

Cloud Object Storage

Getting Started

Product Documentation



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Getting Started with the Console

Last updated : 2022-06-20 12:40:14

Overview

The COS console is the easiest way to work with COS without using any code or programs.

Prerequisites

If this is your first time using COS, you are advised to learn the following concepts first.

- **Bucket:** A container for objects stored in COS. Each bucket can store an unlimited number of objects.
- **Object:** The basic unit of COS storage. It can be data in any format, such as images, documents, audio and video, and others.
- **Region:** A physical location where data centers are hosted on Tencent Cloud. COS data is stored in the buckets in these regions.

This document describes how to get started and store your data in the cloud using the COS console.

Step 1. Sign up for a Tencent Cloud account

You must register a Tencent Cloud account before using the COS service. To do so, click the button below. Skip this step if you already have an account.

[Account Sign Up](#)

Step 2. Verify your identity

Once registered, use your registered account to log in to [Tencent Cloud console](#) and verify your identity. For detailed directions, see [Identity Verification Guide](#). If you have already done so, skip this step.

[Identity Verification](#)

Step 3. Activate COS service

Open the [Tencent Cloud console](#), select **Products** > **Cloud Object Storage**, and enter the COS console. Then, follow the instructions to activate COS. If you have already done so, skip this step.

Activate COS

Step 4. Create a bucket

You need to create a bucket to store your objects.

1. Log in to the [COS console](#) and click **Bucket List** on the left sidebar to enter the bucket management page.
2. Click **Create Bucket** and configure the following items. Other items can be kept as default.
 - Name: Enter the bucket name, which cannot be modified once set, such as examplebucket.
 - Region: Select a region nearest to your business, such as Guangzhou.
 - Access permissions: Access permission for the bucket. You can retain the default option **Private Read/Write**.
3. Click **OK**.

Step 5. Upload an object

To upload a local file to your bucket, perform the following.

1. Click the bucket name to enter the object list page.
2. Select **Upload Files** > **Select Files** and select a file to upload, such as `exampleobject.txt`.
3. Click **Upload**.

Step 6. Download an object

To download COS data, perform the following.

1. Click **Details** in the **Operation** column of the `exampleobject.txt` file to enter the object attribute page.
2. To download the object, click **Download Objects** in **Basic Information**, or click **Copy Temporary Link**, paste the link into a browser, and press **Enter**.

More features

To learn more about what the COS console can offer, such as setting object access permissions, hotlink protection, and static websites, see [Console Overview](#).

Other methods

In addition to the console, the following methods are also provided for you to get started with.

Method	Description
COSBrowser	Provides a user-friendly interface to easily upload and download objects and generate access URLs
COSCMD	Enables you to use simple commands to upload, download, and delete objects in batches
APIs	COS uses XML APIs, which are lightweight, connectionless, and stateless. By calling XML APIs, you can send requests to and accept responses from COS directly over HTTP/HTTPS
SDKs	Supports multiple mainstream programming languages including Android, C, C++, .NET, Go, iOS, Java, JavaScript, Node.js, PHP, Python, and WeChat Mini Program

Troubleshooting

If you have any questions, [contact us](#).

Getting Started with COSBrowser

Last updated : 2022-04-28 14:49:08

If you are a first time user of COS, we recommend you first read [Bucket Overview](#), [Object Overview](#), [Specifications and Limits](#), and [General](#).

COSBrowser is a GUI-enabled tool provided by COS. Available on Windows, macOS, Linux, Android, and iOS, it provides an easier way to view, transfer, and manage COS resources.

This document uses the Windows version as an example to show you in detail how to create buckets, and upload, download, and share objects.

Prerequisites

1. The COS service is activated for your Tencent Cloud account. If not, go to [COS console](#) and follow the instructions to activate it.
2. You should log in to COSBrowser using an API key. First, go to the [API Key](#) management page to create one.

Step 1. Download and install COSBrowser

[Click here to download](#)

System requirements of COSBrowser for Windows: Windows 7 32/64-bit or later or Windows Server 2008 R2 64-bit or later

You can download COSBrowser for other operating systems in [COSBrowser Overview](#).

