



DC423 Challenge

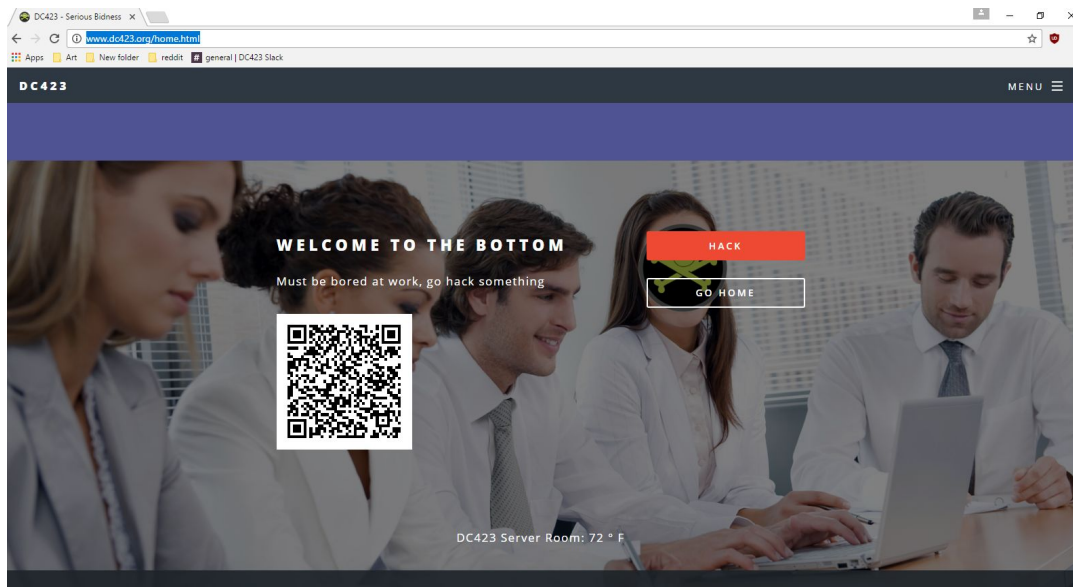
Decoding FTW





Step #1 (Grab QR Code)

On the homepage for DC423, there's a QR code





Step #2 (QR Decode)

Got the link for the qr code image and plugged it into an online QR decoder.

Decode Succeeded	
Raw text	L2 G30VLO300rIeZ2UyDrIeZtHYT4IeZ2HuJdIeP3HeFeHeV2H0UgIeL3IuAeHVZsT024IYPsHYPuIulrTu23IYxrHel.sHebrIeAgH0ZrH0AdHRO=
Raw bytes	47 24 c3 20 d0 a4 73 34 f5 94 c3 04 a4 f4 47 34 96 55 a3 25 55 94 47 24 96 55 a7 44 85 95 43 44 96 55 a3 24 87 55 56 44 96 55 03 34 86 54 56 54 86 55 63 24 84 f5 56 74 96 54 c3 34 97 54 16 54 85 95 a7 35 44 f5 a3 44 95 95 07 34 85 95 07 54 97 54 c7 25 47 55 a3 34 95 97 07 24 86 54 c7 34 86 56 27 24 96 54 16 74 84 f5 a7 24 84 f4 16 44 85 24 43 d0 ec 11 ec 11 ec 11 ec 11 ec 11 ec 11 ec 11 ec 11 ec 11 ec 11
Barcode format	QR_CODE
Parsed Result Type	TEXT
Parsed Result	L2 G30VLO300rIeZ2UyDrIeZtHYT4IeZ2HuJdIeP3HeFeHeV2H0UgIeL3IuAeHVZsT024IYPsHYPuIulrTu23IYxrHel.sHebrIeAgH0ZrH0AdHRO=





Step #2 (base64...kind of)

This gave me the level 2 code which looks like a base64 string

L2

G3OYL0JODrleZ2UYDrleZtHYT4leZ2HuUdleP3HeEeHeV2HOUgle
L3luAeHYZsTOZ4IYPsHYPuluLrTuZ3IYxrHeLsHebrleAgHOZrHOA
dHRD=

Decoding fails...wtf??



