

DOP-C02 Pricing & Governance

Cost control and governance rules that often shape the best exam answer.

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| BEST FOR Choosing lower-toil, lower-cost, policy-safe designs | FOCUS Calculator vs Explorer, budgets, tagging, SCPs, and Config | USE WITH Quick Summary + Service Map |
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| <h3>1. Cost-aware architecture choices</h3> <p>Ephemeral builds - Prefer short-lived CodeBuild jobs over persistent idle build servers.</p> <p>Right-size observability - Keep useful retention and metrics; avoid unbounded log cost.</p> <p>Serverless first - Lambda/EventBridge/Step Functions can cut idle capacity for automation.</p> <p>Artifact lifecycle - Expire old artifacts and snapshots with lifecycle policies.</p> <p>Test on demand - Spin environments only for validation windows when possible.</p> | <h3>2. Pricing and finance controls</h3> <p>Pricing Calculator - Estimate planned architecture cost before deployment.</p> <p>Cost Explorer - Analyze spend trends and service-level changes after usage starts.</p> <p>Savings Plans - Fit predictable compute usage across services or EC2 families.</p> <p>Reserved Instances - Use when workload pattern is stable and specific enough.</p> <p>CUR - Use detailed billing exports for advanced reporting and chargeback.</p> |
| <h3>3. Governance tools that matter</h3> <p>Organizations + SCPs - Set account guardrails centrally.</p> <p>Config conformance packs - Standardize compliance checks at scale.</p> <p>CloudTrail - Keep centralized audit history across accounts.</p> <p>Tagging - Support cost allocation, ownership, and automated controls.</p> <p>Budgets - Create alerts before spend surprises become incidents.</p> | <h3>4. If/then rules</h3> <p>If environments are short-lived - Favor automation plus teardown hooks.</p> <p>If production must be isolated - Use separate accounts, not just tags.</p> <p>If secrets are shared broadly - Move them to Secrets Manager or Parameter Store with IAM boundaries.</p> <p>If alarms are noisy - Aggregate with composite alarms and improve thresholds.</p> <p>If compliance is repetitive - Automate evidence collection and remediation paths.</p> |