQS section of the AWS CLI Reference](#).

You can also use the AWS Tools for Windows PowerShell to interact with Amazon SQS through Windows PowerShell. For more information, see [Setting up the AWS Tools for Windows PowerShell](#) and the Amazon Simple Queue Service section of the [AWS Tools for Windows PowerShell Cmdlet Reference](#).

Java

To use the Java sample code, you must have the following tool:

- [Java Standard Edition Development Kit](#)

C#

To use the C# sample code, you must have the following tools:

- Microsoft .NET Framework 3.5 or later
- Visual Studio 2010 or later
- AWS SDK for .NET

For more information, see [Install the .NET Development Environment](#).

Working with Amazon SQS

Topics

- [Preparing the Samples \(p. 10\)](#)
- [Creating a Queue \(p. 11\)](#)
- [Confirming the Queue Exists \(p. 12\)](#)
- [Add a Permission to the Queue \(p. 13\)](#)
- [Sending a Message \(p. 16\)](#)
- [Receiving a Message \(p. 17\)](#)
- [Deleting a Message \(p. 20\)](#)
- [Purging the Queue \(p. 20\)](#)
- [Deleting the Queue \(p. 22\)](#)

This section describes how to use Java or C# to perform Amazon SQS operations such as sending a message to an Amazon SQS queue, and retrieving and deleting messages from the queue. The following sections are intended to be followed sequentially, like a tutorial.

Tip

Code examples are provided in this guide only for Java and C#. However, you can write code in additional programming languages. For more information, see the documentation for the AWS SDKs for [Go](#), [JavaScript](#), [PHP](#), [Python](#), and [Ruby](#).

In addition to the AWS Management Console, you can explore Amazon SQS without writing code by using tools such as the AWS Command Line Interface (AWS CLI) or Windows PowerShell. AWS CLI examples are provided in the [Amazon SQS section of the AWS CLI Reference](#). Windows PowerShell examples are provided in the Amazon Simple Queue Service section of the [AWS Tools for Windows PowerShell Cmdlet Reference](#).

Preparing the Samples

If you want to use Java or C# code to complete the subsequent sections in this guide, you must make configuration changes to the sample files.

Tip

You can also use the **AWS Explorer** in the AWS Toolkit for Eclipse or the AWS Toolkit for Visual Studio to become more familiar with Amazon SQS without writing code. For information, see the [AWS Toolkit for Eclipse Getting Started Guide](#) or the [AWS Toolkit for Visual Studio User Guide](#).

Java

Note that the Java example performs several actions in one call, including creating a queue, confirming the queue exists, sending a message, receiving a message, and deleting a message. The following procedure assumes you have completed the prerequisites in [Getting the Tools You Need \(p. 9\)](#), including installing the Java Standard Edition Development Kit.

To prepare the sample files

1. Go to the [AWS SDK for Java](#) page and download the SDK.
2. Unzip the `aws-java-sdk-<version>.zip` file to a directory designated as `<sqs home>` on your machine.
3. Specify your AWS credentials by following the instructions at [Set Up your AWS Credentials for Use with the AWS SDK for Java](#).
4. Open the Amazon SQS sample at `<sqs home>/aws-java-sdk-<version>/samples/AmazonSimpleQueueService`.

C#

Note that the C# example performs several actions in one call, including creating a queue, confirming the queue exists, sending a message, receiving a message, and deleting a message. The following procedure assumes you have completed the prerequisites in [Getting the Tools You Need \(p. 9\)](#), including installing the Microsoft .NET Framework, Visual Studio, and the AWS SDK for .NET.

To prepare the sample files

1. Go to the [aws-sdk-net-samples GitHub repository](#) and choose **Download ZIP**, extracting the `aws-sdk-net-samples-master.zip` file's contents to a directory on your machine.

Note

The file contains many samples in addition to the Amazon SQS sample. It may take several minutes to extract the file's contents.

2. Specify your AWS credentials by following the instructions at [Configuring AWS Credentials](#).
3. In the directory where you extracted the file's contents, see the `ConsoleSamples\AmazonSQS_Sample` directory and open the file named `AmazonSQS_Sample.sln` in Visual Studio.
4. Open the `App.config` file.
5. In the `AWSProfileName` setting, specify the name of the profile that you defined for your credentials.
6. Save the file.

