

Redeemer Write-up

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Introduction

Databases store organized information that can be easily accessed, updated, and managed. They are critical in most systems because they handle:

- Sales transactions
- Product inventory
- Customer profiles
- Marketing data

Redis is a special type of database called an **in-memory database**, which means it primarily stores data in **RAM** for faster access.

- Frequently requested data can be cached in Redis for **quick retrieval**.
- Data can also be written to disk for **backup and persistence**.
- This setup allows websites and applications to handle high traffic efficiently while keeping long-term storage stable.

Objective of this lab:

- Learn how to **enumerate a Redis server** remotely
 - Retrieve data from the database using **redis-cli**
 - Understand basic Redis commands and penetration testing methodology
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Enumeration

1 ☐ .Verify Connectivity

Before interacting with the server, check if the target machine is reachable:

```
ping {TARGET_IP}
```

- Two successful replies are sufficient to confirm the connection.
- Short checks are often enough; long-running commands aren't always necessary.

2 ☐ .Scan for Open Ports

Use **Nmap** to discover open ports and running services:

```
nmap -sV {TARGET_IP}
```

- Found **port 6379 (Redis)** open → primary entry point for the lab.
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🔧 Understanding Redis

Redis (REmote DIctionary Server) is a key-value store used as a database, cache, or message broker.

Key Features:

- Stores data in **RAM** for fast access ⚡
- Short-term storage with optional disk backup 🗄️
- Data organized in **key-value pairs**

Server and CLI:

- Redis server listens for connections
 - **redis-cli** allows full interaction with the database
 - Essential for enumeration, testing, and automation
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📖 Installing and Using redis-cli

Install **redis-cli**:

```
sudo apt install redis-tools  
redis-cli -h {TARGET_IP}
```

- Alternatively, you can use **netcat**, but redis-cli is easier.
- Check available options:

```
redis-cli --help
```

Common Commands:

- **info** → Show server statistics
- **select <db>** → Switch to a specific database
- **keys *** → List all keys in the database
- **get <key>** → Retrieve the value of a key

Pro Tip: Always explore the CLI first to understand available tools and options.

🔍 Enumerating Redis Server

1. View server info:

```
info
```

2. Select a database (default is 0):

```
select 0
```

3. List all keys:

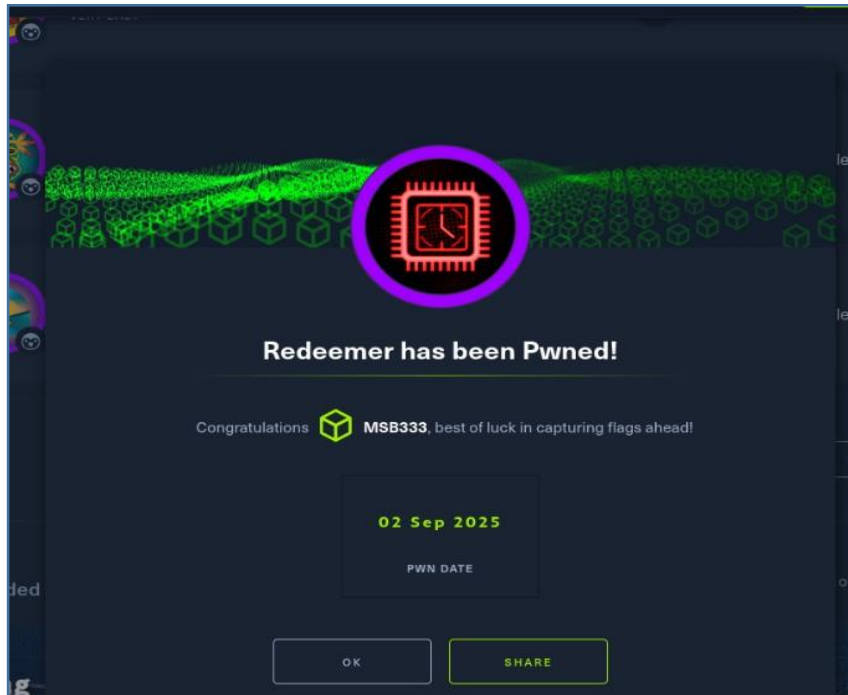
keys *

4. Get value of a key:

get <key>

- Successfully retrieving the key gives the **flag** ✓

Careful exploration ensures you don't miss any critical data or attack vectors.



Key Takeaways

- Understand the technology **before exploiting** it.
- Enumeration, scanning, and CLI tools **work together** in penetration testing.
- Methodical exploration reveals sensitive data efficiently.
- Research, observation, and structured methodology are **more important than speed**.