**How can we handle security issues related to writing the connection string as hard code?**

**Name three approaches to doing this.**

1 - Store it in appsettings.json

Instead of hardcoding, place the connection string in appsettings.json:

{

"ConnectionStrings": {

"DefaultConnection": "Server=.;Database=MyDb;Trusted\_Connection=True;"

}

}

2 - Use Secret Manager (for development environment)

.NET provides a tool called User Secrets that allows you to store secrets outside your code/project files, locally:

dotnet user-secrets set "ConnectionStrings:DefaultConnection" "Server=.;Database=MyDb;Trusted\_Connection=True;"

3 - Use Environment Variables (recommended for production)

You can store the connection string in your system environment variables, which is ideal for production servers or when deploying apps:

$env:ConnectionStrings\_\_DefaultConnection = "Server=.;Database=MyDb;Trusted\_Connection=True;"