



HuntressCTF Comprezz Challenge Writeup


 **Comprezz**
50 points - Warmups - 586 Solves - easy

Author: @JohnHammond

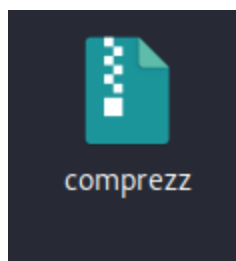
Someone stole my S's and replaced them with Z's! Have you ever seen this kind of file before?

Download the file(s) below.

Attachments:  [comprezz](#)

 Submit

Once you download the file into your machine. We notice it does not have a file extension. We can tell by the hint given in the CTF info that someone stole their S's and replaced them with Z's.



Upon further research, I found tar.z files are compressed files that can be decompressed and archives extracted within Cyber Chef using the following recipe.

Recipe

Tar

Filename
file.txt

Extract Files

☒ Images

☒ Video

☒ Audio

☒ Documents

☒ Applications

☒ Archives

☒ Miscellaneous

☒ Ignore failed extractions

Input

Length: 45

Name: comprezz

Size: 45 bytes

Type: unknown

Loaded: 100%

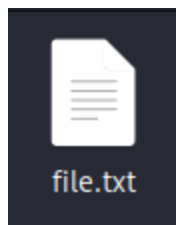
Output

time: 0ms
length: 45
lines: 1

1 file(s) found

extracted_at_0x0.tar2,048 bytes

You can then download the extracted file:



When you cat the file it is still compressed:

```
(ztheapt@kali) - [~/Documents/HuntressCTF/Comprezz]
$ cat file.txt
♦♦f9♦'FnG♦♦♦j♦■CC♦■34hq♦♦♦f0Z♦♦

(ztheapt@kali) - [~/Documents/HuntressCTF/Comprezz]
$ █
```

I researched the possible ways to decompress the text file and came across this web page and syntax:

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL `kb.iu.edu/d/acsy`. The page header includes the University Information Technology Services logo and navigation links: About, Services, Initiatives, News & Events, Getting Started, and Get Help. Below the header is a 'Knowledge Base' section with a search bar and a 'Log in' button. The main content area has a dark background and features a large title: **ARCHIVED: In Unix, how can I uncompress *.Z or *.tar.Z files?**. A yellow box contains a warning: 'This content has been [archived](#), and is no longer maintained by Indiana University. Information here may no longer be accurate, and links may no longer be available or reliable.' The text explains that on a [Unix](#) system, to uncompress *.Z or *.tar.Z files, one should enter the command `uncompress *.Z` at the shell prompt. It also mentions using the `ls` command to check the resulting files and that `uncompress` creates a *.tar file, which must be extracted with `tar -xvf *.tar`. Alternatively, a one-step process is shown using `zcat *.Z | tar -xvf -`. For more information, the user is directed to the online manual by entering `man tar`, `man uncompress`, or `man zcat`. At the bottom, a 'Related documents' section lists four links: 'About the .Z file extension', 'Make better use of your disk space in Unix', 'About compressed files in Unix', and 'Use tar to combine multiple files into an archive file'.

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ARCHIVED: In Unix, how can I uncompress *.Z or *.tar.Z files?

This content has been [archived](#), and is no longer maintained by Indiana University. Information here may no longer be accurate, and links may no longer be available or reliable.

If you are on a [Unix](#) system, to uncompress *.Z or *.tar.Z files, at the [shell](#) prompt, enter:

```
uncompress *.Z
```

Use the `ls` command to check the resulting files. If `uncompress` creates a *.tar file, you must extract the files by entering:

```
tar -xvf *.tar
```

Alternatively, to do this in one step and avoid creating the intermediate *.tar file, enter:

```
zcat *.Z | tar -xvf -
```

For more information, refer to the online manual by entering:

```
man tar
man uncompress
man zcat
```

At Indiana University, for personal or departmental Linux or Unix systems support, see [Get help for Linux or Unix at IU](#).

Related documents

- [About the .Z file extension](#)
- [Make better use of your disk space in Unix](#)
- [About compressed files in Unix](#)
- [Use tar to combine multiple files into an archive file](#)

Using the `zcat` syntax, we can read the `file.txt`:

Alternatively, to do this in one step and avoid creating the intermediate *.tar file, enter:

```
zcat *.Z | tar -xvf -
```

Now we will try the zcat to retrieve the flag:

Recipe

From Base64

Alphabet
A-Za-z0-9+/=

☒ Remove non-alphabet chars

start: 60length: 60end: 60length: 0lines: 1

Input

ZWNobyBmbGFneZywYmIzYmZhZjcwM2UwZmEzNjczMGMFiNzBlMTE1YmQ3fQ==

start: 45time: 1msend: 45length: 43length: 0lines: 1

Output

echo flag{60bb3bfaf703e0fa36730ab70e115bd7}