

HashiCorp

Exam Questions HCVA0-003

HashiCorp Certified: Vault Associate (003)Exam



NEW QUESTION 1

- (Topic 1)

During a service outage, you must ensure all current tokens and leases are copied to another Vault cluster for failover so applications don't need to authenticate. How can you accomplish this?

- A. Have Vault write all the tokens and leases to a file so you have a second copy of them
- B. Configure all applications to use the auto-auth feature of the Vault Agent
- C. Configure Disaster Recovery replication and promote the secondary cluster during an outage
- D. Replicate to another cluster using Performance Replication and promote the secondary cluster during an outage

Answer: C

NEW QUESTION 2

- (Topic 1)

You want to encrypt a credit card number using the Transit secrets engine. You enter the following command and receive an error. What can you do to ensure that the credit card number is properly encrypted and the ciphertext is returned?

```
$ vault write -format=json transit/encrypt/creditcards plaintext="1234 5678 9101 1121" Error: * illegal base64 data at input byte 4
```

- A. The plain text data needs to be encoded to base64
- B. The token used to issue the encryption request does not have the appropriate permissions
- C. Credit card numbers are not supported using the Transit secrets engine since it is considered sensitive data
- D. The credit card number should not include spaces

Answer: A

NEW QUESTION 3

- (Topic 1)

True or False? When encrypting data with the Transit secrets engine, Vault always stores the ciphertext in a dedicated KV store along with the associated encryption key.

- A. True
- B. False

Answer: B

NEW QUESTION 4

- (Topic 1)

What are the primary benefits of running Vault in a production deployment over dev server mode (select two)?

- A. Faster deployment
- B. Persistent storage
- C. Ability to enable auth methods
- D. Encryption via TLS

Answer: BD

NEW QUESTION 5

- (Topic 1)

Select the policies below that permit you to create a new entry of environment=prod at the path /secrets/apps/my_secret (select three).

- A. path "secrets+/my_secret" { capabilities = ["create"] allowed_parameters = { "*" = [] } }
- B. path "secrets/apps/my_secret" { capabilities = ["update"] }
- C. path "secrets/apps/my_secret" { capabilities = ["create"] allowed_parameters = { "environment" = [] } }
- D. path "secrets/apps/*" { capabilities = ["create"] allowed_parameters = { "environment" = ["dev", "test", "qa", "prod"] } }

Answer: ACD

NEW QUESTION 6

- (Topic 1)

Which of the following secrets engines does NOT issue a lease upon a read request?

- A. KV
- B. Consul
- C. Database
- D. AWS

Answer: A

NEW QUESTION 7

- (Topic 1)

From the options below, select the benefits of using the PKI (x.509 certificates) secrets engine (select three):

- A. TTLs on Vault certs are longer to ensure certificates are valid for a longer period of time
- B. Reducing, or eliminating certificate revocations
- C. Reduces time to get a certificate by eliminating the need to generate a private key and CSR

D. Vault can act as an intermediate CA

Answer: BCD

NEW QUESTION 8

- (Topic 1)

Given the following policy, which command below would not result in a permission denied error (select two)?

```
path "secret/*" { capabilities = ["create", "update"] allowed_parameters = { "student" = ["steve", "frank", "jamie", "susan", "gerry", "damien"]} }
```

```
path "secret/apps/*" { capabilities = ["read"] }
```

```
path "secret/apps/results" { capabilities = ["deny"] }
```

A. vault kv put secret/apps/results student03=practice

B. vault kv put secret/apps/app01 student=bryan

C. vault kv put secret/common/results student=frank

D. vault kv get secret/apps/api_key

Answer: CD

NEW QUESTION 9

- (Topic 1)

Which of the following token attributes can be used to renew a token in Vault (select two)?

A. TTL

B. Token ID

C. Identity policy

D. Token accessor

Answer: BD

NEW QUESTION 10

- (Topic 1)

True or False? All dynamic secrets in Vault are required to have a lease.

