

picoCTF Write-Up: Magikarp Ground Mission

John Gahagan

Challenge: Magikarp Ground Mission

Category: General Skills

Author: syreal

Challenge Description

Do you know how to move between directories and read files in the shell? Start the container, ssh to it, and then `ls` once connected to begin. Login via ssh as `ctf-player` with the password `b60940ca`.

Step-by-Step Solution

Step 1: SSH into the Challenge Container

Once the container is launched, connect to it using the provided command:

```
ssh ctf-player@venus.picoctf.net -p 52405
```

Enter the password when prompted:

```
Password: b60940ca
```

Step 2: Explore the Home Directory

After logging in, list files:

```
ls
```

Output:

```
1of3.flag.txt  instructions-to-2of3.txt
```

Step 3: Read the First File

```
cat 1of3.flag.txt
```

Output:

```
picoCTF{xxsh_
```

Step 4: Follow the Instructions

Next, read the second instruction file:

```
cat instructions-to-2of3.txt
```

Output:

```
Next, go to the root of all things, more succinctly ``
```

Navigate to root:

```
cd /
```

Step 5: Explore Root and Find Next Flag Piece

List files:

```
ls
```

Find the flag:

```
cat 2of3.flag.txt
```

Output:

```
Out_of_\\4t3r_
```

Step 6: Read Final Instructions

```
cat instructions-to-3of3.txt
```

Output:

```
Lastly, ctf-player, go home... more succinctly ``
```

Return to the home directory:

```
cd ~
```

Step 7: Read Final Flag Piece

```
cat 3of3.flag.txt
```

Output:

```
c1754242}
```

Final Flag

Concatenating all three pieces:

```
picoCTF{xxsh_Out_of_\\4t3r_c1754242}
```

Conclusion

This challenge tested basic Linux terminal navigation: using `ls`, `cd`, and `cat` to move through directories and collect flag fragments. It's a great introduction to SSH and shell navigation in Capture The Flag competitions.