# **Penetration Testing Report**

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**Program: HCS - Penetration Testing Internship Week-2** 

Date: 25/02/25

#### Introduction

This report document hereby describes the proceedings and results of a Black Box security assessment conducted against the **Week {2} Labs**. The report hereby lists the findings and corresponding best practice mitigation actions and recommendations.

# 1. Objective

The objective of the assessment was to uncover vulnerabilities in the **Week {2} Labs** and provide a final security assessment report comprising vulnerabilities, remediation strategy and recommendation guidelines to help mitigate the identified vulnerabilities and risks during the activity.

### 2. Scope

This section defines the scope and boundaries of the project.

Application	Lab 1 Name - SQL Injection, Lab 2 Name - Insecure Direct Object
Name	Reference.

# 3. Summary

Outlined is a Black Box Application Security assessment for the **Week {#} Labs**.

### Total number of Sub-labs: {count} Sub-labs

High	Medium	Low
4	6	6

High - 4

Medium - 6

Low - 6

# 1. SQL Injection

# 1.1. Strings & Errors Part 1

Reference	Risk Rating
Strings & Errors Part 1	Low

#### **Tools Used**

SQL Injection – SQL payloads

#### **Vulnerability Description**

SQL Injection (SQLi) is a web security vulnerability that allows an attacker to interfere with the queries that an application makes to its database. It occurs when an application improperly handles user input, enabling malicious SQL statements to be injected and executed within the database. This can lead to unauthorized access, data manipulation, or even complete control over the database.

#### **How It Was Discovered**

Manual Analysis – SQL payloads

#### **Vulnerable URLs**

https://labs.hacktify.in/HTML/sqli\_lab/lab\_1/lab\_1.php

#### **Consequences of not Fixing the Issue**

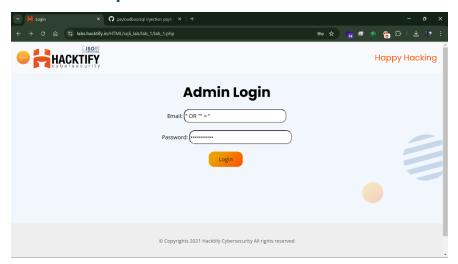
Failure to fix SQL Injection (SQLi) vulnerabilities can lead to severe consequences, including unauthorized data breaches, exposure of sensitive information (user credentials, financial data, personal records), and identity theft. Attackers can manipulate or delete critical data, bypass authentication, and gain administrative access to the database, potentially compromising the entire system. This can result in financial losses, legal penalties (due to GDPR, HIPAA, or PCI-DSS violations), reputational damage, and operational disruptions, ultimately endangering business continuity and user trust.

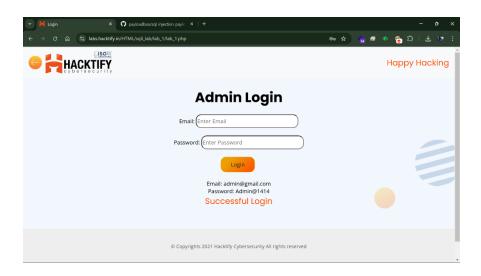
#### **Suggested Countermeasures**

To prevent SQL Injection (SQLi), use **prepared statements** (parameterized queries) and **stored procedures** to separate SQL code from user input. Implement **input validation** to restrict unexpected characters and enforce strict data types. Apply the **principle of least privilege** (PoLP) to limit database user permissions. Use **web application firewalls** (WAFs) to detect and block SQLi attempts. Regularly perform **security testing** (penetration testing, code reviews, and automated scans) to identify and remediate vulnerabilities before attackers exploit them.

#### References

https://github.com/payloadbox/sql-injection-payload-list





# 1.2 Strings & Errors Part 2

Reference	Risk Rating
Strings & Errors Part 2	Low

#### **Tools Used**

SQL Injection - SQL Payloads

#### **Vulnerability Description**

SQL Injection (SQLi) is a web security vulnerability that allows an attacker to interfere with the queries that an application makes to its database. It occurs when an application improperly handles user input, enabling malicious SQL statements to be injected and executed within the database. This can lead to unauthorized access, data manipulation, or even complete control over the database.

#### **How It Was Discovered**

Manual Analysis – SQL Payloads :- by changing id number.

#### **Vulnerable URLs**

https://labs.hacktify.in/HTML/sqli\_lab/lab\_2/lab\_2.php

#### **Consequences of not Fixing the Issue**

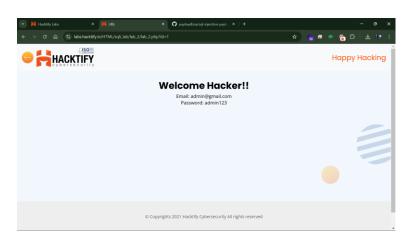
Failure to fix SQL Injection (SQLi) vulnerabilities can lead to severe consequences, including unauthorized data breaches, exposure of sensitive information (user credentials, financial data, personal records), and identity theft. Attackers can manipulate or delete critical data, bypass authentication, and gain administrative access to the database, potentially compromising the entire system. This can result in financial losses, legal penalties (due to GDPR, HIPAA, or PCI-DSS violations), reputational damage, and operational disruptions, ultimately endangering business continuity and user trust.

