trimstray

NGINX HARDENING CHECKLIST



HOWTO: A+ with all 100%'s on SSL Labs

O Hide Nginx version number

server_tokens off;

O Hide Nginx server signature

more_set_headers "Server: Unknown";

Use only 4096-bit private keys

openssl genrsa -out domain.com.key 4096 # certbot certonly -d domain.com --rsa-key-size 4096

(a) Keep only TLS 1.2 (+ TLS 1.3)

ssl_protocols TLSv1.2;

Use only strong ciphers

ssl_ciphers "ECDHE-ECDSA-AES256-GCM-SHA384:ECDHE-RSA-AES256-GCM-SHA384:ECDHE-ECDSA-CHACHA20-POLY1305:ECDHE-RSA-CHACHA20-POLY1305:ECDHE-ECDSA-AES256-SHA384:ECDHE-RSA-AES256-SHA384";

O Use more secure ECDH Curve

ssl_ecdh_curve X25519:prime256v1:secp521r1:secp384r1;

These guidelines provides recommendations for very restrictive setup.



Do not follow guides just to get 100% of something. Think about what you actually do at your server!

O Defend against the BEAST attack

O Use strong Key Exchange

openssl dhparam -dsaparam -out /etc/nginx/dh.pem 4096

ssl_prefer_server_ciphers on;

ssl_dhparam /etc/nginx/dh.pem;

O HTTP Strict Transport Security

add_header Strict-Transport-Security "max-age=63072000; includeSubdomains" always;

O Disable compression

gzip off;

Reduce XSS risks (Content-Security-Policy)

add_header Content-Security-Policy "default-src 'none'; script-src 'self'; connect-src 'self'; img-src 'self'; style-src 'self';" always;



Based on trimstray/nginx-quick-reference

Control the behavior of the Referer header (Referrer-Policy)

add_header Referrer-Policy "no-referrer";

O Provide clickjacking protection (X-Frame-Options)

add_header X-Frame-Options "SAMEORIGIN" always;

Prevent some categories of XSS attacks (X-XSS-Protection)

add_header X-XSS-Protection "1; mode=block" always

O Prevent Sniff Mimetype (X-Content-Type-Options)

add_header X-Content-Type-Options "nosniff" always;