# Use Secrets in Docker Build Context

Sometimes it's necessary to consume a secret value (e.g. an access key) inside the Dockerfile when building images. Because the Docker build context has no access to the Tekton build task environment, the only way to pass certain environment variables is using [build args](https://docs.docker.com/build/guide/build-args/). In ESTA Tekton, docker build args can be specified with the **ocBuildVars** property in the [docker config block](file:///C:\display\CLEW\ESTA+Tekton+Parameters+-+estaTektonPipeline.json#ESTATektonParametersestaTektonPipeline.json-Dockerconfigurationstructure). When it comes to secret values, those shall be stored in a Pipeline Seceret and only be referenced in the ocBuildVars.

Here's how to achieve this:

1. Add the secret value to a [Pipeline Secret](file:///C:\display\CLEW\Tekton+Control+Panel#TektonControlPanel-PipelineSecrets) under a given key (e.g. DOCKER\_SECRET\_KEY)
2. Define a build argument in your estaTektonPipeline.json:

**estaTektonPipeline.json**

{

...

"docker": {

"ocBuildVars": [

"SECRET\_KEY=$DOCKER\_SECRET\_KEY"

]

}

}

1. Define the build argument in your Dockerfile and map it into an env var:

**Dockerfile**

FROM ...

ARG SECRET\_KEY

ENV MY\_SECRET\_KEY=${SECRET\_KEY}

Watch the syntax!

Please be careful on the syntax in the estaTektonPipeline.json: use $VARNAME but not ${VARNAME}.  
The latter will be considered a [pre-defined pipeline parameter](file:///C:\display\CLEW\ESTA+Tekton+Parameters+-+estaTektonPipeline.json#ESTATektonParametersestaTektonPipeline.json-Pre-definedPipelineParameters) and substituted before the pipeline is stated where no env vars from the pipeline secrets are yet available.