

Spring Professional Exam Tutorial v5.0

Question 07

Question 07 - Why is the usage of `mvcMatcher` recommended over `antMatcher`?

`mvcMatcher` is more flexible and forgiving when writing down rules for Spring Security Configuration, thus making mistakes when securing application is harder.

As an example let's consider following matcher rules:

- ▶ `.mvcMatchers("/employees")`
- ▶ `.antMatchers("/employees")`

Although they look very similar, they will work differently when executed against URI `/employees` and `/employees/`

- ▶ `/employees`
 - ▶ `.mvcMatchers("/employees")` - matches
 - ▶ `.antMatchers("/employees")` - matches
- ▶ `/employees/`
 - ▶ `.mvcMatchers("/employees")` - matches
 - ▶ `.antMatchers("/employees")` - does not match

So in above example, when using `antMatchers` it is very easy to omit last slash, giving attackers possibility to bypass application security rules.