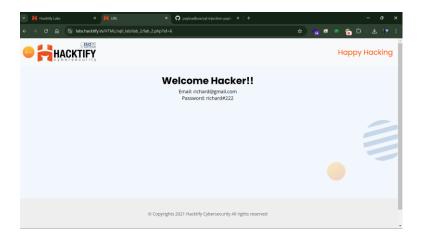
#### **Suggested Countermeasures**

To prevent SQL Injection (SQLi), use **prepared statements** (parameterized queries) and **stored procedures** to separate SQL code from user input. Implement **input validation** to restrict unexpected characters and enforce strict data types. Apply the **principle of least privilege (PoLP)** to limit database user permissions. Use **web application firewalls (WAFs)** to detect and block SQLi attempts. Regularly perform **security testing (penetration testing, code reviews, and automated scans)** to identify and remediate vulnerabilities before attackers exploit them.

#### References

https://github.com/payloadbox/sql-injection-payload-list





# 1.3 Strings & Errors Part 3

Reference	Risk Rating
Strings & Errors Part 3	Low

#### **Tools Used**

SQL Injection – SQL Payloads

#### **Vulnerability Description**

SQL Injection (SQLi) is a web security vulnerability that allows an attacker to interfere with the queries that an application makes to its database. It occurs when an application improperly handles user input, enabling malicious SQL statements to be injected and executed within the database. This can lead to unauthorized access, data manipulation, or even complete control over the database.

#### **How It Was Discovered**

Manual Analysis – SQL Payloads :- by changing id parameter with numeric values.

#### **Vulnerable URLs**

https://labs.hacktify.in/HTML/sqli\_lab/lab\_3/lab\_3.php

#### **Consequences of not Fixing the Issue**

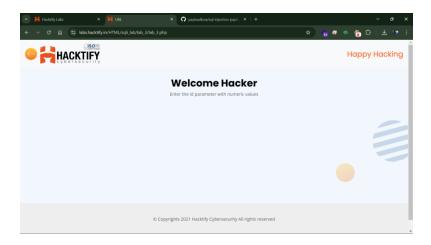
Failure to fix SQL Injection (SQLi) vulnerabilities can lead to severe consequences, including unauthorized data breaches, exposure of sensitive information (user credentials, financial data, personal records), and identity theft. Attackers can manipulate or delete critical data, bypass authentication, and gain administrative access to the database, potentially compromising the entire system. This can result in financial losses, legal penalties (due to GDPR, HIPAA, or PCI-DSS violations), reputational damage, and operational disruptions, ultimately endangering business continuity and user trust.

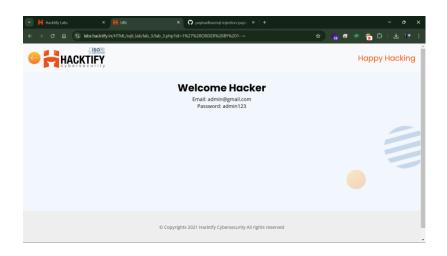
### **Suggested Countermeasures**

To prevent SQL Injection (SQLi), use **prepared statements** (parameterized queries) and **stored procedures** to separate SQL code from user input. Implement **input validation** to restrict unexpected characters and enforce strict data types. Apply the **principle of least privilege (PoLP)** to limit database user permissions. Use **web application firewalls (WAFs)** to detect and block SQLi attempts. Regularly perform **security testing (penetration testing, code reviews, and automated scans)** to identify and remediate vulnerabilities before attackers exploit them.

#### References

https://github.com/payloadbox/sql-injection-payload-list





### 1.4 Let's Trick 'em!

Reference	Risk Rating
Let's Trick 'em!	Medium

#### **Tools Used**

SQL Injection – SQL payloads

#### **Vulnerability Description**

SQL Injection (SQLi) is a web security vulnerability that allows an attacker to interfere with the queries that an application makes to its database. It occurs when an application improperly handles user input, enabling malicious SQL statements to be injected and executed within the database. This can lead to unauthorized access, data manipulation, or even complete control over the database.

#### **How It Was Discovered**

Manual Analysis – SQL payloads

#### **Vulnerable URLs**

https://labs.hacktify.in/HTML/sqli\_lab/lab\_4/lab\_4.php

#### **Consequences of not Fixing the Issue**

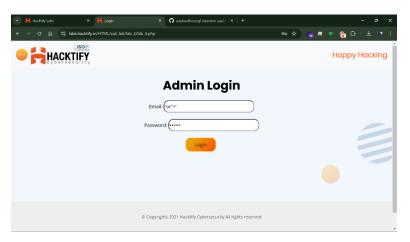
Failure to fix SQL Injection (SQLi) vulnerabilities can lead to severe consequences, including unauthorized data breaches, exposure of sensitive information (user credentials, financial data, personal records), and identity theft. Attackers can manipulate or delete critical data, bypass authentication, and gain administrative access to the database, potentially compromising the entire system. This can result in financial losses, legal penalties (due to GDPR, HIPAA, or PCI-DSS violations), reputational damage, and operational disruptions, ultimately endangering business continuity and user trust.