A. True

B. False

Answer: A

NEW QUESTION 10

- (Topic 1)

Your company's security policies require that all encryption keys must be rotated at least once per year. After using the Transit secrets engine for a year, the Vault admin issues the proper command to rotate the key named ecommerce that was used to encrypt your data. What command can be used to easily re-encrypt the original data with the new version of the key?

A. vault write -f transit/keys/ecommerce/rotate <old data>

B. vault write -f transit/keys/ecommerce/update <old data>

C. vault write transit/encrypt/ecommerce v1:v2 <old data>

D. vault write transit/unwrap/ecommerce ciphertext=<old data>

Answer: D

NEW QUESTION 14

- (Topic 2)

The Vault Agent provides which of the following benefits? (Select three)

A. Token renewal

B. Authentication to Vault

C. Client-side caching of responses

D. Automatically creates secrets in the desired storage backend

Answer: ABC

NEW QUESTION 17

- (Topic 2)

Which statement best explains the role and usage of storage backends in HashiCorp Vault?

A. They store Vault's persistent data, affecting the scalability and performance of managing Vault.

B. They handle the encryption of all secrets so that Vault remains completely stateless.

C. They store only ephemeral tokens, ensuring no persistent data is ever saved.

D. They store only unseal keys, while all secret data remains in Vault's memory.

Answer: A

NEW QUESTION 18

- (Topic 2)

After creating a dynamic credential on a database, the DBA accidentally deletes the credentials on the database itself. When attempting to remove the lease, Vault returns an error stating that the credential cannot be found. What command can be run to make Vault remove the secret?

- A. vault lease revoke -force -prefix <lease_path>
- B. vault lease -renew
- C. vault lease revoke -enforce
- D. vault revoke -apply

Answer: A

NEW QUESTION 21

- (Topic 2)

You need to connect to and manage a new HCP Vault cluster using the Vault CLI on your laptop. What environment variables should you set to establish connectivity?

- A. VAULT_CLIENT_KEY=<path-to-key-file>, VAULT_TOKEN=<token-here>
- B. VAULT_NAMESPACE=root, VAULT_REDIRECT_ADDR=<cluster-address>
- C. VAULT_ADDR=https://<cluster-address>:8200, VAULT_NAMESPACE=admin
- D. VAULT_TOKEN=<token-here>, VAULT_CLUSTER_ADDR=https://<cluster-address>:8200

Answer: C

NEW QUESTION 22

- (Topic 2)

True or False? Once the minimum decryption version is set on an encryption key, older versions of the key are removed from Vault and are no longer available for decryption operations.

- A. True
- B. False

Answer: B

NEW QUESTION 23

- (Topic 2)

Which of the following best describes the function of the Vault Secrets Operator in a Kubernetes environment?

- A. It replaces the Kubernetes secrets API entirely and operates purely as a certificate authority for all workloads.
- B. It is a standalone Vault server that automatically applies security policies and rotates root tokens.
- C. It continuously reconciles and synchronizes secrets from Vault to Kubernetes, ensuring secrets are always updated
- D. It provides an interface to dynamically provision Kubernetes clusters through Vault's infrastructure secrets.

Answer: C

NEW QUESTION 26

- (Topic 2)

Compared to service tokens, batch tokens are ideal for what type of action?

- A. Generating dynamic credentials
- B. Renewing other tokens
- C. For daily batch jobs requesting secrets from Vault
- D. Short-lived, high-volume, or ephemeral tasks

Answer: D

NEW QUESTION 28

- (Topic 2)

A new Vault administrator is writing a CURL command (shown below) to retrieve a secret stored in a KV v2 secrets engine at secret/audio/soundbooth but is receiving an error. What could be the cause of the error?

```
$ curl \
--header "X-Vault-Token: hvs.rffHw0iXqkRo19b2cjf93DM39WjpbN3J" \ https://vault.unlimited.com:8200/v1/secret/audio/soundbooth
```

