

# How to Manage Secrets

<https://blog.cryptomove.com/secrets-management-guide-approaches-open-source-tools-commercial-products-challenges-db560fd0584d> (<https://blog.cryptomove.com/secrets-management-guide-approaches-open-source-tools-commercial-products-challenges-db560fd0584d>)

## Why

### DevOps processes & microservices based architecture

leads to secrets proliferation. Teams undergoing DevOps transformations move fast and manage many different infrastructure environments and services for development, testing, integration, and deployment. Secrets management for DevOps environments is vital as part of the secure software development lifecycle.

## What

### Type of secrets

- AWS access keys
- Database credentials (host, port, username, password)
- API tokens
- Pem, Cert files
- Accounts: url, username, password, email, secure Q&A

## Who

### Top providers

<https://stackshare.io/secrets-management> (<https://stackshare.io/secrets-management>)

- [Vault](https://learn.hashicorp.com/vault/) (<https://learn.hashicorp.com/vault/>) (Hashicorp)
- [AWS Key Management Service \(KMS\)](https://aws.amazon.com/kms/) (<https://aws.amazon.com/kms/>)
- [Knox](https://github.com/pinterest/knox) (<https://github.com/pinterest/knox>) (Pinterest)

- [Confidant](https://github.com/lyft/confidant) (<https://github.com/lyft/confidant>) (Lyft)
- [Docker secrets](https://blog.docker.com/2017/02/docker-secrets-management/) (<https://blog.docker.com/2017/02/docker-secrets-management/>)
- [Keywhiz](https://square.github.io/keywhiz/) (<https://square.github.io/keywhiz/>) (Square)

## How

### Vault by Hashicorp

- [Review](https://thenewstack.io/using-vault-to-manage-your-apps-secrets/) (<https://thenewstack.io/using-vault-to-manage-your-apps-secrets/>)
- [Learn Vault](https://learn.hashicorp.com/vault/) (<https://learn.hashicorp.com/vault/>)
- [HashiCorp Vault on AWS](https://aws.amazon.com/quickstart/architecture/vault/) (<https://aws.amazon.com/quickstart/architecture/vault/>)
- [setup-hashicorp-vault-beginners-guide](https://devopscube.com/setup-hashicorp-vault-beginners-guide/) (<https://devopscube.com/setup-hashicorp-vault-beginners-guide/>)
- [Installing Vault On AWS Linux](https://gist.github.com/cludden/12ef62dad35aff69e5bb) (<https://gist.github.com/cludden/12ef62dad35aff69e5bb>)
- [Taking Your Hashicorp Vault To The Next Level](https://www.prodops.io/blog/taking-your-hashicorp-vault-to-the-next-level) (<https://www.prodops.io/blog/taking-your-hashicorp-vault-to-the-next-level>)

### Install

- download one binary
- add to PATH, set 2 env vars

```
$ export VAULT_ADDR="http://127.0.0.1:8200"
$ export VAULT_DEV_ROOT_TOKEN_ID="s.4sSqAnf111111xxxxxxxxxx"
```

- ready to go

```
$ vault
$ vault server -dev    # start dev server
$ vault status
```

### Get started - CLI

#### *write a secret*

```
$ vault kv put secret/hello foo=world  
$ vault kv put secret/test cloud_provider=aws today=2019-02-09
```

### ***get secret***

```
$ vault kv get secret/hello  
$ vault kv get -field=today secret/hello  
$ vault kv get -format=json secret/hello  
$ vault kv get -format=json secret/hello | jq -r .data.data.today
```

### ***delete***

```
$ vault kv delete secret/test
```

### ***enable another secrets engine besides default secret***

```
$ vault secrets enable kv  
$ vault write kv/my-secret value="s3c(eT"  
$ vault write kv/hello target=world  
$ vault write kv/airplane type=boeing class=787  
$ vault list kv
```

### ***[Python API \(https://github.com/hvac/hvac\)](https://github.com/hvac/hvac)***

```
$ pip install hvac
```

```
In [1]: import os, hvac
```

```
In [2]: client = hvac.Client(url=os.environ['VAULT_ADDR'], token=os.environ['VAULT_DEV_ROOT_TOKEN_ID'])
```

```
In [3]: print(client.read('kv/hello'))
```

```
{'request_id': 'cdf1fa8c-e4ef-9c05-a662-72fbb0c4989a', 'lease_id': '', 'renewable': False, 'lease_duration': 2764800, 'data': {'target': 'world'}, 'wrap_info': None, 'warnings': None, 'auth': None}
```

```
In [4]: client.write('kv/postgresql_dev', hostname='metadb.cjng5tu75jam.us-east-1.rds.amazonaws.com', \
                  port='5432', user='wgong', pwd='PostGreSQ121', db_name='traffic_db')
```

```
In [5]: db_secrets = client.read('kv/postgresql_dev')
        print(db_secrets)
```

```
{'request_id': '0b988810-741b-abb4-e638-ec7a17f2a1ab', 'lease_id': '', 'renewable': False, 'lease_duration': 2764800, 'data': {'db_name': 'traffic_db', 'hostname': 'metadb.cjng5tu75jam.us-east-1.rds.amazonaws.com', 'port': '5432', 'pwd': 'PostGreSQ121', 'user': 'wgong'}, 'wrap_info': None, 'warnings': None, 'auth': None}
```