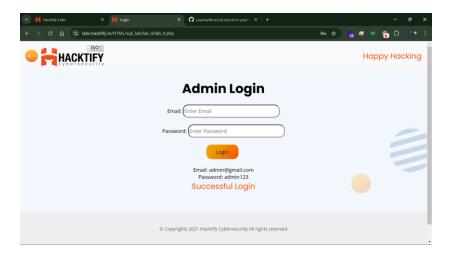
#### **Suggested Countermeasures**

To prevent SQL Injection (SQLi), use **prepared statements** (parameterized queries) and **stored procedures** to separate SQL code from user input. Implement **input validation** to restrict unexpected characters and enforce strict data types. Apply the **principle of least privilege (PoLP)** to limit database user permissions. Use **web application firewalls (WAFs)** to detect and block SQLi attempts. Regularly perform **security testing (penetration testing, code reviews, and automated scans)** to identify and remediate vulnerabilities before attackers exploit them.

#### References

https://github.com/payloadbox/sql-injection-payload-list





### 1.5 Booleans and Blind!

Reference	Risk Rating
Booleans and Blind!	Medium

#### **Tools Used**

SQL Injection – SQL Payloads

#### **Vulnerability Description**

SQL Injection (SQLi) is a web security vulnerability that allows an attacker to interfere with the queries that an application makes to its database. It occurs when an application improperly handles user input, enabling malicious SQL statements to be injected and executed within the database. This can lead to unauthorized access, data manipulation, or even complete control over the database.

#### **How It Was Discovered**

Manual Analysis – SQL Payloads :- by changing id parameter with numeric values.

#### **Vulnerable URLs**

https://labs.hacktify.in/HTML/sqli\_lab/lab\_5/lab\_5.php

#### **Consequences of not Fixing the Issue**

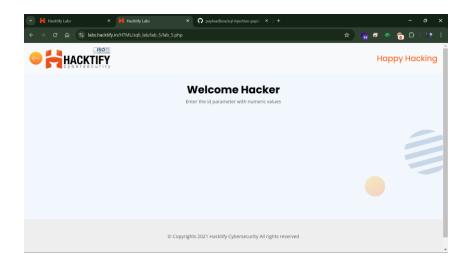
Failure to fix SQL Injection (SQLi) vulnerabilities can lead to severe consequences, including unauthorized data breaches, exposure of sensitive information (user credentials, financial data, personal records), and identity theft. Attackers can manipulate or delete critical data, bypass authentication, and gain administrative access to the database, potentially compromising the entire system. This can result in financial losses, legal penalties (due to GDPR, HIPAA, or PCI-DSS violations), reputational damage, and operational disruptions, ultimately endangering business continuity and user trust.

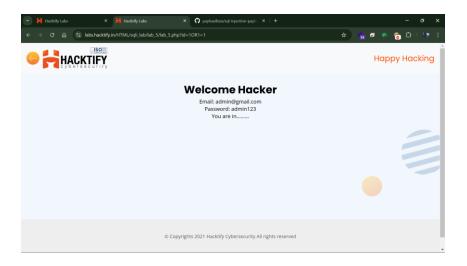
#### **Suggested Countermeasures**

To prevent SQL Injection (SQLi), use **prepared statements** (parameterized queries) and **stored procedures** to separate SQL code from user input. Implement **input validation** to restrict unexpected characters and enforce strict data types. Apply the **principle of least privilege (PoLP)** to limit database user permissions. Use **web application firewalls (WAFs)** to detect and block SQLi attempts. Regularly perform **security testing (penetration testing, code reviews, and automated scans)** to identify and remediate vulnerabilities before attackers exploit them.

#### **References**

https://github.com/payloadbox/sql-injection-payload-list





### 1.6 Error Based: Tricked

Reference	Risk Rating
Error Based: Tricked	Medium

#### **Tools Used**

SQL Injection – SQL payloads

#### **Vulnerability Description**

SQL Injection (SQLi) is a web security vulnerability that allows an attacker to interfere with the queries that an application makes to its database. It occurs when an application improperly handles user input, enabling malicious SQL statements to be injected and executed within the database. This can lead to unauthorized access, data manipulation, or even complete control over the database.

#### **How It Was Discovered**

Manual Analysis – SQL payloads

#### **Vulnerable URLs**

https://labs.hacktify.in/HTML/sqli\_lab/lab\_6/lab\_6.php

#### **Consequences of not Fixing the Issue**

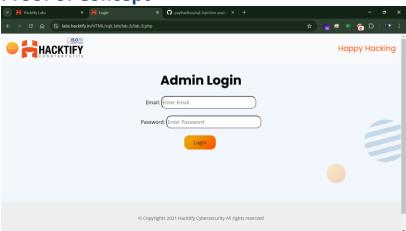
Failure to fix SQL Injection (SQLi) vulnerabilities can lead to severe consequences, including unauthorized data breaches, exposure of sensitive information (user credentials, financial data, personal records), and identity theft. Attackers can manipulate or delete critical data, bypass authentication, and gain administrative access to the database, potentially compromising the entire system. This can result in financial losses, legal penalties (due to GDPR, HIPAA, or PCI-DSS violations), reputational damage, and operational disruptions, ultimately endangering business continuity and user trust.