- A. The VAULT_ADDR environment variable wasn't set, so it should be configured: export VAULT_ADDR="https://vault.unlimited.com:8200"
- B. The request is being made on the incorrect endpoint and should be: \$ curl --header "X-Vault-Token: hvs.rffHw0iXqkRo19b2cjf93DM39WjpbN3J" \ https://vault.unlimited.com:8200/v1/secret/data/audio/soundbooth
- C. The user's token doesn't permit access to the Vault API, only the UI
- D. The endpoint should point to v2 since this is a KV v2 secrets engine: \$ curl --header "X-Vault-Token: hvs.rffHw0iXqkRo19b2cjf93DM39WjpbN3J" \ https://vault.unlimited.com:8200/v2/secret/audio/soundbooth

Answer: B

NEW QUESTION 31

- (Topic 2)

What type of Vault token does not have a TTL (Time to Live)?

- A. Child tokens
- B. Parent tokens
- C. Service tokens

- D. Root tokens
- E. Batch tokens

Answer: D

NEW QUESTION 34

- (Topic 2)

Which of the following unseal options can automatically unseal Vault upon the start of the Vault service? (Select four)

- A. HSM
- B. Azure KMS
- C. AWS KMS
- D. Transit
- E. Key Shards

Answer: ABCD

NEW QUESTION 37

- (Topic 2)

Which of the following statements are true about HCP Vault Dedicated? (Select three)

- A. Provides 100% feature parity compared to Vault self-managed clusters
- B. Helps reduce operational overhead for organizations with push-button deployment and fully managed upgrades
- C. Increases reliability and ease of use so you can onboard applications and teams easily
- D. Increases security across clouds and machines through a single interface

Answer: BCD

NEW QUESTION 40

- (Topic 2)

Which of the following are benefits of using the Vault Secrets Operator (VSO)? (Select three)

- A. Support for syncing from multiple secret sources
- B. Bi-directional sync between Vault and Kubernetes Secrets
- C. Automatic secret drift and remediation
- D. Automatic secret rotation for multiple Kubernetes resource types

Answer: ACD

NEW QUESTION 41

- (Topic 2)

An application has authenticated to Vault and has obtained dynamic database credentials with a lease of 4 hours. Four hours later, the credentials expire, and the application can no longer communicate with the backend database, so the application goes down. What should the developers instruct the application to do to prevent this from happening again while maintaining the same level of security?

- A. Go back to using static credentials
- B. Renew the lease before expiration
- C. Revoke the lease before expiration
- D. Use a different auth method

Answer: B

NEW QUESTION 45

- (Topic 3)

True or False? The root and default policies can be deleted if they are not needed or being used.

- A. True
- B. False

Answer: B

NEW QUESTION 47

- (Topic 3)

Your organization operates active/active applications across multiple data centers for high availability. Which Vault feature should be used in the secondary data centers to provide local access to secrets?

- A. Performance standby nodes
- B. Customized plugins for the Vault cluster
- C. Disaster recovery cluster
- D. Performance replication cluster

Answer: D

NEW QUESTION 48

- (Topic 3)

In Vault, there are two main types of tokens, batch and service. Which of the following is true about the renewable capabilities of each?

- A. Batch tokens cannot be renewed, but service can be renewed up to the max TTL
- B. Tokens cannot be renewed without reauthenticating to Vault
- C. Service tokens cannot be renewed, but batch can be renewed up to the max TTL
- D. Both batch and service tokens can be renewed up to the max TTL

Answer: A

NEW QUESTION 49

- (Topic 3)

True or False? To encrypt existing encrypted data with the latest version of the encryption key, you need to first decrypt it and then request Vault to re-encrypt it with the latest version of the encryption key.

- A. True
- B. False

Answer: B

NEW QUESTION 54

- (Topic 3)

Which of the following storage backends support high availability? (Select four)

- A. Consul
- B. etcd
- C. DynamoDB
- D. Integrated Storage (raft)
- E. Amazon S3
- F. In-Memory

Answer: ABCD

NEW QUESTION 57

- (Topic 3)

When you are unsealing Vault using unseal keys, what are you actually doing?