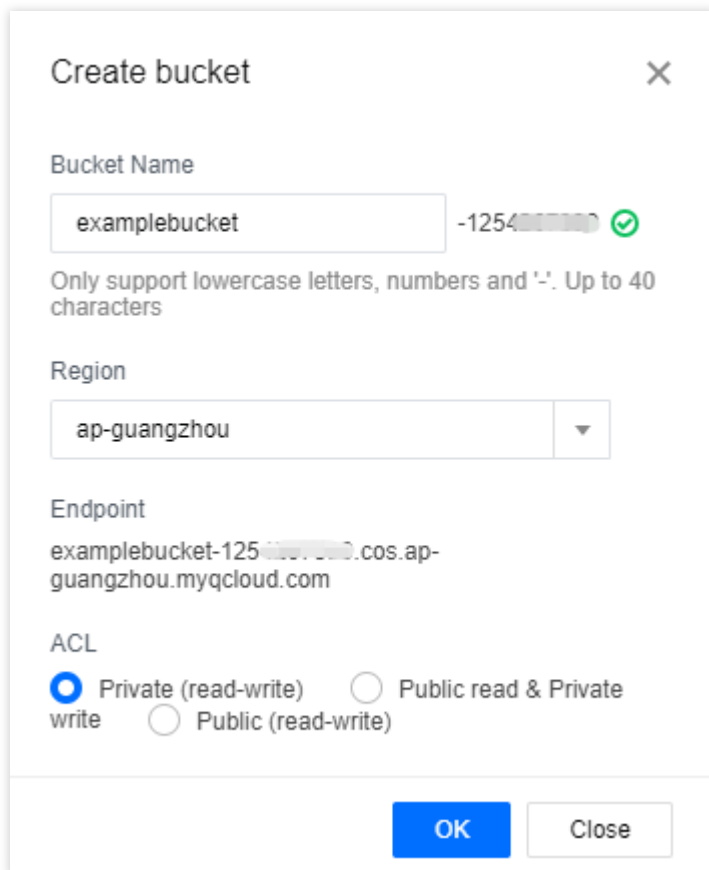
Step 2. Log in to COSBrowser

Use your [API Key](#) to log in to COSBrowser.

Step 3. Create a bucket

1. After you log in, click **Create bucket** in the top-left corner of the COSBrowser.

2. Enter your bucket information in the pop-up window.



Create bucket [X]

Bucket Name
examplebucket -1254000000 ✓

Only support lowercase letters, numbers and '-'. Up to 40 characters

Region
ap-guangzhou ▼

Endpoint
examplebucket-1254000000.cos.ap-guangzhou.myqcloud.com

ACL
 Private (read-write) Public read & Private write Public (read-write)

OK Close

- Name: A user-defined bucket name, for example, `examplebucket`
- Region: Region where the bucket resides. Select the region closest to you. For example, if you are in Shenzhen, you can select the Guangzhou region, i.e., `ap-guangzhou`.
- ACL: Access permission for the bucket. For example, you can select **Private (read-write)**.



3. Click **OK**.

Step 4. Upload an object

1. Click the bucket created in Step 3 to go to the bucket management page.
2. Click **Upload** > **Select Files** and select a local file to upload to the bucket, for example, `exampleobjext.txt`.
3. Click **Upload**.

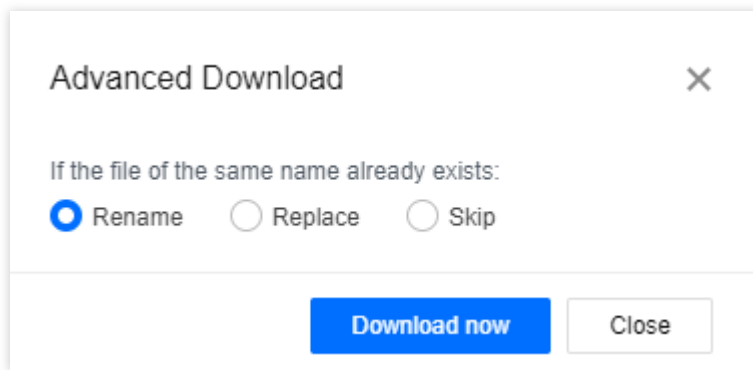
Step 5. Download an object

Option 1

1. Click  in the upper-right of the COSBrowser page to switch to list view (Skip this step if you are already in list view).
2. Under **Operation** on the right side, click  to download the file.