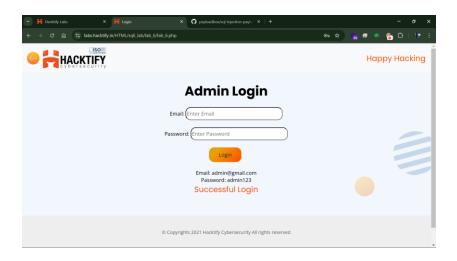
#### **Suggested Countermeasures**

To prevent SQL Injection (SQLi), use **prepared statements** (parameterized queries) and **stored procedures** to separate SQL code from user input. Implement **input validation** to restrict unexpected characters and enforce strict data types. Apply the **principle of least privilege (PoLP)** to limit database user permissions. Use **web application firewalls (WAFs)** to detect and block SQLi attempts. Regularly perform **security testing (penetration testing, code reviews, and automated scans)** to identify and remediate vulnerabilities before attackers exploit them.

#### References

https://github.com/payloadbox/sql-injection-payload-list





### 1.7 Errors and Post!

Reference	Risk Rating
Errors and Post!	Low
Tools Used	

SQL Injection – SQL payloads

#### **Vulnerability Description**

SQL Injection (SQLi) is a web security vulnerability that allows an attacker to interfere with the queries that an application makes to its database. It occurs when an application improperly handles user input, enabling malicious SQL statements to be injected and executed within the database. This can lead to unauthorized access, data manipulation, or even complete control over the database.

#### **How It Was Discovered**

Manual Analysis – SQL payloads

#### **Vulnerable URLs**

https://labs.hacktify.in/HTML/sqli\_lab/lab\_7/lab\_7.php

#### **Consequences of not Fixing the Issue**

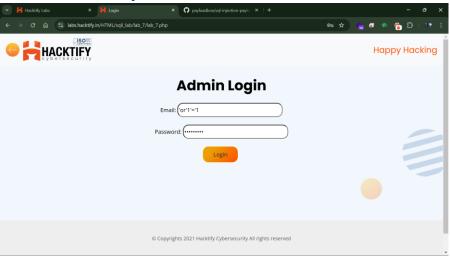
Failure to fix SQL Injection (SQLi) vulnerabilities can lead to severe consequences, including unauthorized data breaches, exposure of sensitive information (user credentials, financial data, personal records), and identity theft. Attackers can manipulate or delete critical data, bypass authentication, and gain administrative access to the database, potentially compromising the entire system. This can result in financial losses, legal penalties (due to GDPR, HIPAA, or PCI-DSS violations), reputational damage, and operational disruptions, ultimately endangering business continuity and user trust.

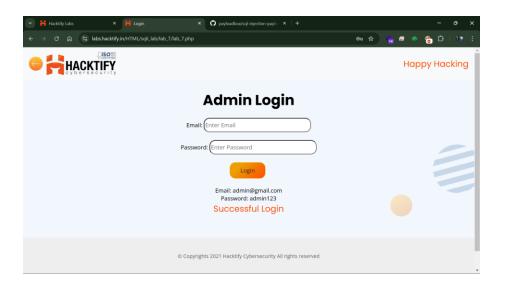
#### **Suggested Countermeasures**

To prevent SQL Injection (SQLi), use prepared statements (parameterized queries) and stored procedures to separate SQL code from user input. Implement input validation to restrict unexpected characters and enforce strict data types. Apply the principle of least privilege (PoLP) to limit database user permissions. Use web application firewalls (WAFs) to detect and block SQLi attempts. Regularly perform security testing (penetration testing, code reviews, and automated scans) to identify and remediate vulnerabilities before attackers exploit them.

#### References

https://github.com/payloadbox/sql-injection-payload-list





# 1.8 User Agents lead us!

Reference	Risk Rating
User Agents lead us!	High
Tools Used	

SQL payloads, Burpsuite

#### **Vulnerability Description**

This type of **SQL Injection (SQLi)** occurs when a web application dynamically constructs SQL queries using **unsanitized user input**, allowing attackers to manipulate the logic of the query. By injecting a condition like " **OR** "1"="1, which always evaluates to **true**, an attacker can **bypass authentication**, access restricted data, or modify the application's behavior.

#### **How It Was Discovered**

Manual Analysis – SQL payloads and modifying the request.

