

GET aHEAD

In this challenge, I was provided with a URL to retrieve the flag. The title “GET aHEAD” was a clue towards HTTP requests. Since I did not have to perform a normal browser GET request, I chose to perform a HEAD request. The clue about altering requests using tools like Burp Suite further confirmed that the answer would involve altering the type of request.

After gaining access to the webpage and realizing that there was nothing of interest in the source code, I chose to perform a HEAD request using curl. A HEAD request will only return the headers of the response, not the body. After inspecting the headers, I realized that the flag was right there in the headers.

This challenge reminded me of a very fundamental concept: Sometimes, the fundamentals of HTTP can provide information that is not immediately apparent when browsing.