Secure Shell Additional Configuration

1. To disabled SELINUX, Edit /etc/selinux/config, change enforcing to disabled

SELINUX=disabled
After that, restart the server

2. If you want to apply MFA only to some users, edit /etc/pam.d/sshd file and add nullok.

auth required pam_google_authenticator.so nullok

3. I limited SSH connection only to menbers of the sshgroup, add user to group

usermod -aG sshgroup username

4. If you want to use publickey authentication method, generate sshkey on your management host and copy it to the remote server

ssh-keygen -t ed25519 -C "your_email@example.com"
ssh-copy-id username@remote_host

Edit /etc/ssh/sshd_config and change some parameters

PasswordAuthentication no
PubkeyAuthentication yes

Match Group sshgroup
    PubkeyAuthentication yes
    KbdInteractiveAuthentication yes
    AuthenticationMethods publickey,keyboard-interactive

a) For RedHat distributions family, Edit /*etc*/pam.d/sshd and comment the line below :

auth substack password-auth

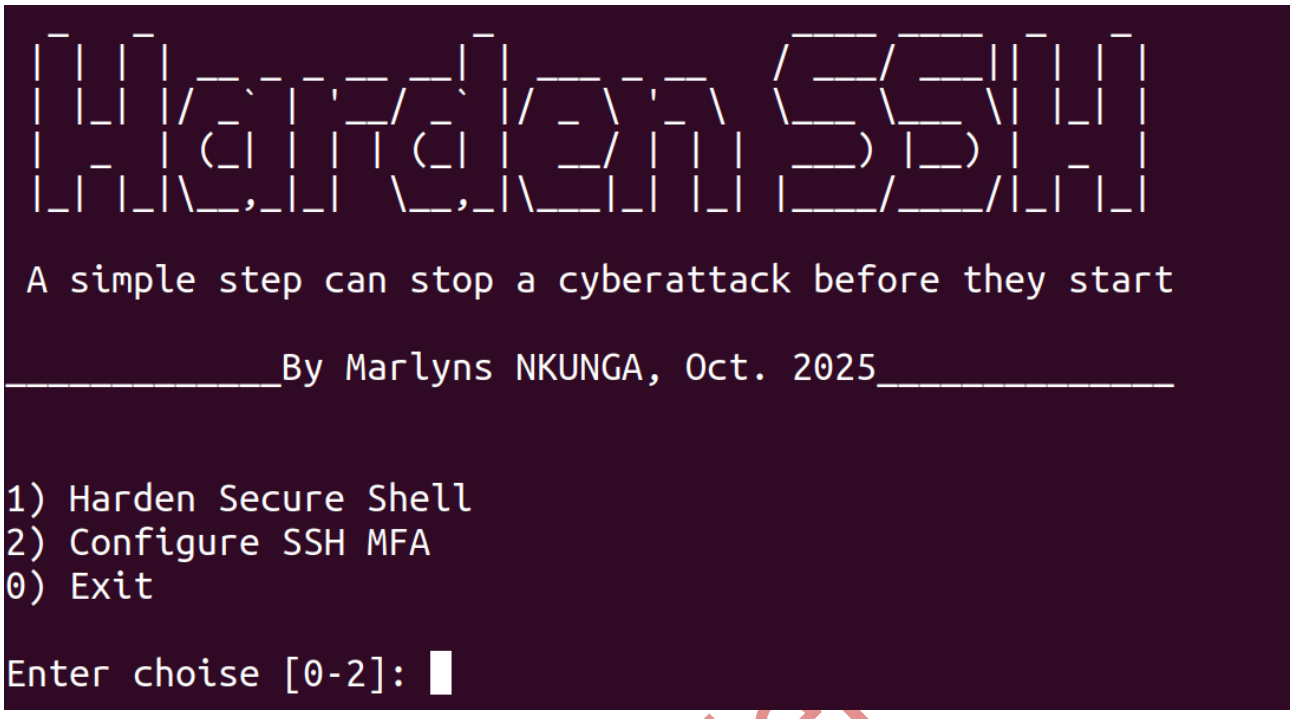
b) For Debian distributions family, add this line at the top, Edit /*etc*/pam.d/sshd

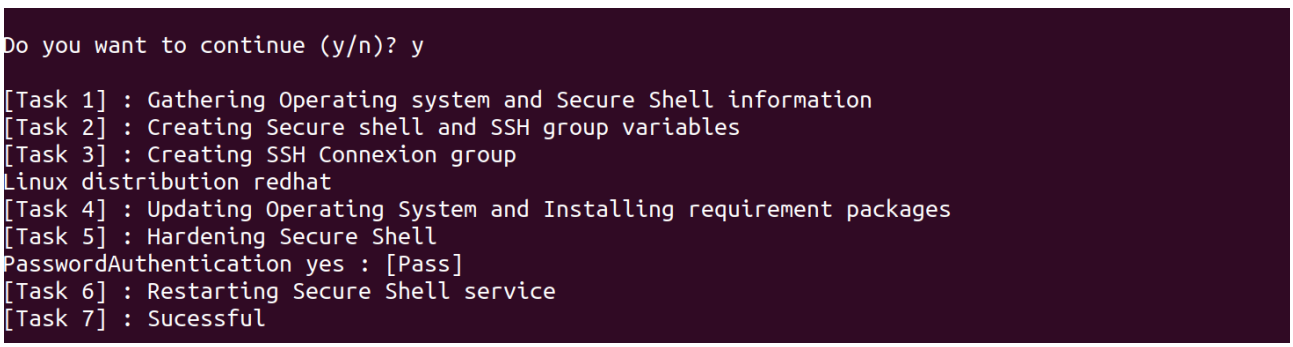
auth required pam_google_authenticator.so # For all users
auth required pam_google_authenticator.so nullok # For some users
@include common-auth

