

# DVA-C02 Quick Summary

Fast 3–5 minute refresh for the AWS Certified Developer - Associate exam.

<b>BEST FOR</b>	Memory refresh right before timed practice
<b>FOCUS</b>	Lambda, DynamoDB, messaging, auth, and deploy choices
<b>USE WITH</b>	Cheat Sheet + Pricing & Governance

## 1. What shows up most

**Lambda** — Triggers, retries, env vars, layers, VPC, tuning.  
**DynamoDB** — Keys, indexes, consistency, query vs scan, TTL.  
**SQS / SNS / EventBridge** — Know when to queue, fan out, or route by event pattern.  
**IAM / Cognito / KMS** — AuthN, AuthZ, temp creds, secrets, encryption.  
**CodePipeline stack** — Build-test-deploy flow and safe rollout strategies.

## 2. Fast decision rules

**Need fanout** — Choose SNS.  
**Need buffer + retry isolation** — Choose SQS.  
**Need rule-based event routing** — Choose EventBridge.  
**Need serverless code** — Choose Lambda.  
**Need token-based user auth** — Choose Cognito.

## 3. Common traps

**Scan everywhere** — Usually wrong when a query or index would fit.  
**Hard-coded secrets** — Use roles, Secrets Manager, or parameters.  
**Ignore idempotency** — Retries can duplicate writes and side effects.  
**Overbuild the platform** — Managed services usually beat custom orchestration.  
**No observability** — CloudWatch and X-Ray are often part of the best answer.

## 4. Last-minute memory refresh

**Blue/green** — Swap environments with low rollback friction.  
**Canary** — Shift small traffic first, then increase.  
**DLQ** — Retain failed work for later inspection.  
**Provisioned concurrency** — Reduce Lambda startup variability.  
**Structured logs** — Better filtering, dashboards, and incident analysis.