Creating a Queue

Now that you've confirmed your queue exists in the Amazon SQS system, you can send a message to the queue. The following code snippets demonstrate how to send the message `This is my message text.` to your `MyQueue` queue.

Java

To run the sample

1. Open `SimpleQueueServiceSample.java`.

The following section of the code creates a queue:

```
// Create a queue
System.out.println("Creating a new SQS queue called MyQueue.\n");
CreateQueueRequest createQueueRequest = new
    CreateQueueRequest().withQueueName("MyQueue");
String myQueueUrl = sqs.createQueue(createQueueRequest).getQueueUrl();
```

2. Compile and run the sample.

The `MyQueue` queue is created.

C#

To run the sample

1. Open `Program.cs`.

The following section of the code creates a queue:

```
//Creating a queue
Console.WriteLine("Create a queue called MyQueue.\n");
CreateQueueRequest sqsRequest = new CreateQueueRequest();
sqsRequest.QueueName = "MyQueue";
CreateQueueResponse createQueueResponse = sqs.CreateQueue(sqsRequest);
String myQueueUrl;
myQueueUrl = createQueueResponse.QueueUrl;
```

2. Run the sample.

The `MyQueue` queue is created.

Confirming the Queue Exists

When you create a queue, it can take a short time for the queue to propagate throughout the Amazon SQS system. You can confirm the queue's existence by listing the queues you have in Amazon SQS. The following code snippets list the queues you've created using the 2012-11-05 version of Amazon SQS.

AWS Management Console

The AWS Management Console displays a list of your queues for the region you have selected.

To display a queue list for a specific region

- Select a region from the **Region** drop-down list, which is located on the top right of the console next to Help.
The console displays all of your queues in that region.

Java

To run the sample

1. Open `SimpleQueueServiceSample.java`.

The following section of the code lists your queues:

```
// List queues
System.out.println("Listing all queues in your account.\n");
for (String queueUrl : sqs.listQueues().getQueueUrls()) {
    System.out.println(" QueueUrl: " + queueUrl);
}
System.out.println();
```

2. Compile and run the sample.

Amazon SQS returns the list of the queues you've created using the 2012-11-05 version of Amazon SQS, including the newly created `MyQueue` queue. Each queue is identified by its *queue URL*. The response also includes the request ID Amazon SQS assigned to your request.

C#

To run the sample

1. Open `Program.cs`.

The following section of the code lists your queues:

```
//Confirming the queue exists
ListQueuesRequest listQueuesRequest = new ListQueuesRequest();
ListQueuesResponse listQueuesResponse = sqs.ListQueues(listQueuesRequest);

Console.WriteLine("Printing list of Amazon SQS queues.\n");
foreach (String queueUrl in listQueuesResponse.QueueUrls)
{
    Console.WriteLine(" QueueUrl: {0}", queueUrl);
}
Console.WriteLine();
```

2. Run the sample.

Amazon SQS returns the list of the queues you've created using the 2012-11-05 version of Amazon SQS, including the newly created `MyQueue` queue. Each queue is identified by its *queue URL*. The response also includes the request ID Amazon SQS assigned to your request.

Add a Permission to the Queue

If you want to allow (or explicitly deny) others to interact with your queue in specific ways, you can specify this in the Amazon SQS system. The following demonstrates how to add a permission to your `MyQueue` queue.

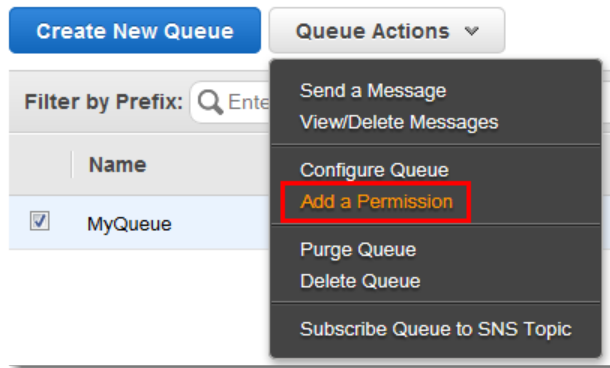
AWS Management Console

To add a permission to the queue

1. In the AWS Management Console select a queue.
2. Select **Add a Permission** from the **Queue Actions** drop-down list.

Note

The **Queue Actions** drop-down list is available only if a queue is selected.