- A. Creating the recovery keys
- B. Exporting the encryption key
- C. Reconstructing the root key
- D. Decrypting the Vault data

Answer: C

NEW QUESTION 60

- (Topic 3)

Hanna is working with Vault and has been assigned a namespace called integration, where she stores all her secrets. Hanna configured her application to use the following API request, but the request is failing. What changes below will help Hanna correctly retrieve the secret? (Select two)

```
$ curl \  
--header "X-Vault-Token:hvs.lzrmRe5Y3LMcDRmOttEjWoag" \  
--request GET \ https://vault.example.com:8200/v1/secret/data/my-secret
```

- A. `$ curl --header "X-Vault-Token:hvs.lzrmRe5Y3LMcDRmOttEjWoag" --request GET\integration https://vault.example.com:8200/v1/secret/data/my-secret`
- B. `$ curl --header "X-Vault-Token:hvs.lzrmRe5Y3LMcDRmOttEjWoag" --request GET -- namespace "integration" https://vault.example.com:8200/v1/secret/data/my-secret`
- C. `$ curl --header "X-Vault-Token:hvs.lzrmRe5Y3LMcDRmOttEjWoag" --request GET https://vault.example.com:8200/v1/integration/secret/data/my-secret`
- D. `$ curl --header "X-Vault-Token:hvs.lzrmRe5Y3LMcDRmOttEjWoag" --header "X-Vault- Namespace:integration" --request GET https://vault.example.com:8200/v1/secret/data/my- secret`

Answer: CD

NEW QUESTION 61

- (Topic 3)

What is the default TTL for tokens in Vault if one is not specified?

- A. 24 hours (1 day)
- B. 15 minutes
- C. 768 hours (32 days)
- D. 60 minutes (1 hour)

Answer: C

NEW QUESTION 63

- (Topic 3)

Which of the following features in Vault will replicate service tokens between clusters?

- A. Disaster Recovery Replication
- B. Performance Replication

- C. Vault Agent
- D. Integrated Storage

Answer: A

NEW QUESTION 67

- (Topic 3)

Although batch and service tokens share many characteristics, which of the following are true only about batch tokens? (Select three)

- A. Can create child tokens
- B. Are renewable up until the max TTL
- C. Maintain a single fixed TTL
- D. They are valid for either the primary or any secondary clusters
- E. They are not persisted to disk

Answer: CDE

NEW QUESTION 71

- (Topic 3)

Which of the following best describes response wrapping?

- A. The response is Base64 encoded, and the user must decode the response to retrieve the cleartext data
- B. Rather than provide a direct response, Vault returns a token and an accessor
- C. Vault responds with an encrypted version of the response, decrypted via transit
- D. Vault inserts the response into a single-use token's cubbyhole

Answer: D

NEW QUESTION 73

- (Topic 3)

You have TBs of data encrypted by Vault stored in a database and are worried about Vault becoming unavailable and not being able to decrypt the data. Is it possible to export the encryption key to store it somewhere else in the event Vault becomes unavailable?

- A. Yes, as long as the key was configured to be exportable when it was created
- B. No, you cannot export the encryption key from Vault

Answer: A

NEW QUESTION 75

- (Topic 3)

You have multiple Kubernetes pods that need frequent access to Vault to retrieve credentials for establishing connectivity to a backend database. You enable the Kubernetes auth method in Vault. What resource do you need to create within Kubernetes to complete this configuration?

- A. Username and password for kubectl
- B. k8s service account token
- C. A Vault token for authentication
- D. An AppRole role_id and secret_id

Answer: B

NEW QUESTION 76

- (Topic 3)

You need to decrypt customer data to provide it to an application. When you run the decryption command, you get the output below. Why does the response not directly reveal the cleartext data?

```
$ vault write transit/decrypt/phone_number ciphertext="vault:v1:tgx2vsxtlQRfyLSKvem..." Key Value
```

```
--- -----
```

```
plaintext aGFzaGljb3JwIGNlcnRpZmlZDogdmF1bHQgYXNzb2NpYXRl
```