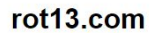


Step #3 (ROT5)

Counting the characters, it looks like the string is 2 characters too long. We know that the format of the clues start with L#. The string from L2 starts with "G3". ROT5 gives us:

**L3TDQ0OTlwNjE2ZDIwNjEyMDY4NjE2MzZiNjU3MjJjMjA2MTZIN
jQ3NzFjMDExYTE4NDUxMDUzNzQwYzE3NDcwMjQxMjgwNjFIM
TEwMTFiMWI=**





[About ROT13](#)

ROT5 ▼



L3TDQ0OTIwNjE2ZDIwNjEyMDY4NjE2MzZlbnJ0M3MjJjMjA2MTZlbnJ0Q3NzFjMDExYTE4NDUxMDUzNzQw
YzE3NDcwMjQxMjgwNjF1MTEwMTF1MmI=



Step #4 (base64...finally)

Remove the "L3" from the beginning and base64 decode, we get:

**L44920616d2061206861636b65722c20616e64771c011a18451053
740c1747024128061e11011b1b**

There's that L# again...





Step #4 (pic)

DC423 - Serious Bidness x qrcode.png (200x200) x rot13.com x Base64 Decode and Enc...

Secure | https://www.base64decode.org

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BASE64

Decode and Encode

Have to deal with Base64 format? Then this site is made for you! Use the super simple online form below to decode or encode your data. If you're interested about the inner workings of the Base64 format, just read the detailed description at the bottom of the page. Welcome!

Decode Encode Other tools

Like 2K Do you like us?

Decode from Base64 format

Simply use the form below

```
TDQ0OTlwNjE2ZDhwNjEyMDY4NjE2MzZlbnU3MjJlMjA2MTZlbnQ3NzFjMDExYTE4NDUxMDUzNzQwYzE3NDcwMjQxMjgwNjFIMTEwMTFIMVl=
```

◀ DECODE ▶ UTF-8 You may also select input charset.

Live mode OFF Decodes while you type or paste (in strict mode).

UPLOAD FILE Decodes an entire file (max. 10MB).

```
L44920616d2061206861636b65722c20616e64771c011a18451053740c1747024128061e11011b1b
```




Step #5 (Hex Decode)

Let's strip off that L4 and do a hex decode:

I am a hacker, andwEStGA(

DC423 - Serious Bidness x gcode.png (200x200) x rot13.com x Base64 Decode and Enc... x Hex to Text - Online Hei... x

www.convertstring.com/EncodeDecode/HexDecode

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Online Hex Decoder Online Hex Encoder

Input Options

Paste the text you wish to hex decode here:

4920616d2061206861636d65722c20616e64771c011a18451053740c1747024128051e11011b1b

Hex Decodel

Hex to text Download file

Copy your hex decoded text here:

I am a hacker, andwEStGA(

USEFULL LINKS

- [Hexadecimal encoding explained on wikipedia](#)
- [Wikipedia - Binary-to-text encoding](#)

RELATED QUESTIONS ON STACKOVERFLOW

- [Converting an int to a 2 byte hex value in C](#)
- [I need to convert an int to a 2 byte hex value to store in a...](#)
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- [I have a string like "sample". I want to get a string of it in hex...](#)
- [Hex string to hex char\[\]](#)
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- [How to convert a hexadecimal character array into string in C++?](#)
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XOR (This is where I got lost)

There's some junk at the end but come on. We know what that statement says “I am a hacker, and this is my manifesto.”

I had to ask for help here as I had never heard of XOR encryption.

What happens if we XOR what we got from Step #5 with what we know the statement is?







```
0000000000000000000000000000000000000576869736b65792054  
616e676f20466f7874726f74
```

We strip the leading zeros and decode the rest:

Whiskey Tango Foxtrot



Resources Used

<https://zxing.org/w/decode.jspx>

<http://www.rot13.com/>

<https://www.base64decode.org/>

<http://www.convertstring.com/EncodeDecode/HexDecode>

<http://md5decrypt.net/en/Xor/>