3. In the **Add a Permission** dialog box, specify the permission's settings.

For this exercise, allow anyone to get the queue's URL: next to **Principal**, check the **Everybody** box; in the **Actions** drop-down list, check the **GetQueueUrl** box. Then click **Add Permission**.

Add a Permission to MyQueue ✕

Permissions enable you to control which operations a user can perform on a queue. [Click here](#) to learn more about access control concepts.

Effect ⓘ Allow
 Deny

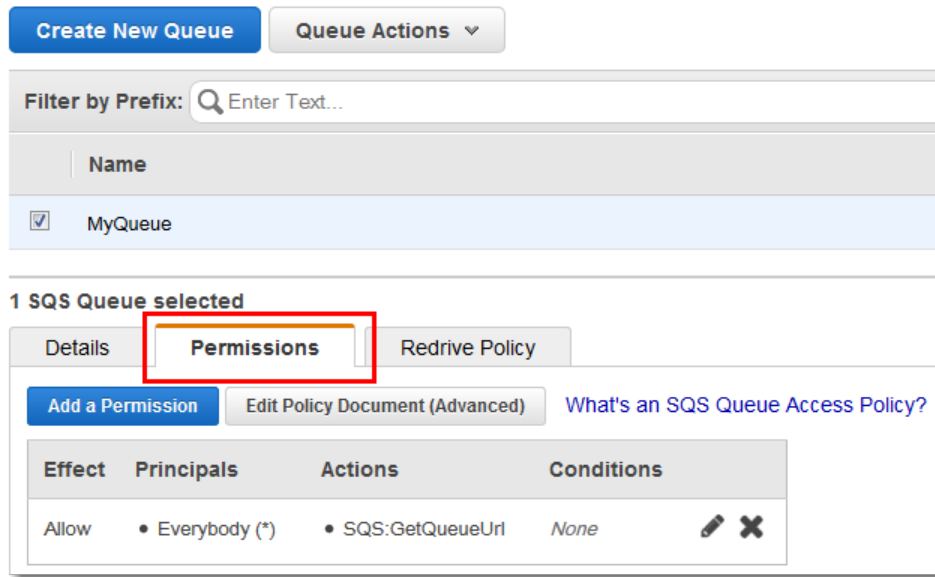
Principal ⓘ Everybody (*)

Use commas between multiple values.

Actions ⓘ All SQS Actions (SQS:*)

- SendMessage
- ReceiveMessage
- PurgeQueue
- DeleteMessage
- ChangeMessageVisibility
- GetQueueAttributes
- GetQueueUrl

- To confirm that the permission was successfully added, with the queue still selected, click the **Permissions** tab.



Sending a Message

Now that you've confirmed your queue exists in the Amazon SQS system, you can send a message to the queue. The following code snippets demonstrate how to send the message `This is my message text.` to your `MyQueue` queue.

Java

To run the sample

1. Open `SimpleQueueServiceSample.java`.

The following section of the code sends a message to your queue:

```
// Send a message
System.out.println("Sending a message to MyQueue.\n");
sqs.sendMessage(new SendMessageRequest()
    .withQueueUrl(myQueueUrl)
    .withMessageBody("This is my message text."));
```

2. Compile and run the sample.

The message `This is my message text.` is sent to the queue. The response includes the following items:

- The *message ID* Amazon SQS assigns to the message
- An MD5 digest of the message body, which you can use to confirm that SQS received the message correctly (for information about MD5, see <http://faqs.org/rfcs/rfc1321.html>)
- The request ID that Amazon SQS assigned to your request

C#

To run the sample

1. Open `Program.cs`.

The following section of the code sends a message to your queue:

```
//Sending a message
Console.WriteLine("Sending a message to MyQueue.\n");
SendMessageRequest sendMessageRequest = new SendMessageRequest();
sendMessageRequest.QueueUrl = myQueueUrl; //URL from initial queue creation
sendMessageRequest.MessageBody = "This is my message text.";
sqs.SendMessage(sendMessageRequest);
```

2. Run the sample.

The message `This is my message text.` is sent to the queue. The response includes the following items:

- The *message ID* Amazon SQS assigns to the message
- An MD5 digest of the message body, which you can use to confirm that SQS received the message correctly (for information about MD5, see <http://faqs.org/rfcs/rfc1321.html>)
- The request ID that Amazon SQS assigned to your request

Receiving a Message

Now that a message is in the queue, you can receive it (retrieve it from the queue).

Java

To run the sample

1. Open `SimpleQueueServiceSample.java`.

The following section of the code receives a message from your queue:

```
System.out.println("Receiving messages from MyQueue.\n");
ReceiveMessageRequest receiveMessageRequest = new
    ReceiveMessageRequest(myQueueUrl);
List<Message> messages =
    sqs.receiveMessage(receiveMessageRequest).getMessages();
for (Message message : messages) {
    System.out.println("    Message");
    System.out.println("        MessageId:      " + message.getMessageId());
    System.out.println("        ReceiptHandle:  " + message.getReceiptHandle());
    System.out.println("        MD5OfBody:      " + message.getMD5OfBody());
    System.out.println("        Body:           " + message.getBody());
    for (Entry<String, String> entry : message.getAttributes().entrySet())
    {
        System.out.println("    Attribute");
        System.out.println("        Name: " + entry.getKey());
        System.out.println("        Value: " + entry.getValue());
    }
}
System.out.println();
```

2. Compile and run the sample.

The `MyQueue` queue is polled for messages and returns 0 or more messages. The sample prints the following items:

- The *message ID* that you received when you sent the message to the queue
- The *receipt handle* (which you use later to delete the message)
- An MD5 digest of the message body (for information about MD5, see <http://faqs.org/rfcs/rfc1321.html>)
- The message body
- The request ID that Amazon SQS assigned to your request

If no messages are received in this particular call, the response includes only the request ID.

C#

To run the sample

1. Open `Program.cs`.

The following section of the code receives a message from your queue:

```
//Receiving a message
ReceiveMessageRequest receiveMessageRequest = new ReceiveMessageRequest();
receiveMessageRequest.QueueUrl = myQueueUrl;
ReceiveMessageResponse receiveMessageResponse =
    sqs.ReceiveMessage(receiveMessageRequest);

Console.WriteLine("Printing received message.\n");
foreach (Message message in receiveMessageResponse.Messages)
{
    Console.WriteLine("  Message");
    Console.WriteLine("    MessageId: {0}", message.MessageId);
    Console.WriteLine("    ReceiptHandle: {0}", message.ReceiptHandle);
    Console.WriteLine("    MD5OfBody: {0}", message.MD5OfBody);
    Console.WriteLine("    Body: {0}", message.Body);

    foreach (KeyValuePair<string, string> entry in message.Attributes)
    {
        Console.WriteLine("  Attribute");
        Console.WriteLine("    Name: {0}", entry.Key);
        Console.WriteLine("    Value: {0}", entry.Value);
    }
}
String messageReceiptHandle =
    receiveMessageResponse.Messages[0].ReceiptHandle;
```

2. Run the sample.

The `MyQueue` queue is polled for messages and returns 0 or more messages. The sample prints the following items:

- The *message ID* that you received when you sent the message to the queue
- The *receipt handle* (which you use later to delete the message)
- An MD5 digest of the message body (for information about MD5, see <http://faqs.org/rfcs/rfc1321.html>)
- The message body
- The request ID that Amazon SQS assigned to your request

If no messages are received in this particular call, the response includes only the request ID.

Deleting a Message

To specify which message to delete by providing the *receipt handle* that Amazon SQS returned when you received the message. You can delete only one message per call. You can delete an entire queue with a call to `DeleteQueue`, even if the queue has messages in it.

Note

If you don't have the receipt handle for the message, you can call `ReceiveMessage` again and receive the message again. Each time you receive the message, you get a different receipt handle. Use the latest receipt handle when calling `DeleteMessage`; otherwise, your message might not be deleted from the queue.

Java

To run the sample

1. Open `SimpleQueueServiceSample.java`.

The following section of the code deletes a message:

```
// Delete a message
System.out.println("Deleting a message.\n");
String messageReceiptHandle = messages.get(0).getReceiptHandle();
sqs.deleteMessage(new DeleteMessageRequest()
    .withQueueUrl(myQueueUrl)
    .withReceiptHandle(messageReceiptHandle));
```

2. Compile and run the sample.

The message is deleted from the `MyQueue` queue. The response includes the request ID that Amazon SQS assigned to your request.