- A. The user does not have permission to view the cleartext data
- B. The output is base64 encoded
- C. The output is actually a response wrapped token that needs to be unwrapped
- D. The original data must have been encrypted

Answer: B

NEW QUESTION 77

- (Topic 3)

Which of the following are valid types of tokens available in Vault? (Select five)

- A. Primary token
- B. Batch token
- C. Orphan service token
- D. Service token
- E. Root token
- F. Periodic service token

Answer: BCDEF

NEW QUESTION 80

- (Topic 4)

Why are short-lived, dynamic secrets in Vault more secure than long-lived, static credentials?

- A. They provide better performance by caching credentials for longer durations
- B. They are created on-demand and expire after a short period, minimizing the risk of credential leakage
- C. They eliminate the need for authentication, allowing seamless access to Vault-managed systems
- D. They automatically rotate on a set schedule, reducing the need for manual intervention

Answer: B

NEW QUESTION 83

- (Topic 4)

A developer team requests integration of their legacy application with Vault to encrypt and decrypt data for a backend database. They cannot modify the application for Vault authentication. What is the best way to achieve this integration?

- A. Enable the Transit secrets engine and configure the secrets engine to send data directly to the legacy app
- B. Have the app team call the Vault API to encrypt and decrypt the required data
- C. Enable and configure the Kubernetes auth method to allow the application to authenticate to Vault using a JWT
- D. Run the Vault Agent on the application server(s) and use the Auto Auth feature to manage the tokens

Answer: D

NEW QUESTION 86

- (Topic 4)

Which of the following is true about the token authentication method in Vault? (Select three)

- A. The token auth method is automatically enabled in Vault and cannot be disabled
- B. External authentication mechanisms, such as GitHub, are used to dynamically create tokens
- C. The token auth method is used as the first method of authentication for Vault for a newly initialized Vault node/cluster
- D. Tokens cannot be used directly; they must be used in conjunction with one of Vault's many auth methods

Answer: ABC

NEW QUESTION 89

- (Topic 4)

A MySQL server has been deployed on Google Cloud Platform (GCP) to support a legacy application. You want to generate dynamic credentials against this MySQL server rather than use static credentials. What Vault secrets engine would you use to accomplish this?

- A. The GCP secrets engine
- B. The Identity secrets engine
- C. The database secrets engine
- D. The Cubbyhole secrets engine

Answer: C

NEW QUESTION 90

- (Topic 4)

True or False? Performing a rekey operation using the vault operator rekey command creates new unseal/recovery keys as well as a new root key?

- A. True
- B. False

Answer: B

NEW QUESTION 94

- (Topic 4)

Vault enables the generation of dynamic credentials against many different platforms. When generating these credentials, what Vault feature is used to track the credentials?

- A. namespace
- B. role
- C. token
- D. lease_id

Answer: D

NEW QUESTION 96

- (Topic 4)

You are using Vault CLI and enable the database secrets engine on the default path of database/. However, the DevOps team wants to enable another database secrets engine for testing but receives an error stating the path is already in use. How can you enable a second database secrets engine using the CLI?

- A. vault secrets enable database database2/
- B. vault secrets enable -force database
- C. vault secrets enable -path=database2 database
- D. vault secrets enable database2/

Answer: C

NEW QUESTION 98

- (Topic 5)

What does the following policy do?

```
path "secret/data/{{identity.entity.id}}/*" {
  capabilities = ["create", "update", "read", "delete"]
}

path "secret/metadata/{{identity.entity.id}}/*" {
  capabilities = ["list"]
}
```

- A. Grants access for each user to a KV folder which shares their id
- B. Grants access to a special system entity folder
- C. Allows a user to read data about the secret endpoint identity
- D. Nothing, this is not a valid policy

Answer: C

NEW QUESTION 103

- (Topic 5)

Vault supports which type of configuration for source limited token?

