# 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

### O 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

#### 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";

# Provide clickjacking protection (X-Frame-Options)

add\_header X-Frame-Options "SAMEORIGIN" always;

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

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

add\_header X-XSS-Protection "1; mode=block" always

add\_header X-Content-Type-Options "nosniff" always;