C#

To run the sample

1. Open `Program.cs`.

The following section of the code deletes a message:

```
//Deleting a message
Console.WriteLine("Deleting the message.\n");
DeleteMessageRequest deleteRequest = new DeleteMessageRequest();
deleteRequest.QueueUrl = myQueueUrl;
deleteRequest.ReceiptHandle = messageReceiptHandle;
sqs.DeleteMessage(deleteRequest);
```

2. Run the sample.

The message is deleted from the `MyQueue` queue. The response includes the request ID that Amazon SQS assigned to your request.

Purging the Queue

In the previous topic, you learned how to delete messages from your queue one at a time in the Amazon SQS system. But what if you want to delete many messages from your queue at once? There

is a faster way. The following demonstrates how to purge all of the messages from your `MyQueue` queue at once.

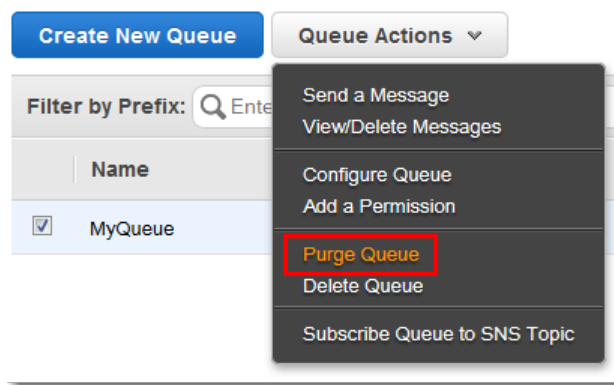
AWS Management Console

To purge a queue

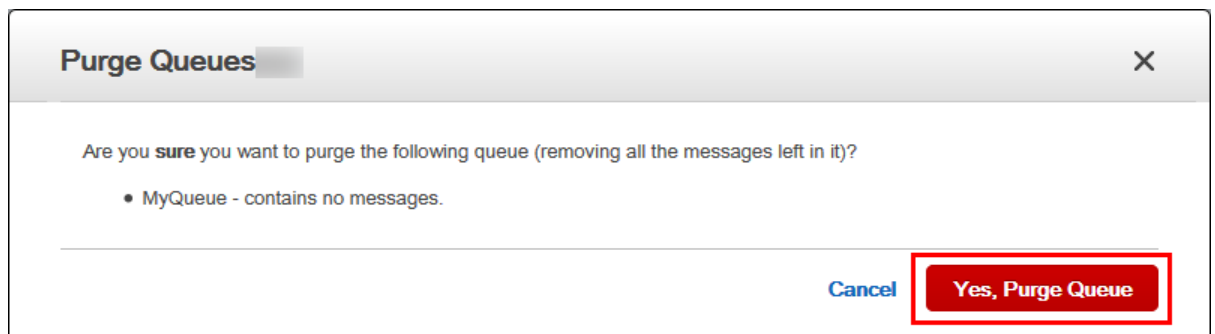
1. In the AWS Management Console select a queue.
2. Select **Purge Queue** from the **Queue Actions** drop-down list.

Note

The **Queue Actions** drop-down list is available only if a queue is selected.



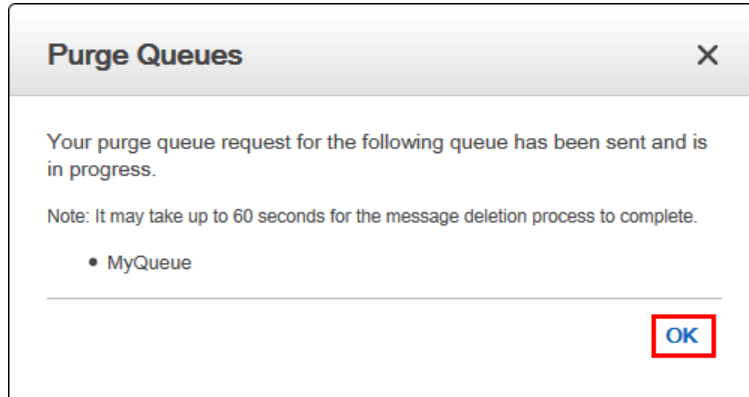
3. In the **Purge Queues** dialog box, click **Yes, Purge Queue**.