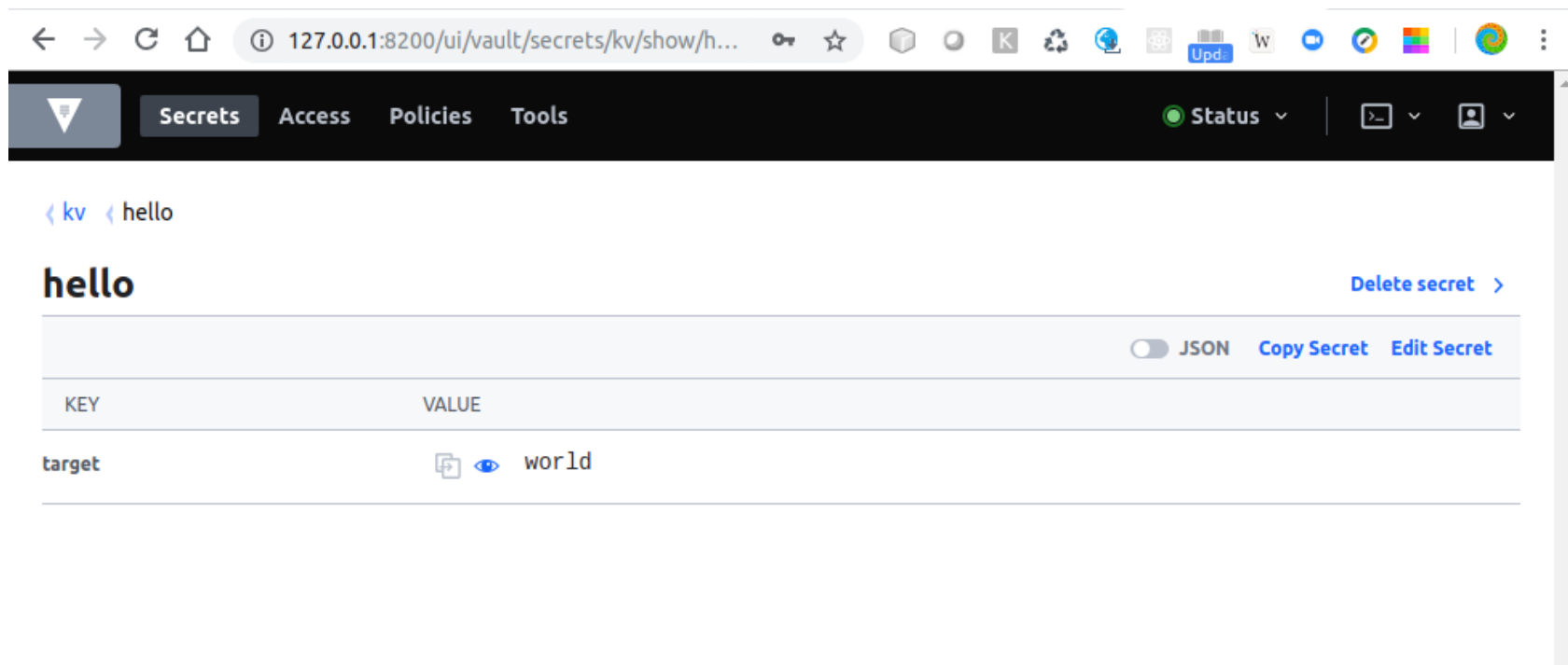
```
In [6]: db_host,db_port,table_name,db_user,db_pwd = \
        db_secrets['data']['hostname'], \
        db_secrets['data']['port'], \
        db_secrets['data']['db_name'], \
        db_secrets['data']['user'], \
        db_secrets['data']['pwd']
```

```
In [7]: print([db_host,db_port,table_name,db_user,db_pwd])
```

```
['metadb.cjng5tu75jam.us-east-1.rds.amazonaws.com', '5432', 'traffic_db', 'wgong', 'PostGreSQ121']
```

### Web UI

- <http://127.0.0.1:8200/ui> (<http://127.0.0.1:8200/ui>)



The screenshot shows the Vault UI interface. The top navigation bar includes links for Secrets, Access, Policies, and Tools. The main content area displays the path < kv < hello. Below this, the secret name 'hello' is shown in large text, with a 'Delete secret' link to the right. A table below the secret name shows the key 'target' with a value of 'world'. The table has columns for KEY and VALUE. The value 'world' is displayed with a copy icon and an eye icon. To the right of the table, there are buttons for 'JSON', 'Copy Secret', and 'Edit Secret'.

KEY	VALUE
target	world

In [ ]: