Lab: Linux File Permissions – Department-Based Access Control

Objective

Set up departmental directories for a fictional company, assign users and groups accordingly, appropriately manage file permissions, and elevate the C-Level department's privileges to ensure they have full access across all folders using both traditional UNIX permissions and ACLs.

Scenario: Company Directory Setup for a Fictional Business

Company Name: CyberCorp

CyberCorp has **5 departments and 15 employees**. **Each department has 3 staff members**. Only the **C-Level department should** have full access to all files across all departments.

Departments & Employees

Department	Group Name	Staff Members
Marketing	marketing	Alice, Bob, Carol
HR	hr	David, Emily, Frank
IT	it	Grace, Henry, Ian
Sales	sales	Jack, Kelly, Liam
C-Level	clevel	CEO, CTO, CFO

Step-by-Step Instructions / Summary

- 1. Create Base Directory on Desktop
- 2. Create Department Subdirectories
 - a. Create Groups for Departments
 - b. Create Users and Assign to Groups
 - c. Check Group Assignments
- 3. Set Group Ownership of Directories
- 4. Set Directory Permissions (770)

- 5. Create 3 Files Per Department
 - a. Marketing
 - b. HR
 - c. IT
 - d. Sales
 - e. C-Level
- 6. Add C-Level Group Access via ACL
 - a. Verify C-Level Permissions with getfacl
- 7. Generate Directory Tree View with tree
- 8. Screenshot submissions

Commands and steps used for this lab:

1. Create base directory on desktop

```
Making the base folder mkdir CyberCorp

(kali@ kali)-[~/Desktop]

(kali@ kali)-[~/Desktop]

(kali@ kali)-[~/Desktop]

(cd CyberCorp)
```

- 2. Create department subdirectories and groups
 - 2.1. Making the subdirectories inside the CyberCorps folder

```
mkdir Marketing
mkdir HR
mkdir IT
mkdir Sales
mkdir C-Level
ls

| (kali@ kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp]
```

2.2. Making the required groups for the collection of users later on

sudo groupadd marketing (kali®kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp] -\$ sudo groupadd marketing sudo groupadd hr sudo groupadd it -(kali@kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp] —\$ sudo groupadd hr sudo groupadd sales sudo groupadd clevel (kali@kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp]
sudo groupadd it cat /etc/group -(kali@kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp] —\$ <u>sudo</u> groupadd sales -(kali®kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp] -\$ <u>sudo</u> groupadd clevel -(kali®kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp] -\$ cat /etc/group marketing:x:1001: hr:x:1002: it:x:1003: sales:x:1004: clevel:x:1005:

- 3. Create users and assign to groups
 - 3.1. Creating users for Marketing group

sudo useradd -G marketing Alice sudo useradd -G marketing Bob sudo useradd -G marketing Carol

(kali⊗ kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp]
\$ sudo useradd -G marketing Alice

(kali⊗ kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp]
\$ sudo useradd -G marketing Bob

(kali⊗ kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp]
\$ sudo useradd -G marketing Carol

3.2. Creating users for HR group

3.3. Creating users for IT group

sudo useradd -G it Grace
sudo useradd -G it Henry
sudo useradd -G it lan

(kali@ kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp]

\$\frac{\text{kali} \text{kali}}{\text{sudo}} \text{useradd} \text{-G it Henry}
\$\frac{\text{kali} \text{kali}}{\text{sudo}} \text{useradd} \text{-G it Henry}
\$\frac{\text{kali} \text{kali}}{\text{sudo}} \text{useradd} \text{-G it Ian}

3.4. Creating users for Sales group

sudo useradd -G sales Jack sudo useradd -G sales Kelly sudo useradd -G sales Liam

(kali@ kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp]

\$ sudo useradd -G sales Jack

(kali@ kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp]

\$ sudo useradd -G sales Kelly

(kali@ kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp]

\$ sudo useradd -G sales Liam

3.5. Creating users for C-Level group

sudo useradd -G clevel CEO
sudo useradd -G clevel CTO
sudo useradd -G clevel CFO

(kali@kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp]

(kali@kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp]

(kali@kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp]

(kali@kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp]

(kali@kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp]

3.6. Check if all the created users assigned to the associated group

cat /etc/group

(kali@ kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp]

\$\frac{\tec/group}{\text{cat /etc/group}}\$

marketing:x:1001:Alice,Bob,Carol
hr:x:1002:David,Emily,Frank
it:x:1003:Grace,Henry,Ian
sales:x:1004:Jack,Kelly,Liam
clevel:x:1005:CEO,CTO,CFO

- 4. Set group ownership and permissions
 - 4.1. Setting the group ownership for each respective directory

sudo chown :marketing Marketing -(kali®kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp] sudo chown :hr HR —\$ sudo chown :marketing Marketing sudo chown :it IT -(kali®kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp] sudo chown :sales Sales └\$ <u>sudo</u> chown :hr HR sudo chown :clevel C-Level ls -l -(kali®kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp] -\$ <u>sudo</u> chown :it **IT** -(kali⊛kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp] └\$ sudo chown :sales **Sales** —(kali⊛kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp] -\$ sudo chown :clevel C-Level —(kali⊛kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp] total 20 drwxrwxr-x 2 kali clevel 4096 Jun 13 23:04 C-Level drwxrwxr-x 2 kali hr 4096 Jun 13 23:03 HR drwxrwxr-x 2 kali it 4096 Jun 13 23:03 IT drwxrwxr-x 2 kali marketing 4096 Jun 13 23:03 Marketing drwxrwxr-x 2 kali sales 4096 Jun 13 23:03 Sales

4.2. Setting the proper permissions for each group and respective directory

sudo chmod 770 Marketing -(kali®kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp] sudo chmod 770 HR -\$ sudo chmod 770 Marketing sudo chmod 770 IT sudo chmod 770 Sales -(kali®kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp] sudo chmod 770 C-Level -\$ <u>sudo</u> chmod 770 **HR** ls -l -(kali⊛kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp] -\$ <u>sudo</u> chmod 770 **IT** -(kali®kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp] -\$ <u>sudo</u> chmod 770 **Sales** -(kali®kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp] -\$ <u>sudo</u> chmod 770 **C-Level** ·(kali: kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp] total 20 drwxrwx--- 2 kali clevel 4096 Jun 13 23:04 C-Level drwxrwx—— 2 kali hr 4096 Jun 13 23:03 HR drwxrwx—— 2 kali it 4096 Jun 13 23:03 IT drwxrwx— 2 kali marketing 4096 Jun 13 23:03 Marketing 4096 Jun 13 23:03 Sales 2 kali sales

- 5. Create 3 files per department using different methods (Using touch, echo, nano)
 - 5.1. Creating the 3 files for the Marketing Directory

cd Marketing touch product.txt echo "Ad campaign plan" > campaign.txt nano budget.txt

```
(kali@ kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp]
$ cd Marketing

(kali@ kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp/Marketing]
$ touch product.txt

(kali@ kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp/Marketing]
$ echo "Ad campaign plan" > campaign.txt

(kali@ kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp/Marketing]
$ nano budget.txt

(kali@ kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp/Marketing]
$ ls
budget.txt campaign.txt product.txt
```

5.2. Creating the 3 files of the HR Directory

cd HR touch employees.txt echo "guidelines" > policies.txt nano recruitment.txt Is

```
(kali® kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp]

$ cd HR

(kali® kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp/HR]

$ touch employees.txt

(kali® kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp/HR]

$ echo "guidelines" > policies.txt

(kali® kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp/HR]

$ nano recruitment.txt

(kali® kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp/HR]

$ ls
employees.txt policies.txt recruitment.txt
```

5.3. Creating the 3 files of the IT Directory

cd IT touch network_config.yaml echo "Updates & Security" > server_maintenance.log nano security_patch_notes.txt Is

```
(kali@ kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp]
$ cd IT

(kali@ kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp/IT]
$ touch network_config.yaml

(kali@ kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp/IT]
$ echo "Updates & Security" > server_maintenance.log

(kali@ kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp/IT]
$ nano security_patch_notes.txt

(kali@ kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp/IT]
$ ls
network_config.yaml security_patch_notes.txt server_maintenance.log
```

5.4. Creating the 3 files of the Sales directory

5.5. Creating the 3 files for C-Level

cd C-Level touch company_strategy.docx echo "Financial_Analysis_Model" > financial_overview.xlsx nano board_meeting_notes.txt ls

- 6. Add C-Level group access to all folders
 - 6.1. Setting the access for all C-Level groups

```
sudo setfacl -m g:clevel:rwx marketing sudo setfacl -m g:clevel:rwx hr sudo setfacl -m g:clevel:rwx it sudo setfacl -m g:clevel:rwx sales

(kali@ kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp]

$ sudo setfacl -m g:clevel:rwx Marketing

(kali@ kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp]

$ sudo setfacl -m g:clevel:rwx HR

(kali@ kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp]

$ sudo setfacl -m g:clevel:rwx IT

(kali@ kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp]

$ sudo setfacl -m g:clevel:rwx Sales
```

6.2. Verify the C-Level permissions

```
getfacl marketing
getfacl hr
getfacl it
getfacl sales
getfacl clevel
```

```
(kali@ kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp]
squared getfacl Marketing
# file: Marketing
# owner: kali
# group: marketing
user::rwx
group::rwx
group:clevel:rwx
mask::rwx
other::-
(kali⊗ kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp]

specifical HR
# file: HR
# owner: kali
# group: hr
user::rwx
group::rwx
group:clevel:rwx
mask::rwx
other::-
(kali⊛ kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp]

$ getfacl IT
# file: IT
# owner: kali
# group: it
user::rwx
group::rwx
group:clevel:rwx
mask::rwx
other::-
  -(kali⊛kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp]
s getfacl Sales
# file: Sales
# owner: kali
# group: sales
user::rwx
group::rwx
group:clevel:rwx
mask::rwx
other::-
 —(kali⊗ kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp]
s getfacl C-Level
# file: C-Level
# owner: kali
# group: clevel
user::rwx
group::rwx
other::-
```

- 7. Generate a directory tree view
 - 7.1. sudo apt install tree
 - 7.2. tree -pug

```
-(kali@kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp]
└$ sudo apt install tree
tree is already the newest version (2.2.1-1).
Summary:
 Upgrading: 0, Installing: 0, Removing: 0, Not Upgrading: 1297
  -(kali®kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp]
└$ tree -pug
[drwxrwxr-x kali
                    kali
                                   C-Level
    drwxrwx— kali
                       clevel ]
                                        board_meeting_notes.txt
       [-rw-rw-r-- kali
                             kali
        [-rw-rw-r-- kali
                             kali
                                        company_strategy.docx
       [-rw-rw-r-- kali
                            kali
                                        financial_overview.xlsx
    [drwxrwx— kali
                        hr
        [-rw-rw-r-- kali
                             kali
                                        employees.txt
                            kali
                                        policies.txt
        [-rw-rw-r-- kali
       [-rw-rw-r-- kali
                            kali
                                       recruitment.txt
    drwxrwx— kali
                                    IT
                                        network_config.yaml
        [-rw-rw-r-- kali
                            kali
                                        security_patch_notes.txt
        [-rw-rw-r-- kali
                            kali
       [-rw-rw-r-- kali
                             kali
                                        server_maintenance.log
              – kali
                        marketing] Marketing
    drwxrwx-
                                        budget.txt
                            kali
        [-rw-rw-r-- kali
        [-rw-rw-r-- kali
                             kali
                                        campaign.txt
       [-rw-rw-r-- kali
                             kali
                                        product.txt
                        sales ]
    [drwxrwx—— kali
                                    Sales
       [-rw-rw-r-- kali
                            kali
                                        client_followups.txt
        [-rw-rw-r-- kali
                                        pitch_deck.pptx
                            kali
       [-rw-rw-r-- kali
                            kali
                                        q2_leads.csv
6 directories, 15 files
```

8. Additional screenshot submissions

Screensh	not	Description	

```
(kali@kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp]
                                                                                        CyberCorp directory structure using tree
stree -pug
[drwxrwxr-x kali
      ree -pug
rwxr-x kali kali ] .
drwxrwx— kali clevel ] C-Level
— [-rw-rw-r-- kali kali ] board_meeting_notes.txt
— [-rw-rw-r-- kali kali ] company_strategy.docx
— [-rw-rw-r-- kali kali ] financial_overview.xlsx
     [drwxrwx— kali
     | financial_overvi
| HR
| kali | employees.txt
| kali | policies.txt
| kali | recruitment.txt
| IT
      i kali ] network_config.yaml
i kali ] security_patch_notes.txt
i kali ] server_maintenance.log
marketing] Marketing
      — [-rw-rw-r-- kali
     [drwxrwx— kali
                                              ] budget.txt
] campaign.tx
       orwxrwx— kati
— [-rw-rw-r-- kali
— [-rw-rw-r-- kali
— [-rw-rw-r-- kali
                                    kali
                                               ] campaign.txt
] product.txt
                                    kali
     ] client_followups.txt
] pitch_deck.pptx
] q2_leads.csv
6 directories, 15 files
  —(kali⊛kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp]
                                                                                        Each department folder with Is -I
 _$ cd Marketing
 ___(kali⊛ kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp/Marketing]

$ ls -l
total 8
-rw-rw-r-- 1 kali kali 14 Jun 12 22:21 budget.txt
-rw-rw-r-- 1 kali kali 17 Jun 12 22:21 campaign.txt
-rw-rw-r-- 1 kali kali 0 Jun 12 22:20 product.txt
(kali⊗kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp]

cd HR
(kali@kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp/HR]
total 8
-rw-rw-r-- 1 kali kali 0 Jun 13 19:48 employees.txt
-rw-rw-r-- 1 kali kali 11 Jun 13 19:48 policies.txt
-rw-rw-r-- 1 kali kali 15 Jun 13 19:49 recruitment.txt
___(kali⊗ kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp]
cd IT
-rw-rw-r- 1 kali kali 0 Jun 13 19:57 network_config.yaml
-rw-rw-r- 1 kali kali 11 Jun 13 20:00 security_patch_notes.txt
-rw-rw-r- 1 kali kali 19 Jun 13 19:59 server_maintenance.log
   -(kali®kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp]
 _$ cd Sales
 ---(kali⊛kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp/Sales]
--$ ls -l
total 8
 -rw-rw-r-- 1 kali kali 11 Jun 13 20:13 client_followups.txt
-rw-rw-r-- 1 kali kali 24 Jun 13 20:12 pitch_deck.pptx
-rw-rw-r-- 1 kali kali 0 Jun 13 20:08 q2_leads.csv
 (kali⊛kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp]

$ cd C-Level
 (kali@ kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp/C-Level]
```

└\$ ls -l total 8

-rw-rw-r- 1 kali kali 16 Jun 13 21:53 board_meeting_notes.txt -rw-rw-r-- 1 kali kali 0 Jun 13 20:16 company_strategy.docx -rw-rw-r-- 1 kali kali 25 Jun 13 21:53 financial_overview.xlsx

```
-(kali®kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp]
 └$ cd Marketing
(kali@ kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp/Marketing]
$ touch product.txt
(kali⊗ kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp/Marketing]
$ echo "Ad campaign plan" > campaign.txt
(kali@ kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp/Marketing]
$ nano budget.txt
\( \kali \infty \kali \) - [~/Desktop/CyberCorp/Marketing]
budget.txt campaign.txt product.txt
   -(kali®kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp]
└$ cd HR
(kali@ kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp/HR]
touch employees.txt
  —(kali⊛kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp/HR]
$ echo "guidelines" > policies.txt
  —(kali@kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp/HR]
 ___s nano recruitment.txt
___(kali⊛ kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp/HR]
employees.txt policies.txt recruitment.txt
(kali⊛ kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp]
(kali@ kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp/IT]
touch network_config.yaml
(kali⊛ kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp/IT]
$ echo "Updates & Security" > server_maintenance.log
(kali@ kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp/IT]
$\frac{1}{5} \text{ nano security_patch_notes.txt}
 (kali⊛ kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp/IT]
network_config.yaml security_patch_notes.txt server_maintenance.log
 —(kali⊛ kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp]
 —$ cd Sales
(kali® kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp/Sales]

$ touch q2_leads.csv
___(kali⊗ kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp/Sales]

$ echo "Introduction of Product" > pitch_deck.pptx
(kali⊗ kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp/Sales]
$ nano client_followups.txt
 —(kali@kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp/Sales]
client_followups.txt pitch_deck.pptx q2_leads.csv
```