#### **Vulnerable URLs**

https://labs.hacktify.in/HTML/sqli\_lab/lab\_8/lab\_8.php

#### Consequences of not Fixing the Issue

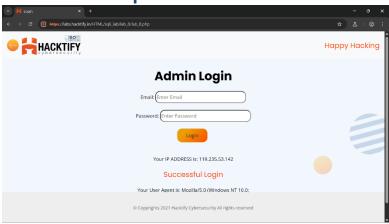
Failure to fix this **SQL Injection (SQLi) vulnerability** can lead to **authentication bypass**, allowing attackers to log in as **any user**, including administrators. This can result in **unauthorized access to sensitive data**, **data breaches**, **account takeovers**, and even **full system compromise**. Attackers may also **modify or delete records**, leading to **data loss** and **service disruptions**. Additionally, organizations risk **legal penalties** for failing to protect user data (e.g., GDPR, HIPAA) and **reputation damage**, which can result in financial losses and loss of customer trust.

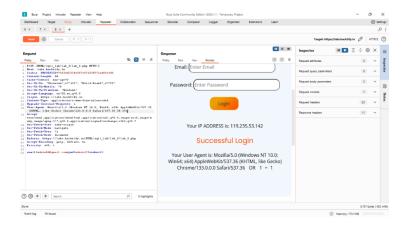
### **Suggested Countermeasures**

To prevent this SQL Injection (SQLi) vulnerability, use prepared statements (parameterized queries) to separate SQL logic from user input, ensuring inputs are treated as data rather than executable code. Implement input validation by restricting special characters and enforcing strict data types. Apply least privilege principles to database accounts, limiting access to only necessary operations. Use Web Application Firewalls (WAFs) to detect and block SQLi attempts in real time. Regularly conduct security audits, penetration testing, and code reviews to identify and patch vulnerabilities before attackers exploit them.

#### References

https://owasp.org/www-community/attacks/SQL Injection





### 1.9 Referer lead us!

Reference	Risk Rating
User Agents lead us!	Medium

#### **Tools Used**

SQL payloads, Burpsuite

#### **Vulnerability Description**

This type of **SQL Injection (SQLi)** occurs when a web application dynamically constructs SQL queries using **unsanitized user input**, allowing attackers to manipulate the logic of the query. By injecting a condition like "**Happy Hacking**", which always evaluates to **true**, an attacker can **bypass authentication**, access restricted data, or modify the application's behavior.

#### **How It Was Discovered**

Manual Analysis – SQL payloads and modifying the request.

#### **Vulnerable URLs**

https://labs.hacktify.in/HTML/sqli\_lab/lab\_9/lab\_9.php

#### **Consequences of not Fixing the Issue**

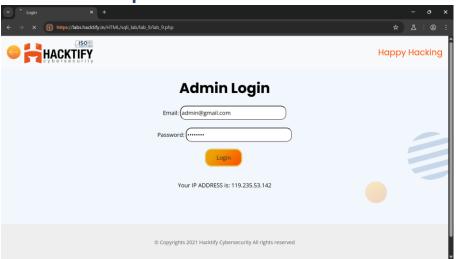
Failure to fix this **SQL Injection (SQLi) vulnerability** can lead to **authentication bypass**, allowing attackers to log in as **any user**, including administrators. This can result in **unauthorized access to sensitive data**, **data breaches**, **account takeovers**, and even **full system compromise**. Attackers may also **modify or delete records**, leading to **data loss** and **service disruptions**. Additionally, organizations risk **legal penalties** for failing to protect user data (e.g., GDPR, HIPAA) and **reputation damage**, which can result in financial losses and loss of customer trust.

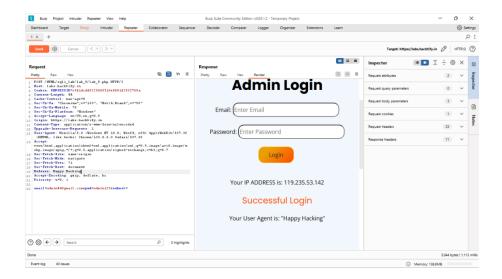
#### **Suggested Countermeasures**

To prevent this SQL Injection (SQLi) vulnerability, use prepared statements (parameterized queries) to separate SQL logic from user input, ensuring inputs are treated as data rather than executable code. Implement input validation by restricting special characters and enforcing strict data types. Apply least privilege principles to database accounts, limiting access to only necessary operations. Use Web Application Firewalls (WAFs) to detect and block SQLi attempts in real time. Regularly conduct security audits, penetration testing, and code reviews to identify and patch vulnerabilities before attackers exploit them.

#### References

https://owasp.org/www-community/attacks/SQL Injection





### 1.10 oh Cookies!

Reference	Risk Rating
Oh Cookies!	High

#### **Tools Used**

SQL payloads ,Burpsuite

#### **Vulnerability Description**

SQL Injection via cookies occurs when user-controlled cookie values are directly used in database queries without proper validation. Attackers can modify the cookie to inject SQL payloads, allowing unauthorized access to database information. In this lab, modifying the `id` value in the cookie enabled retrieval of the database version, user, and name, demonstrating a critical security flaw.

#### **How It Was Discovered**

Manual Analysis – SQL payloads and modifying the request.

#### **Vulnerable URLs**

https://labs.hacktify.in/HTML/sqli\_lab/lab\_10/lab\_10.php

#### **Consequences of not Fixing the Issue**

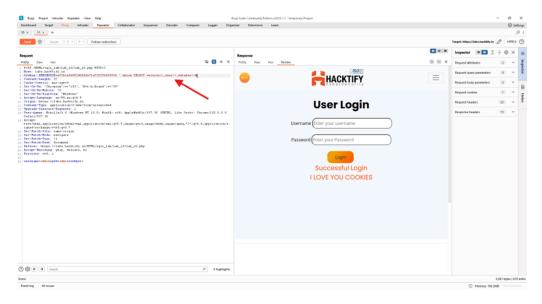
Failing to fix this SQL Injection vulnerability can lead to data leaks, unauthorized access, and database manipulation. Attackers may escalate privileges, deface the website, or inject malware. Organizations could also face legal penalties for non-compliance with data protection regulations.

#### **Suggested Countermeasures**

To prevent this SQL Injection (SQLi) vulnerability, use prepared statements (parameterized queries) to separate SQL logic from user input, ensuring inputs are treated as data rather than executable code. Implement input validation by restricting special characters and enforcing strict data types. Apply least privilege principles to database accounts, limiting access to only necessary operations. Use Web Application Firewalls (WAFs) to detect and block SQLi attempts in real time. Regularly conduct security audits, penetration testing, and code reviews to identify and patch vulnerabilities before attackers exploit them.

#### References

https://owasp.org/www-project-cheat-sheets/



# 1.11 WAF's are Injected!

Reference	Risk Rating	
WAF's are Injected!	High	
Tools Used		
SQL payloads		

# **Vulnerability Description**

In this lab, the application is protected by a Web Application Firewall (WAF), but the underlying SQL Injection vulnerability still exists. By crafting a payload that bypasses the WAF, the attacker is able to extract sensitive data.

#### **How It Was Discovered**

Manual Analysis – SQL payloads and modifying the URL as **SQL payloads -- id=1&id=0' union select 1,@@version,database()--+** 

#### **Vulnerable URLs**

https://labs.hacktify.in/HTML/sqli lab/lab 11/lab 11.php

### **Consequences of not Fixing the Issue**

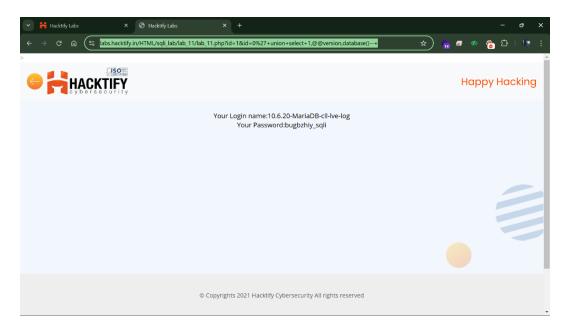
If this vulnerability is left unaddressed, attackers could bypass security measures like the WAF and execute arbitrary SQL queries, potentially exposing sensitive information such as login credentials and system details. This may lead to unauthorized access, data manipulation, and full system compromise.

#### **Suggested Countermeasures**

To prevent SQL Injection and bypassing of security measures like WAFs, applications should implement parameterized queries and prepared statements to ensure user inputs are not directly executed in SQL queries. Input validation and sanitization should be enforced to filter and reject any malicious inputs. Additionally, WAF rules must be regularly updated and fine-tuned to detect advanced SQL Injection techniques. Developers should avoid exposing sensitive database information in error messages and restrict database privileges to minimize potential damage. Regular security audits and penetration testing should also be conducted to identify and fix vulnerabilities before attackers can exploit them.

#### References

https://www.cloudflare.com/learning/security/web-application-firewall-waf/



### 1.11 WAF's are Injected Part 2!

Reference	Risk Rating	
WAF's are Injected!	Medium	
Tools Used		
SQL payloads		
Vulnerability Description		

In this lab, the application is protected by a Web Application Firewall (WAF), but the underlying SQL Injection vulnerability still exists. By crafting a payload that bypasses the WAF, the attacker

#### **How It Was Discovered**

s able to extract sensitive data.

Manual Analysis – SQL payloads and modifying the URL as SQL payloads -id=1&?id-0

#### **Vulnerable URLs**

https://labs.hacktify.in/HTML/sqli\_lab/lab\_12/lab\_12.php

#### **Consequences of not Fixing the Issue**

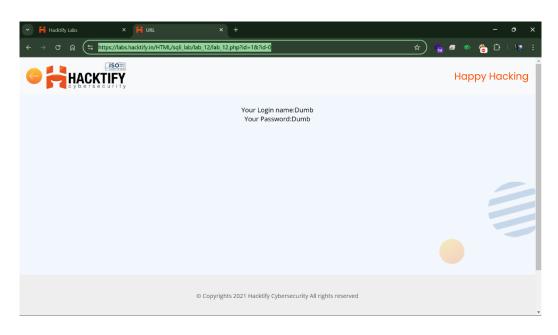
If this vulnerability is left unaddressed, attackers could bypass security measures like the WAF and execute arbitrary SQL queries, potentially exposing sensitive information such as login credentials and system details. This may lead to unauthorized access, data manipulation, and full system compromise.

