

LinkedIn: [Kelvin Kimotho](#)

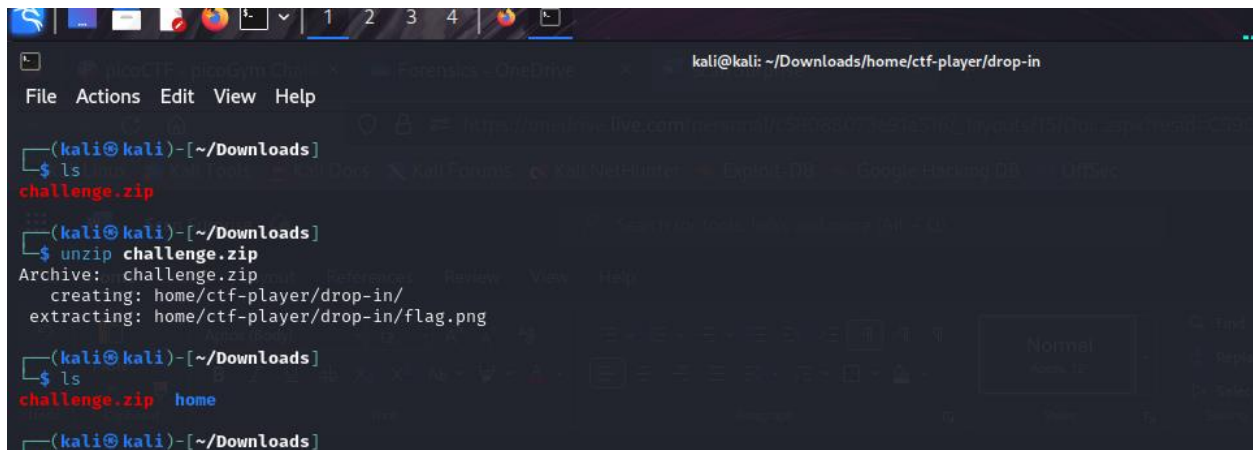
Description

I've gotten bored of handing out flags as text. Wouldn't it be cool if they were an image instead? You can download the challenge files here:

- challenge.zip

Solution

I began by downloading the zip file, then unzipped it on my terminal.



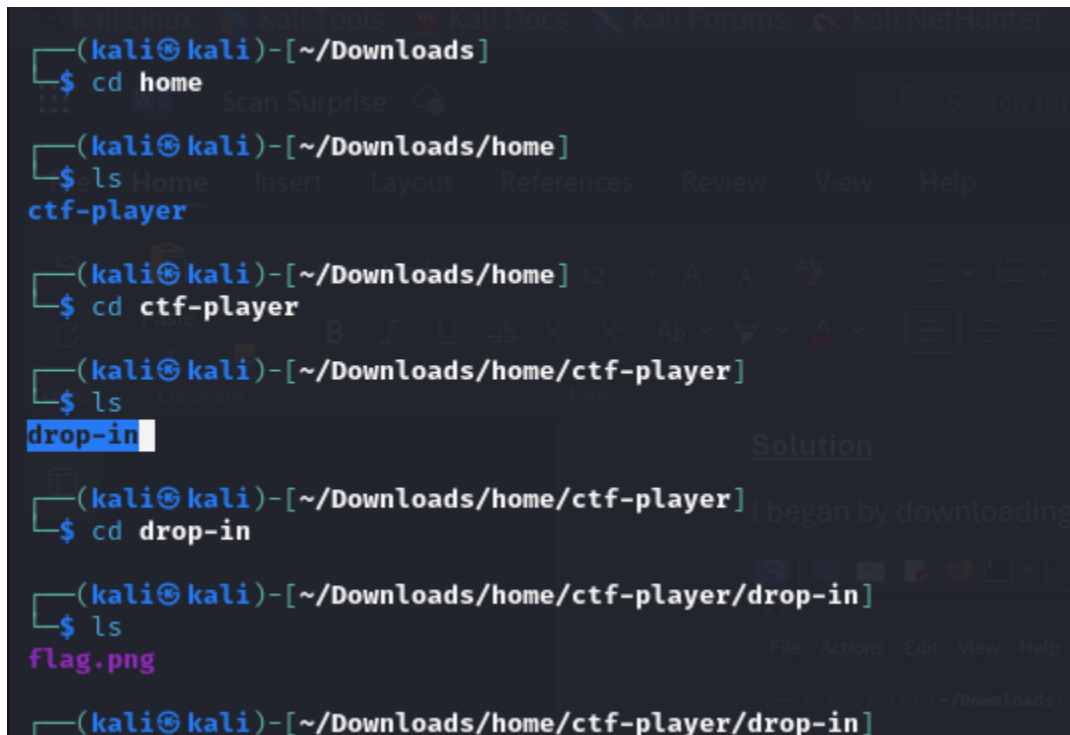
```
(kali㉿kali)-[~/Downloads]
$ ls
challenge.zip

(kali㉿kali)-[~/Downloads]
$ unzip challenge.zip
Archive:  challenge.zip
  creating: home/ctf-player/drop-in/
  extracting: home/ctf-player/drop-in/flag.png

(kali㉿kali)-[~/Downloads]
$ ls
challenge.zip  home

(kali㉿kali)-[~/Downloads]
```