File creation steps using touch, nano, echo

```
(kali⊗ kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp]

$ cd C-Level
 [ (kali⊗ kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp/C-Level] touch company_strategy.docx
 (kali@ kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp/C-Level]
$ echo "Financial_Analysis_Model" > financial_overview.xlsx
 (kali@ kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp/C-Level]
anno board_meeting_notes.txt
 (kali® kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp/C-Level]
 board_meeting_notes.txt company_strategy.docx financial_overview.xlsx
Group creation
                                                                                     Group creation and user assignment
    -(kali@kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp]
```

```
🖵 💲 <u>sudo</u> groupadd marketing
 —(kali⊛kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp]
$ sudo groupadd hr
__(kali⊗ kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp]
sudo groupadd it
 —(kali⊛kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp]
└$ <u>sudo</u> groupadd sales
  -(kali⊗kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp]
_$ <u>sudo</u> groupadd clevel
 —(kali⊛kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp]
```

```
_$ cat /etc/group
```

```
marketing:x:1001:
hr:x:1002:
it:x:1003:
sales:x:1004:
clevel:x:1005:
```

User assignment

```
-(kali®kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp]
—$ <u>sudo</u> useradd -G marketing Alice
—(kali⊛kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp]
_$ <u>sudo</u> useradd -G marketing Bob
 —(kali⊛kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp]
_$ <u>sudo</u> useradd -G marketing Carol
 —(kali⊛kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp]
└$ <u>sudo</u> useradd -G hr David
 —(kali@kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp]
_$ <u>sudo</u> useradd -G hr Emily
 -(kali⊗kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp]
—$ <u>sudo</u> useradd -G hr Frank
```

```
-(kali⊗kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp]
$ sudo useradd -G it Grace
  —(kali⊛kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp]
$ sudo useradd -G it Henry
(kali@kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp]
sudo useradd -G it Ian
 —(kali⊛kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp]
└$ <u>sudo</u> useradd -G sales Jack
 —(kali⊛kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp]
sudo useradd -G sales Kelly
 —(kali⊗ kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp]
—$ <u>sudo</u> useradd -G sales Liam
 —(kali@kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp]
$\sudo useradd -G clevel CEO
 —(kali⊗ kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp]
$ sudo useradd -G clevel CTO
 —(kali⊛kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp]
└─$ <u>sudo</u> useradd -G clevel CFO
                                               getfacl output to verify C-Level permissions
   -(kali® kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp]
s getfacl Marketing
# file: Marketing
# owner: kali
# group: marketing
user::rwx
group::rwx
group:clevel:rwx
mask::rwx
other :: -
  -(kali@kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp]
└$ getfacl HR
# file: HR
# owner: kali
# group: hr
user::rwx
group :: rwx
group:clevel:rwx
mask::rwx
other :: -
```

```
-(kali®kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp]
 —$ getfacl IT
# file: IT
# owner: kali
# group: it
user::rwx
group::rwx
group:clevel:rwx
mask::rwx
other :: -
   -(kali®kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp]
  -$ getfacl Sales
# file: Sales
# owner: kali
# group: sales
user::rwx
group::rwx
group:clevel:rwx
mask::rwx
other::-
  -(kali®kali)-[~/Desktop/CyberCorp]
—$ getfacl C-Level
# file: C-Level
# owner: kali
# group: clevel
user::rwx
group::rwx
other::-
```

Tools & Skills Used

- mkdir, ls, tree, touch, echo, nano
- useradd, groupadd, chown, chmod
- setfacl, getfacl
- Linux filesystem permissions
- Group-based access control
- ACLs for extended permissions

🧠 Reflection & Takeaways

In this lab I learned how Linux file permission and group-based access control work. I made a mistake from Step 4 where I named the base directory CyberCorps instead of CyberCorp. At the time it would've caused confusion with my structures and screenshots. I fixed it by deleting and recreating the users, groups, and directories to have proper consistency. I learned to use setfacl and getfacl to grant cross-department access for C-Level users, something I couldn't do with chmod alone.