#### **Suggested Countermeasures**

To prevent SQL Injection and bypassing of security measures like WAFs, applications should implement parameterized queries and prepared statements to ensure user inputs are not directly executed in SQL queries. Input validation and sanitization should be enforced to filter and reject any malicious inputs. Additionally, WAF rules must be regularly updated and fine-tuned to detect advanced SQL Injection techniques. Developers should avoid exposing sensitive database information in error messages and restrict database privileges to minimize potential damage. Regular security audits and penetration testing should also be conducted to identify and fix vulnerabilities before attackers can exploit them.

#### References

https://www.cloudflare.com/learning/security/web-application-firewall-waf/



# 2. Insecure Direct Object References

# 2.1. Give me my amount!!

Reference	Risk Rating
Give me my amount!!	Low
Tools Used	
Burpsuite	

#### **Vulnerability Description**

Insecure Direct Object Reference (IDOR) is a security vulnerability that occurs when an application provides direct access to objects (e.g., database records, files, or URLs) based on user-supplied input without proper authorization checks. This can allow attackers to manipulate parameters and gain unauthorized access or modify data.

#### **How It Was Discovered**

Automated Tools – Burpsuite: by modifying the request.

#### Vulnerable URLs

https://labs.hacktify.in/HTML/idor\_lab/lab\_1/profile.php?id=2092

#### **Consequences of not Fixing the Issue**

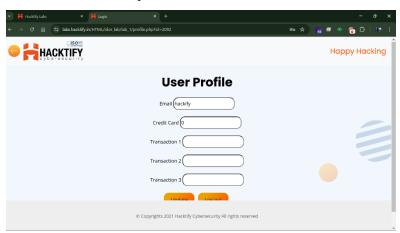
If an IDOR vulnerability allowing transaction modification is not fixed, it can lead to severe financial losses, as attackers may exploit it to purchase products or services at reduced prices, receive inflated refunds, or manipulate account balances. This can result in revenue loss, legal liabilities, and regulatory penalties for failing to secure financial transactions. Additionally, businesses may suffer reputational damage, loss of customer trust, and potential exploitation by fraudsters. If left unaddressed, attackers can automate the exploit, causing widespread abuse, impacting the company's financial stability, and leading to severe security breaches.

#### **Suggested Countermeasures**

To prevent IDOR vulnerabilities, implement **server-side validation** to ensure transaction amounts cannot be modified by users, enforce **strict access controls** to verify user permissions, and use **indirect object references** (e.g., mapping IDs instead of exposing them directly). Additionally, log and monitor suspicious activities, apply **input validation**, and conduct **regular security audits** to detect and fix vulnerabilities before exploitation.

#### References

https://owasp.org/www-community/attacks/Indirect\_Object\_Reference\_Map





# 2.2 Stop Polluting my Params!

Reference	Risk Rating
Stop Polluting my Params!	Medium
The first of the state of the s	

#### **Tools Used**

**SQL Payloads** 

#### **Vulnerability Description**

The vulnerability in this scenario is **Insecure Direct Object Reference (IDOR)**, where an attacker can access other users' names by modifying the **ID parameter** in the request. This occurs because the application directly references user records based on a numerical ID without proper authorization checks. By incrementing or decrementing the ID, an attacker can enumerate and retrieve other users' personal details, leading to **privacy violations**, **unauthorized data access**, **and potential identity theft**. This flaw stems from **improper access control** and can be mitigated by implementing **proper authentication**, **role-based access control** (**RBAC**), **and object-level authorization checks**.

### **How It Was Discovered**

Manual Analysis – By Modifying the id number.

#### **Vulnerable URLs**

https://labs.hacktify.in/HTML/idor\_lab/lab\_2/lab\_2.php

### **Consequences of not Fixing the Issue**

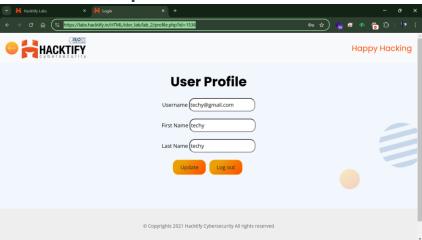
If an IDOR vulnerability exposing usernames is not fixed, attackers can enumerate and access other users' personal information, leading to **privacy breaches**, **identity theft**, **and unauthorized data exposure**. This can result in **compliance violations** (e.g., GDPR, CCPA), legal consequences, and **reputational damage** for the organization. Additionally, attackers may exploit this information for **social engineering attacks**, **phishing**, **or credential stuffing**, further compromising user security.