I then navigated to **drop-in** directory where a **flag.png** file was located.



```
(kali㉿kali)-[~/Downloads]
$ cd home

(kali㉿kali)-[~/Downloads/home]
$ ls Home
ctf-player

(kali㉿kali)-[~/Downloads/home]
$ cd ctf-player

(kali㉿kali)-[~/Downloads/home/ctf-player]
$ ls
drop-in

(kali㉿kali)-[~/Downloads/home/ctf-player]
$ cd drop-in

(kali㉿kali)-[~/Downloads/home/ctf-player/drop-in]
$ ls
flag.png

(kali㉿kali)-[~/Downloads/home/ctf-player/drop-in]
```

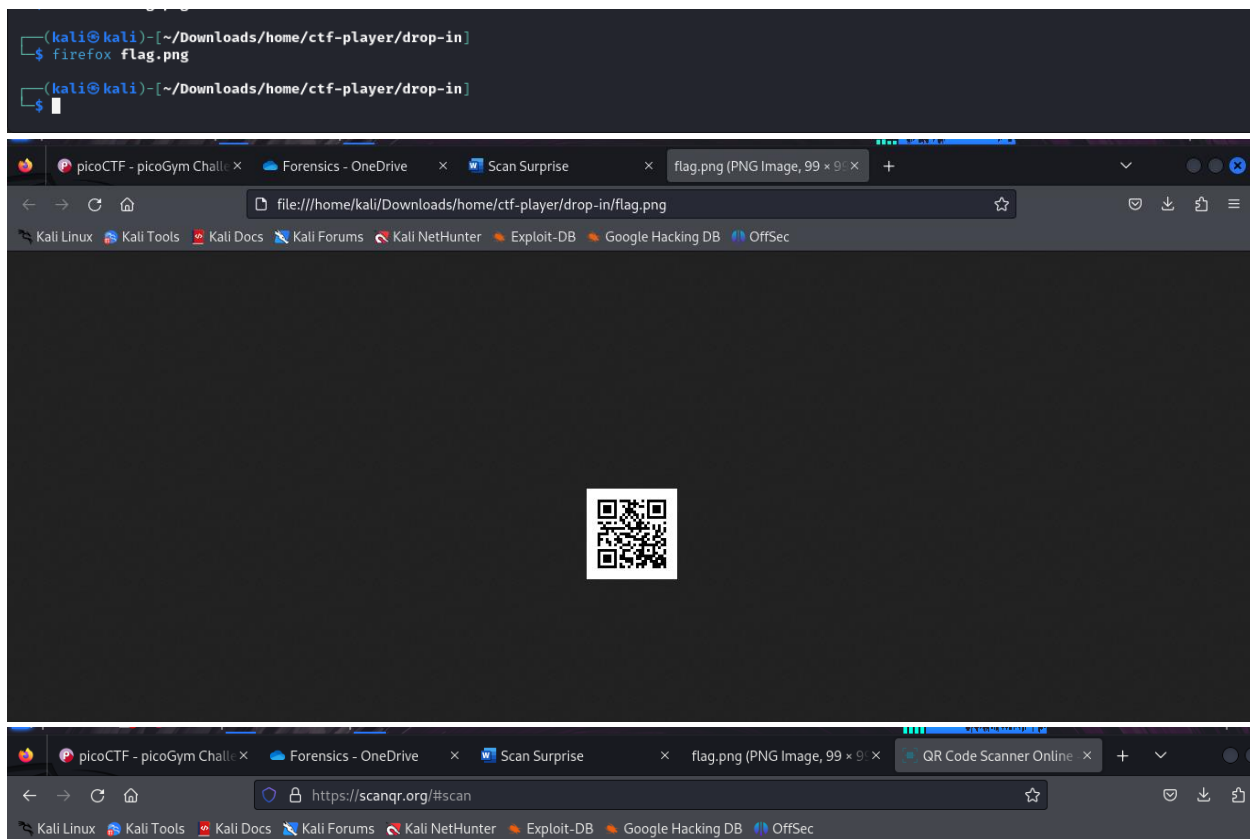
I tried looking for embedded **strings** within the file but none was the flag. I also used **exiftool** tool to view the files meta data but I found nothing interesting.

```
└─$ strings flag.png
IHDR
PLTE
tRNS
  pHYs
IDAT8
cU'Ai
n@!i
IEND

└─(kali@kali)~[~/Downloads/home/ctf-player/drop-in]
└─$ exiftool flag.png
ExifTool Version Number      : 12.76
File Name                    : flag.png
Directory                    : .
File Size                    : 346 bytes
File Modification Date/Time   : 2024:03:11 23:50:25+00:00
File Access Date/Time        : 2024:03:11 23:50:25+00:00
File Inode Change Date/Time   : 2025:01:15 14:36:27+00:00
File Permissions              : -rw-r--r--
File Type                    : PNG
File Type Extension          : png
MIME Type                    : image/png
Image Width                  : 99
Image Height                 : 99
Bit Depth                   : 1
Color Type                   : Palette
Compression                  : Deflate/Inflate
Filter                      : Adaptive
Interlace                   : Noninterlaced
Palette                     : (Binary data 6 bytes, use -b option to extract)
Transparency                 : 255 255
Pixels Per Unit X            : 2834
Pixels Per Unit Y            : 2834
Pixel Units                  : meters
Image Size                   : 99x99
Megapixels                   : 0.010

└─(kali@kali)~[~/Downloads/home/ctf-player/drop-in]
```

I then opened the image on my browser, it was A **qrcode**. I scanned It on my phone and it gave me the flag. I used a **random qr-code scanner service online**.




Scan QR code from image

Simply upload an image or take a photo of a QR code to reveal its content



Select QR Image



flag

All image types allowed.

Built with the most used and [secure Google's ZXing library](#).

Scanned Data

picoCTF{p33k_@_b00_b5ce2572}

Copy Results