

Application Under Test: Swag Labs (https://www.saucedemo.com/)

Date: 10th September 2025

Auditor: Collins Kwasi Adu

1. Executive Summary

The security audit was conducted on the Swag Labs web application to assess its resilience against common web-based threats.

The assessment focused on key user-facing features such as login, product search, product details, cart, and checkout.

Key Findings:

- Basic authentication and session handling mechanisms are in place.
- Several potential vulnerabilities were identified related to missing security headers, cross-domain configurations, and information disclosure.
- No evidence of strong protections against automated attacks such as brute force login attempts.

Overall Posture:

The application demonstrates moderate security for a demo e-commerce site but requires improvements in security headers, authentication hardening, and CI/CD security integration.

2. Scope

In-Scope:

- Frontend application at https://www.saucedemo.com/
- Features tested: User login/logout, Product catalog & search, Product details page, Shopping cart, Checkout workflow

Out-of-Scope:

- Backend APIs (not directly accessible)
- Payment gateway integrations (simulated only)
- Administrative interfaces (not available in demo app)

3. Methodology

The following approach was followed:

- ✓ Manual Inspection:
 - Input validation checks (HTML forms, URL manipulation).
 - Authentication/authorization handling (weak password tests, multiple login attempts).
 - Session management (cookie inspection, logout persistence).
- ✓ Automated Tools:
 - OWASP ZAP: Dynamic application security testing (DAST) scan.
 - Burp Suite (Community Edition): Manual interception of requests.
- ✓ Test Categories:
 - Cross-Site Scripting (XSS)
 - SQL Injection attempts
 - Cross-Site Request Forgery (CSRF) checks
 - Brute force / weak credentials
 - Error message information leakage

4. Vulnerabilities

ID	VULNERABILITY	DESCRIPTION	EVIDENCE	IMPACT
V-01	Content Security	The application does not set	ZAP Alert: CSP Header	Medium – Allows
	Policy (CSP)	a CSP header, increasing	Not Set (GET	potential XSS and
	Header Not Set	exposure to XSS and data	https://www.saucedemo.	data injection.
		injection.	com/)	
V-02	Missing Anti-	The app does not set X-	ZAP Alert: Missing Anti-	Medium – Enables
	Clickjacking	Frame-Options or CSP	clickjacking Header (GET	clickjacking
	Header	frame-ancestors directive.	https://www.saucedemo.	attacks.
			com/)	
V-03	Cross-Domain	Overly permissive CORS	ZAP Alert: Cross-Domain	Medium – May
	Misconfiguration	policy allows access from	Misconfiguration	allow cross-site
		untrusted origins.		exploitation of app
				functionality.
V-04	Strict-Transport-	The application does not	ZAP Alert: HSTS Header	Low - Weakens
	Security (HSTS)	enforce HSTS, exposing	Not Set	transport security
	Header Not Set	users to SSL stripping.		
V-05	X-Content-Type-	The app does not prevent	ZAP Alert: X-Content-	Low - Could allow
	Options Header	MIME type sniffing by	Type-Options Header	content-type
	Missing	browsers.	Missing	spoofing
V-06	Information	Suspicious comments in	ZAP Alert: Suspicious	Informational –
	Disclosure –	JavaScript files could reveal	Comments	May help attackers
	Suspicious	internal logic.	(static/js/chunk.js)	understand app
	Comments			behavior.

V-07	Retrieved from	Content retrieved from	ZAP Alert: Retrieved from	Informational -
	Cache	shared cache may expose	Cache	Risk of data
		sensitive data.		leakage in shared
				environments.
V-08	Modern Web	ZAP identified the app as a	ZAP Alert: Modern Web	Informational - No
	Application	modern SPA (Single Page	Application	direct risk, but
		Application).		requires AJAX
				spider for crawling.
V-09	User Agent	Responses differ based on	ZAP Alert: User Agent	Informational -
	Fuzzer	user agent header, may	Fuzzer	May allow
		expose fingerprinting		attackers to
		issues.		fingerprint
				users/systems

5. Risk Assessment and Prioritization

Risk Summary

✓ Medium Severity (3 findings)

- V-01: Content Security Policy (CSP) Header Not Set
- V-02: Missing Anti-Clickjacking Header
- V-03: Cross-Domain Misconfiguration

✓ Low Severity (2 findings)

- V-04: Strict-Transport-Security (HSTS) Header Not Set
- V-05: X-Content-Type-Options Header Missing

√ Informational (4 findings)

- V-06: Information Disclosure Suspicious Comments
- V-07: Retrieved from Cache
- V-08: Modern Web Application
- V-09: User Agent Fuzzer.

Remediation Priorities

1. High Priority (Fix Immediately)

- Implement CSP headers (V-01) to reduce risk of XSS and data injection.
- Add Anti-Clickjacking protections (V-02) to prevent UI redress attacks.
- Review and tighten CORS configuration (V-03) to prevent cross-site abuse.

2. Medium Priority (Next 2-3 sprints)

- Enforce HSTS headers (V-04) to mitigate SSL stripping risks.
- Add X-Content-Type-Options headers (V-05) to prevent MIME-type spoofing.

3. Low Priority (Ongoing monitoring)

- Review JavaScript comments and code disclosures (V-06).
- Control caching (V-07) for sensitive endpoints.
- Consider spider tuning for SPA crawling (V-08).
- Mitigate user-agent fingerprinting issues (V-09).

Overall Risk Posture

The Swag Labs demo app demonstrates moderate security with weaknesses mainly in HTTP response headers and cross-domain configuration. While no critical vulnerabilities were found, remediation should be prioritized around CSP, anti-clickjacking, and CORS settings to reduce exposure to common attacks.