5. Restart secure shell service

For Debian Family : systemctl restart ssh
For RedHat Family : systemctl restart sshd

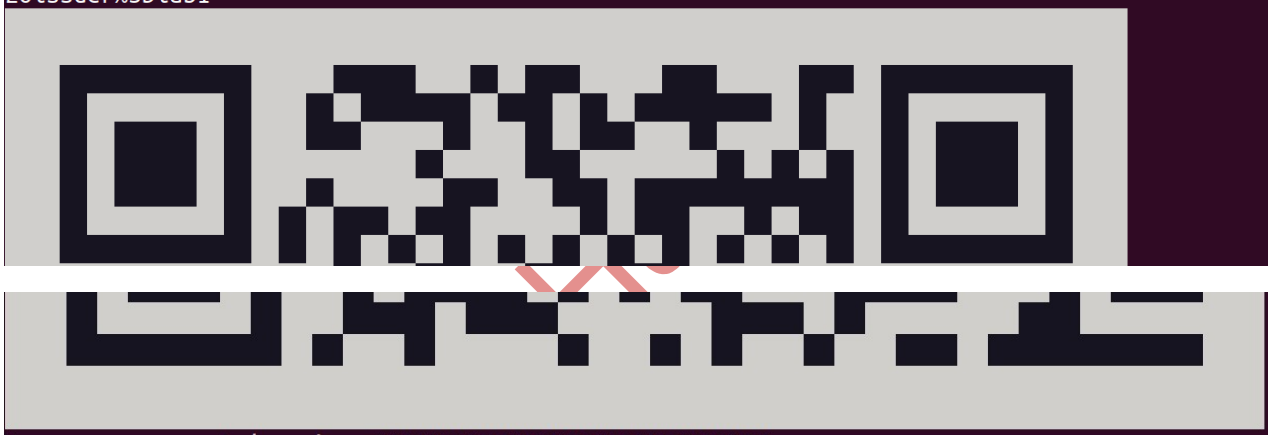
Screenshots





```
Enter choise [0-2]: 2

_____________________________________Information_____________________________________

You want to configure secure shell multifactor authentication.
Keep in mind that, this script enforce multifactor authentication by default for all users.
You can modify this configuration, for more information read the README.md file.
____________________________________________________________________________________

Do you want to continue (y/n)?
```

```
Do you want to continue (y/n)? y

[Task 0] : Gathering operating system and Secure Shell information
[Task 1] : Installing google-authenticator packages
Rocky distribution
[Task 2] : Checking if UsePAM yes and SELINUX is disabled
[Task 3] : Configuring Secure shell and PAM Secure Shell
[Task 4] : Restarting Secure Shell Service
[Task 5] : Configuring MFA Google Authenticator
Enter username : rocky
Warning: pasting the following URL into your browser exposes the OTP secret to Google:
  https://www.google.com/chart?chs=200x200&chld=M|0&cht=qr&chl=otpauth://totp/rocky@lab1%3Fsec
26issuer%3Dlab1
```



```
Your new secret key is: IAFVXA3Z4NYWK2VXSIYTPXWPO4
Enter code from app (-1 to skip): 195356
Code confirmed
Your emergency scratch codes are:
  51001842
  30572356
  34767809
  98754997
  88009633
  45869342
  48899242
  89696365
  77177153
  64343365
MFA Configured for rocky
[Task 6] : Successful
```

```
Do you want to continue (y/n)? y

[Task 0] : Gathering operating system and Secure Shell information
[Task 1] : Installing google-authenticator packages
Rocky distribution
[Task 2] : Checking if UsePAM yes and SELINUX is disabled
[Task 3] : Configuring Secure shell and PAM Secure Shell
[Task 4] : Restarting Secure Shell Service
[Task 5] : Configuring MFA Google Authenticator
Enter username : secops
User secops does not exist
[Task 6] : Successful
```

```
[redacted]:~$ ssh rocky@192.168[redacted]157
 ____  _____ ____ _   _ ____  _____  ____  _   _ _____ _     _
/ ___|| ____/ ___| | | |  _ \| ____|/ ___|| | | | ____| |   | |
\___ \|  _|| |   | | | | |_) |  _|  \___ \| |_| |  _| | |   | |
 ___) | |__| |___| |_| |  _ <| |___  ___) |  _  | |___| |___| |___
|____/|_____\____|\___/|_| \_\_____||____/|_| |_|_____|_____|_____|

Welcome to the Secure Shell, All activity is monitored and recorded.
If you are not an authorized person, please log out immediately.
Unauthorized access will be investigated and punished according of the law.

(rocky@192.168[redacted]157) Password:
(rocky@192.168[redacted]157) Verification code:
Last failed login: Sat Nov  1 07:47:45 CET 2025 from 192.168.[redacted]186 on ssh:notty
There was 1 failed login attempt since the last successful login.
[rocky@lab1 ~]$
```