HTTP Requests

In the previous section, we found out that the `secret.js` main function is sending an empty `POST` request to `/serial.php`. In this section, we will attempt to do the same using `cURL` to send a `POST` request to `/serial.php`. To learn more about `cURL` and web requests, you can check out the Web Requests module.

cURL

`cURL` is a powerful command-line tool used in Linux distributions, macOS, and even the latest Windows PowerShell versions. We can request any website by simply providing its URL, and we would get it in text-format, as follows:

```
●  ●  ●                                    HTTP Requests

MisaelMacias@htb[/htb]$ curl http://SERVER_IP:PORT/

</html>
<!DOCTYPE html>

<head>
    <title>Secret Serial Generator</title>
    <style>
        *,
        html {
            margin: 0;
            padding: 0;
            border: 0;
...SNIP...
        <h1>Secret Serial Generator</h1>
        <p>This page generates secret serials!</p>
    </div>
</body>

</html>
```

This is the same `HTML` we went through when we checked the source code in the first section.

POST Request

To send a `POST` request, we should add the `-X POST` flag to our command, and it should send a `POST` request:

```
●  ●  ●                                    HTTP Requests

MisaelMacias@htb[/htb]$ curl -s http://SERVER_IP:PORT/ -X POST
```

> Tip: We add the "-s" flag to reduce cluttering the response with unnecessary data

However, `POST` request usually contains `POST` data. To send data, we can use the `-d "param1=sample"` flag and include our data for each parameter, as follows:

```
●  ●  ●                                    HTTP Requests

MisaelMacias@htb[/htb]$ curl -s http://SERVER_IP:PORT/ -X POST -d "param1=sample"
```

Now that we know how to use `cURL` to send basic `POST` requests, in the next section, we will utilize this to replicate what `server.js` is doing to understand its purpose better.

🔒 Connect to Pwnbox
Your own web-based Parrot Linux instance to play our labs.

Pwnbox Location

| UK | 162ms ▾ |

ⓘ Terminate Pwnbox to switch location

Start Instance

∞ / 1 spawns left

📄 Cheat Sheet

? Go to Questions

My Workstation

OFFLINE

⏻ Start Instance

∞ / 1 spawns left

Enable step-by-step solutions for all questions ⓘ

Questions

Answer the question(s) below to complete this Section and earn cubes!

Cheat Sheet

Target(s): Click here to spawn the target system!

+1 ⬡ Try applying what you learned in this section by sending a 'POST' request to '/serial.php'. What is the response you get?

N2gxNV8xNV9hX3MzY3IzN19tMzU1NGGcz

Submit   Hint

← Previous   Next →

✓ Mark Complete & Next