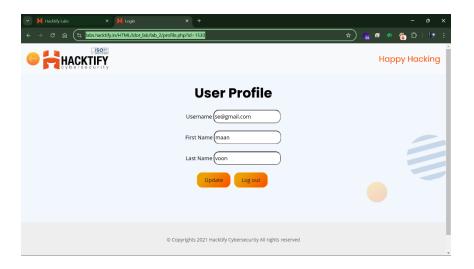
#### **Suggested Countermeasures**

To mitigate IDOR vulnerabilities, implement **proper access controls** by enforcing **object-level authorization checks** to ensure users can only access their own data. Use **indirect object references** (e.g., UUIDs instead of sequential IDs) to prevent enumeration, and apply **server-side validation** to verify user permissions before serving requested data. Additionally, enable **logging and monitoring** to detect unauthorized access attempts, conduct **regular security audits and penetration testing**, and follow **least privilege principles** to minimize data exposure risks.

#### References

https://owasp.org/Top10/A01\_2021-Broken\_Access\_Control/





# 2.3 Someone Changed my Password!

Reference	Risk Rating
Someone Changed my Password!	Low

#### **Tools Used**

**URL** Inspecter

#### **Vulnerability Description**

This vulnerability is a **Broken Access Control (IDOR in Password Reset Functionality)** issue, where the application allows users to change their password but fails to enforce proper authorization checks. By modifying the **username parameter in the URL**, an attacker can reset another user's password without authentication, leading to **account takeover**. This occurs due to **lack of user session validation and improper access controls** when handling password change requests. Exploiting this flaw allows an attacker to lock users out of their accounts, gain unauthorized access, and potentially escalate privileges within the system.

#### **How It Was Discovered**

Manual Analysis – By Modifying the usernames.

#### **Vulnerable URLs**

https://labs.hacktify.in/HTML/idor\_lab/lab\_3/lab\_3.php

#### **Consequences of not Fixing the Issue**

If this Broken Access Control (IDOR in Password Reset Functionality) vulnerability is not fixed, attackers can take over user accounts by changing their passwords, leading to unauthorized access, data theft, and identity fraud. This can result in loss of sensitive user data, financial fraud, reputational damage, and legal consequences due to non-compliance with security regulations (e.g., GDPR, CCPA). Additionally, if administrative accounts are compromised, attackers may escalate privileges, potentially gaining full control over the system, leading to widespread data breaches and service disruption.

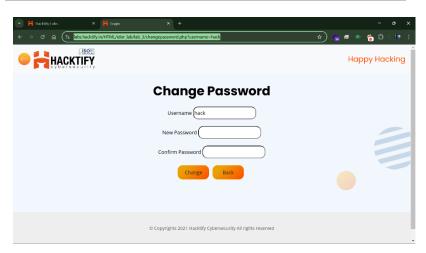
#### **Suggested Countermeasures**

To mitigate this Broken Access Control (IDOR in Password Reset Functionality) vulnerability, implement strict authorization checks to ensure users can only update their own passwords. Enforce session-based authentication and verify the requesting user's identity before processing password changes. Use server-side validation to reject unauthorized modifications to usernames in the URL or request body. Implement multi-factor authentication (MFA) to prevent unauthorized access even if passwords are compromised. Additionally, log and monitor password change attempts for suspicious activity, and conduct regular security audits and penetration testing to detect and fix such vulnerabilities.

#### References

https://owasp.org/Top10/A01 2021-Broken Access Control/





# 2.4 Change your Methods!

Reference	Risk Rating
Change your Methods!	Medium

#### **Tools Used**

**URL** Inspector

#### **Vulnerability Description**

This vulnerability is an **Insecure Direct Object Reference (IDOR)** issue, where the application allows users to update their **first name and last name** by modifying the **ID parameter in the URL** without proper authorization checks. Since the server does not validate whether the user has permission to edit another user's profile, an attacker can change anyone's personal details by simply altering the **user ID**. This flaw results from **lack of access controls at the object level** and can lead to **identity manipulation**, **data integrity issues**, **and unauthorized profile modifications**.

#### **How It Was Discovered**

Manual Analysis – By Modifying the usernames.

#### **Vulnerable URLs**

https://labs.hacktify.in/HTML/idor\_lab/lab\_4/lab\_4.php

#### **Consequences of not Fixing the Issue**

If this IDOR vulnerability is not fixed, attackers can modify other users' personal details, leading to identity manipulation, reputational damage, and data integrity issues. Malicious actors could impersonate users, change sensitive information, or disrupt business operations by altering multiple accounts. In cases involving regulated data (e.g., GDPR, HIPAA, CCPA), this can result in legal penalties, compliance violations, and loss of user trust. Additionally, attackers may combine this with social engineering or phishing to escalate attacks, commit fraud, or bypass authentication mechanisms.

#### **Suggested Countermeasures**

To mitigate this IDOR vulnerability, implement proper access controls by ensuring that users can only modify their own profiles through server-side authorization checks. Use session-based authentication to verify user identity before processing updates, and avoid exposing user IDs in URLs by using indirect references (e.g., UUIDs or tokens). Implement role-based access control (RBAC) to restrict profile modifications, enforce input validation and logging, and conduct regular security audits and penetration testing to detect and fix such vulnerabilities proactively.

#### References

https://owasp.org/Top10/A01 2021-Broken Access Control/