- A. Cloud-bound tokens
- B. Domain-bound tokens
- C. CIDR-bound tokens
- D. Certificate-bound tokens

Answer: C

NEW QUESTION 107

- (Topic 5)

To give a role the ability to display or output all of the end points under the /secrets/apps/* end point it would need to have which capability set?

- A. update
- B. read
- C. sudo
- D. list
- E. None of the above

Answer: C

NEW QUESTION 109

- (Topic 5)

To make an authenticated request via the Vault HTTP API, which header would you use?

- A. The X-Vault-Token HTTP Header
- B. The x-Vault-Request HTTP Header
- C. The Content-Type HTTP Header
- D. The X-Vault-Namespace HTTP Header

Answer: A

NEW QUESTION 111

- (Topic 5)

Where can you set the Vault seal configuration? Choose two correct answers.

- A. Cloud Provider KMS
- B. Vault CLI
- C. Vault configuration file
- D. Environment variables
- E. Vault API

Answer: CD

NEW QUESTION 114

- (Topic 5)

What command creates a secret with the key "my-password" and the value "53cr3t" at path "my-secrets" within the KV secrets engine mounted at "secret"?

- A. vault kv put secret/my-secrets/my-password 53cr3t

- B. vault kv write secret/my-secrets/my-password 53cr3t
- C. vault kv write 53cr3t my-secrets/my-password
- D. vault kv put secret/my-secrets »y-password-53cr3t

Answer: A

NEW QUESTION 117

- (Topic 5)

Which of the following are replication methods available in Vault Enterprise? Choose two correct answers.

- A. Cluster sharding
- B. Namespaces
- C. Performance Replication
- D. Disaster Recovery Replication

Answer: CD

NEW QUESTION 118

- (Topic 5)

Which of these are a benefit of using the Vault Agent?

- A. Vault Agent allows for centralized configuration of application secrets engines
- B. Vault Agent will auto-discover which authentication mechanism to use
- C. Vault Agent will enforce minimum levels of encryption an application can use
- D. Vault Agent will manage the lifecycle of cached tokens and leases automatically

Answer: D

NEW QUESTION 120

- (Topic 5)

What can be used to limit the scope of a credential breach?

- A. Storage of secrets in a distributed ledger
- B. Enable audit logging
- C. Use of a short-lived dynamic secrets
- D. Sharing credentials between applications

Answer: C

NEW QUESTION 124

- (Topic 5)

The key/value v2 secrets engine is enabled at secret/ See the following policy:

```
path "secret/data/*" {
  capabilities = ["create", "read", "update", "delete", "list"]
}

path "secret/data/super-secret" {
  capabilities = ["deny"]
}
```

Which of the following operations are permitted by this policy? Choose two correct answers.

- A. vault kv get secret/webapp1
- B. vault kv put secret/webapp1 apikey-"ABCDEFGHJI] K123M"
- C. vault kv metadata get secret/webapp1
- D. vault kv delete secret/super-secret
- E. vault kv list secret/super-secret

Answer: AC

NEW QUESTION 125

- (Topic 5)

An organization wants to authenticate an AWS EC2 virtual machine with Vault to access a dynamic database secret. The only authentication method which they can use in this case is AWS.

- A. True
- B. False

Answer: B

NEW QUESTION 128

- (Topic 5)

The following three policies exist in Vault. What do these policies allow an organization to do?

app.hcl

```
path "transit/encrypt/my_app_key" {  
  capabilities = ["update"]  
}
```

callcenter.hcl

```
path "transit/decrypt/my_app_key" {  
  capabilities = ["update"]  
}
```

rewrap.hcl

```
path "transit/keys/my_app_key" {  
  capabilities = ["read"]  
}  
  
path "transit/rewrap/my_app_key" {  
  capabilities = ["update"]  
}
```

- A. Separates permissions allowed on actions associated with the transit secret engine
- B. Nothing, as the minimum permissions to perform useful tasks are not present
- C. Encrypt, decrypt, and rewrap data using the transit engine all in one policy
- D. Create a transit encryption key for encrypting, decrypting, and rewrapping encrypted data

Answer: C

NEW QUESTION 131

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