Note

Because you previously deleted the message you created earlier, the dialog box will display **MyQueue - contains no messages**. If you want to try purging multiple messages from the queue, then click **Cancel**, create multiple messages, and then repeat the instructions in this topic again to delete all of those messages at once.

4. In the **Purge Queues** confirmation box click **OK**.



Deleting the Queue

If you are done using your queue, you should remove it from the Amazon SQS system. The following demonstrates how to delete your `MyQueue` queue.

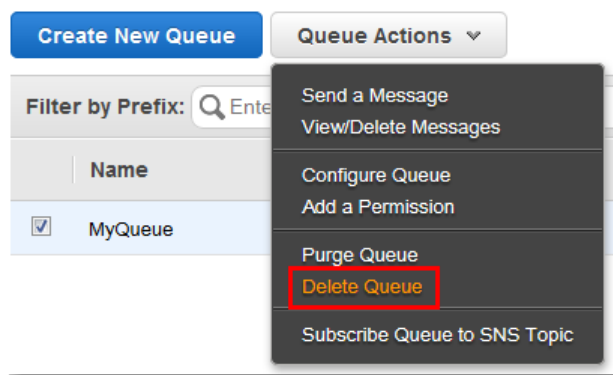
AWS Management Console

To delete a queue

1. In the AWS Management Console select a queue.
2. Select **Delete Queue** from the **Queue Actions** drop-down list.

Note

The **Queue Actions** drop-down list is available only if a queue is selected.



3. In the **Delete Queues** dialog box, click **Yes, Delete Queue**.

Delete Queues ✕

Are you **sure** you want to delete the following queue, and any messages left in it?

- MyQueue - contains no messages.

[Cancel](#) [Yes, Delete Queue](#)

Where Do I Go from Here?

Now that you've read through this guide, you have a good idea of the main tasks you need to perform to get started with Amazon SQS, and how to use the [Amazon Simple Queue Service Developer Guide](#) to find additional information and instructions. This section describes the next steps you can take.

Read the Articles and Tutorials

To understand of Amazon SQS workflows and processes, read the Amazon SQS content available in [Articles & Tutorials](#).

Take Part in the Forum

To get an idea of what you can and can't do with Amazon SQS and how others use Amazon SQS, read and participate in the [Amazon SQS forum](#).

Learn from the Example Code

You're already aware of [the sample code \(p. 10\)](#) that accompanies this guide. Now, you can learn from other Amazon SQS sample code available in [Sample Code and Libraries](#). For a specific programming language, see the respective Developer Center:

- [Java Developer Center](#)
- [JavaScript Developer Center](#)
- [PHP Developer Center](#)
- [Python Developer Center](#)
- [Ruby Developer Center](#)
- [Windows & .NET Developer Center](#)

AWS Account and Security Credentials

So far you signed up for the service, got an AWS account and security credentials, and then completed a short exercise covering the essential product functions. Now that you're finished with the exercise,

we recommend that you check with an administrator or coworker in your organization to determine if he or she already has an AWS account and security credentials for you to use in future interactions with AWS.

If you're an account owner or administrator and want to know more about AWS Identity and Access Management, see the product description at <http://aws.amazon.com/iam> or the technical documentation in the [IAM User Guide](#).

Document History

The following table describes the important changes to the documentation since the last release of the *Amazon Simple Queue Service Getting Started Guide*.

- **API version:** 2012-11-05
- **Latest documentation update:** December 7, 2015

Change	Description	Date Changed
Update	Updated Amazon SQS console screenshots.	December 7, 2015
New feature	Amazon SQS is now available through the AWS Management Console . For an example of how to create a queue, send a message, and receive a message with the AWS Management Console, see Working with Amazon SQS (p. 10) .	November 21, 2012
New feature	This service now integrates with AWS Identity and Access Management (IAM). For more information, see AWS Services that Support IAM in IAM User Guide .	September 2, 2010
Example Code	Replaced the Java example code with the new Java example code from the AWS SDK for Java. For more information, see the Java examples listed in Working with Amazon SQS (p. 10) .	March 22, 2010
Example Code	Replaced the C# and .NET example code with the new C# example code from the AWS SDK for .NET. For more information, see the C# examples listed in Working with Amazon SQS (p. 10) .	November 11, 2009
Update	Updated the guide to reflect changes in the sample code that AWS provides for Java, C#, Perl, PHP5, and VB.NET.	December 15, 2008