

Brenda Server Monitor Pro - Getting Started

Getting Started — Brenda Server Monitor Pro

Welcome! This guide gets you from a freshly launched instance to your first login in a few minutes.

1. Launch the AMI

Launch Brenda Server Monitor Pro from AWS Marketplace like any other AMI: recommended instance type is **t3.small** with a **20 GB** root volume. Make sure your security group allows inbound **22** (SSH, restrict to your own IP), **80**, and **443**.

2. Wait for first boot

Give the instance about a minute after it reaches the “running” state — it’s installing and starting the dashboard automatically. No manual setup is required.

3. Get your admin password

The very first login credentials are generated uniquely for your instance at first boot — they are never shared or reused across installs. Retrieve them over SSH:

```
ssh -i your-key.pem ubuntu@<your-instance-public-ip>
sudo cat /var/log/brenda-server-monitor/first-boot-credentials.log
```

This shows a one-time **username** (`admin`) and **password**.

4. Log in

Open your browser to:

```
http://<your-instance-public-ip>/
```

(Use `http://` , not `https://` — a certificate isn't pre-installed since it would need to match a domain you haven't chosen yet. See the Administrator Guide if you'd like to add HTTPS with your own domain later.)

Log in with the `admin` username and the password from Step 3.

5. Change your password

Immediately go to **Settings** and set a new password. The first-boot password is meant to get you in the door once, not for ongoing use.

6. You're in

You'll land on the **Dashboard**, showing live CPU, memory, disk, uptime, and service status for your instance, refreshing automatically every 30 seconds.

What's next

- **USER_GUIDE.md** — a full tour of the Dashboard, Settings, and About pages
- **ADMINISTRATOR_GUIDE.md** — managing the service, adding HTTPS, backups, and troubleshooting
- **FAQ.md** — quick answers to common questions, including what “Subscription Required” means if you ever see it

If something's not working

Check `FAQ.md` and `SUPPORT_GUIDE.md` first — most first-run issues (can't log in, blank page, “Subscription Required”) are covered there with self-service steps.