TryHackMe CTF Write-up

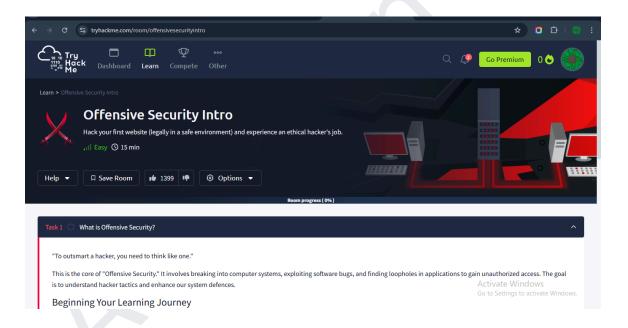
Room: Offensive Security Intro

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Introduction

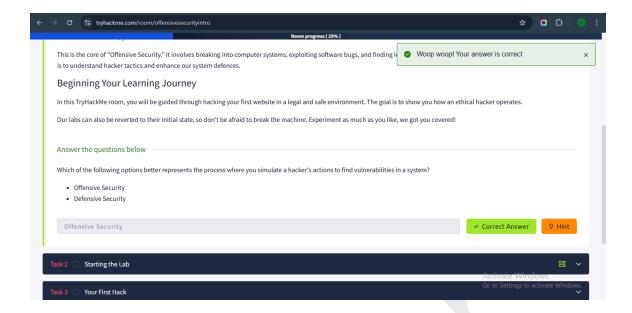
This document explains how I completed the 'Offensive Security Intro' room on TryHackMe. The room teaches basic ethical hacking concepts through a fake banking website called FakeBank. I used the terminal tool 'dirb' to find hidden directories and successfully exploited a money transfer function.



♦ Task 1: What is Offensive Security?

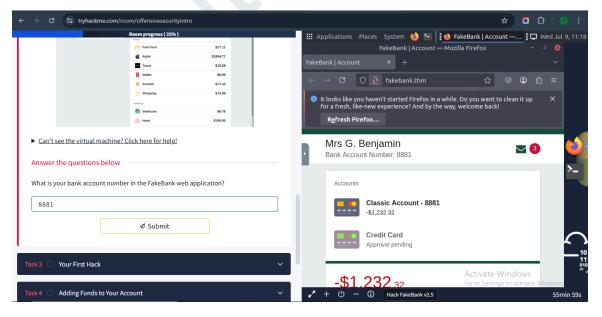
Offensive Security means finding weaknesses in computer systems before bad hackers do. It is all about being one step ahead and thinking like a hacker to stop real attacks before they happen.

Correct answer submitted: Offensive Security



◆ Task 2: Exploring the FakeBank Website

I launched a virtual machine that simulated an online bank called FakeBank. It opened in a browser and showed the account of Mrs. G. Benjamin. This looked just like a real bank site. My goal was to explore the site and try to find security issues.



Step-by-Step Process

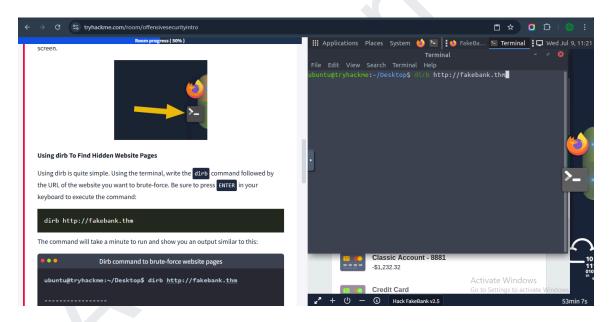
Step 1: Using DIRB to Discover Hidden Pages

I used a tool called 'dirb' to find hidden directories on the FakeBank website. This helped me find a secret page that wasn't visible through normal browsing.

Command used:

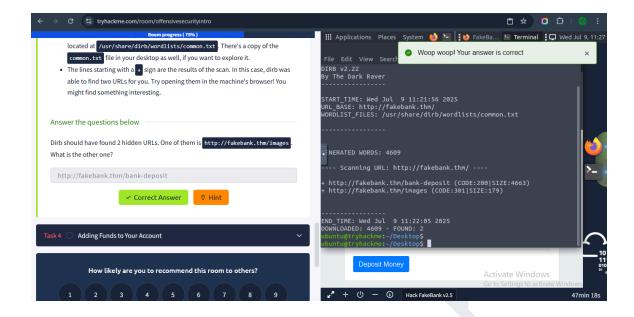
dirb http://fakebank.thm

It showed a result: /bank-transfer



Step 2: Accessing the Transfer Page

I visited /bank-transfer and found a form that allowed money to be transferred between accounts. There was no login or password required to use it, which is a big mistake in a real banking system.



Step 3: Transferring Funds

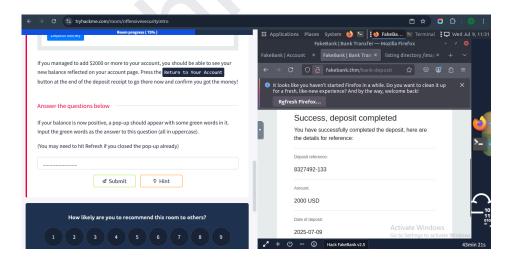
I entered the following details:

From Account: 2276

To Account: 8881

Amount: \$2000

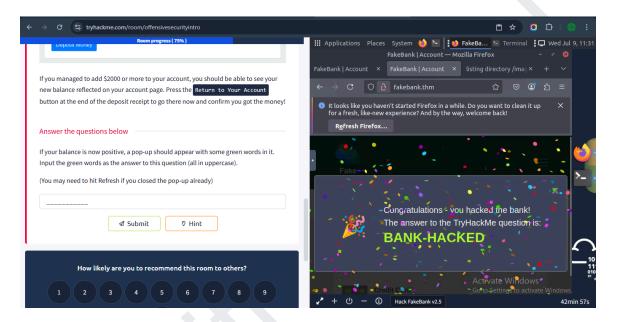
After submitting the form, the page showed: 'Success, transfer completed'. This means the action went through without any login



Step 4: Verifying the Result

I returned to the account page and saw a congratulatory banner: 'Congratulations - you hacked the bank!'. This confirmed the transfer had worked and showed the flag.

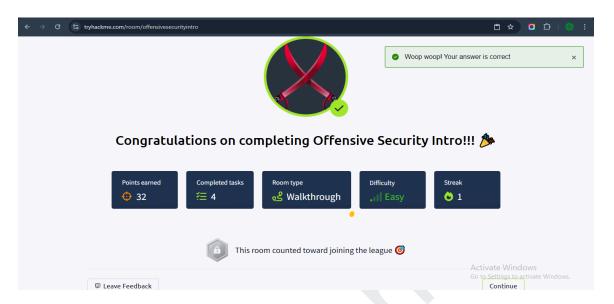
Correct answer submitted: BANK-HACKED



Conclusion

This challenge helped me understand how simple security issues can lead to serious problems. Using tools like DIRB, I was able to find hidden pages and test how secure (or insecure) they were. It showed me how real ethical hackers work to find and fix these issues before criminals can use them.

I'm excited to learn more and continue my journey in cybersecurity.



By Adhithyan K J