Option 2

1. Right-click a file, and in the drop-down list, click **Advanced Download**.
2. In the pop-up window, select **Rename**, **Replace**, or **Skip** as needed.





3. Click **Download now**. COSBrowser will start downloading the selected file.


Step 6. Share an object

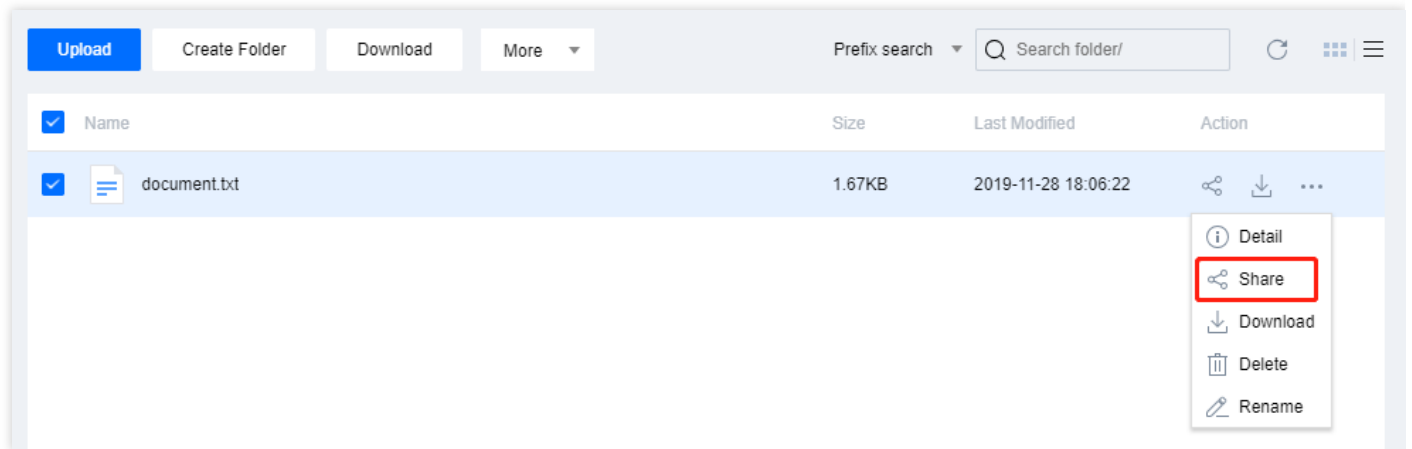
Each file stored in COS can be accessed through a specific link. If a file is private-read, you can request a temporary signature to generate a temporary access link with a certain validity period. The two methods for generating object links are as follows:

Option 1

1. Click  in the upper-right of the COSBrowser page to switch to list view (Skip this step if you are already in list view).
2. In the action bar to the right of the file, click .
3. Your link is generated and copied successfully if COSBrowser displays **Temporary object url copy success, link effective for 2 hours** at the top.
4. You can now access your file via this link. File links generated in this way are valid for 2 hours. To customize the validity period, you can use option 2.

Option 2

1. Click  in the upper-right of the COSBrowser page to switch to list view (Skip this step if you are already in list view).
2. In the **Operation** column of the target file, click In the drop-down list, click **Share**.



3. In the **Copy URL** pop-up window, configure your file URL. If your file is **Private read-write**, select **Signed URL, with validity**. Note that the URL is valid for the period of time you specify.

Copy URL ×

Filename example.jpg

Access Public read-write

Domain ⓘ Default acceleration domain ▼

URL Type Unsigned URL

Signed URL, with validity

hours ▼

Enter a positive integer

URL

Copy Close

4. Click **Copy** to copy the temporary file URL, with which you can access your file.

More features

In addition to the above capabilities, COSBrowser has many more to offer, such as bucket access permission modification and file preview. For more information, see [COSBrowser Desktop Version](#).

Troubleshooting

If you have any questions, [contact us](#).

References

To learn more about iOS- or Android-powered COSBrowser, see the following documents:

- [COSBrowser Overview](#)
- [User Guide for Mobile Version](#)