

WIFI HACKING 101

INTRODUCTION

Securing wireless networks is crucial in today's digital landscape, where Wi-Fi networks are pervasive and vulnerable to various attacks. Understanding how these attacks work is essential for both defending networks and testing their resilience. This report delves into the methodologies and tools used to attack WPA(2) networks, highlighting key techniques and considerations.

This report show my approach and findings on how I arrived to the answers to the questions. Let's get started.

What type of attack on the encryption can you perform on WPA(2) personal?

brute force

✓ Correct

It is mention that the WPA(2) will require both ESSID and password to get in and thus make dictionary attack difficult to crack.

So the only possible could be *Brute force*

Can this method be used to attack WPA2-EAP handshakes? (Yea/Nay)

Nay

✓ Correct

WPA2-EAP require to enter a username and password in order to connect. So it would be grinding to use Brute force attack So it is a *nay*

What three letter abbreviation is the technical term for the "wifi code/password/passphrase"?

PSK

✓ Correct

That is the Pre-Shared Key. This is used in WPA/WPA2-PSK and WPA3-PSK security protocols.

What's the minimum length of a WPA2 Personal password?

8

✓ Correct

In a couple of circumstances, I have tried to connect to different networks be it institutional or home networks, and when I am prompted for password, it requires me to input not less than 8 characters.

How do you put the interface "wlan0" into monitor mode with Aircrack tools? (Full command)

airmon-ng start wlan0

✓ Correct

First I confirmed the name of my network interface I am using using the iwconfig cmd. Then using the airmon-ng start <net-interface name> with sudo privileges, I was able to put my net interface into monitor mode as shown below.

```
(scr34tur3@Kali)-[~/Documents/hackthebox/reports/wifi-hacking-101]
$ iwconfig
lo          no wireless extensions.

eth0        no wireless extensions.

docker0     no wireless extensions.

wlan0       IEEE 802.11  ESSID:"Starlink"
            Mode:Managed  Frequency:5.24 GHz  Access Point: B2:E4:9F:39:CC:4A
            Bit Rate=780 Mb/s   Tx-Power=22 dBm
            Retry short limit:7   RTS thr:off   Fragment thr:off
            Power Management:on
            Link Quality=56/70  Signal level=-54 dBm
            Rx invalid nwid:0  Rx invalid crypt:0  Rx invalid frag:0
            Tx excessive retries:0  Invalid misc:52  Missed beacon:0

(scr34tur3@Kali)-[~/Documents/hackthebox/reports/wifi-hacking-101]
$ sudo airmon-ng start wlan0

Found 2 processes that could cause trouble.
Kill them using 'airmon-ng check kill' before putting
the card in monitor mode, they will interfere by changing channels
and sometimes putting the interface back in managed mode

    PID Name
    963 wpa_supplicant
    6187 NetworkManager

PHY      Interface      Driver      Chipset
phy0     wlan0                iwlwifi     Intel Corporation Wireless 8265 / 8275 (rev 78)
          (mac80211 monitor mode vif enabled for [phy0]wlan0 on [phy0]wlan0mon)
          (mac80211 station mode vif disabled for [phy0]wlan0)
```

What is the new interface name likely to be after you enable monitor mode?

wlan0mon

✓ Correct

I checked for this by running the iwconfig cmd as shown below.

```
(scr34tur3@Kali)-[~/Documents/hackthebox/reports/wifi-hacking-101]
$ iwconfig
lo          no wireless extensions.

eth0        no wireless extensions.

docker0     no wireless extensions.

wlan0mon    IEEE 802.11  Mode:Monitor  Frequency:2.457 GHz
            Retry short limit:7   RTS thr:off   Fragment thr:off
            Power Management:on

(scr34tur3@Kali)-[~/Documents/hackthebox/reports/wifi-hacking-101]
$
```

What do you do if other processes are currently trying to use that network adapter?

airmon-ng check kill

✓ Correct

Accessing the man page using the `man airmon-ng` cmd, I was able to see what I can do to kill other processes trying to use my network adapter.

```
AIRMON-NG(8)                                System Manager's Manual                                AIRMON-NG(8)

NAME
    airmon-ng - POSIX sh script designed to turn wireless cards into monitor mode.

SYNOPSIS
    airmon-ng <start|stop> <interface> [channel] airmon-ng <check> [kill]

DESCRIPTION
    airmon-ng This script can be used to enable monitor mode on wireless interfaces. It may also be used to go back from monitor mode to managed mode. Entering the airmon-ng command without parameters will show the interfaces status. It can also list/kill programs that can interfere with the wireless card operation.

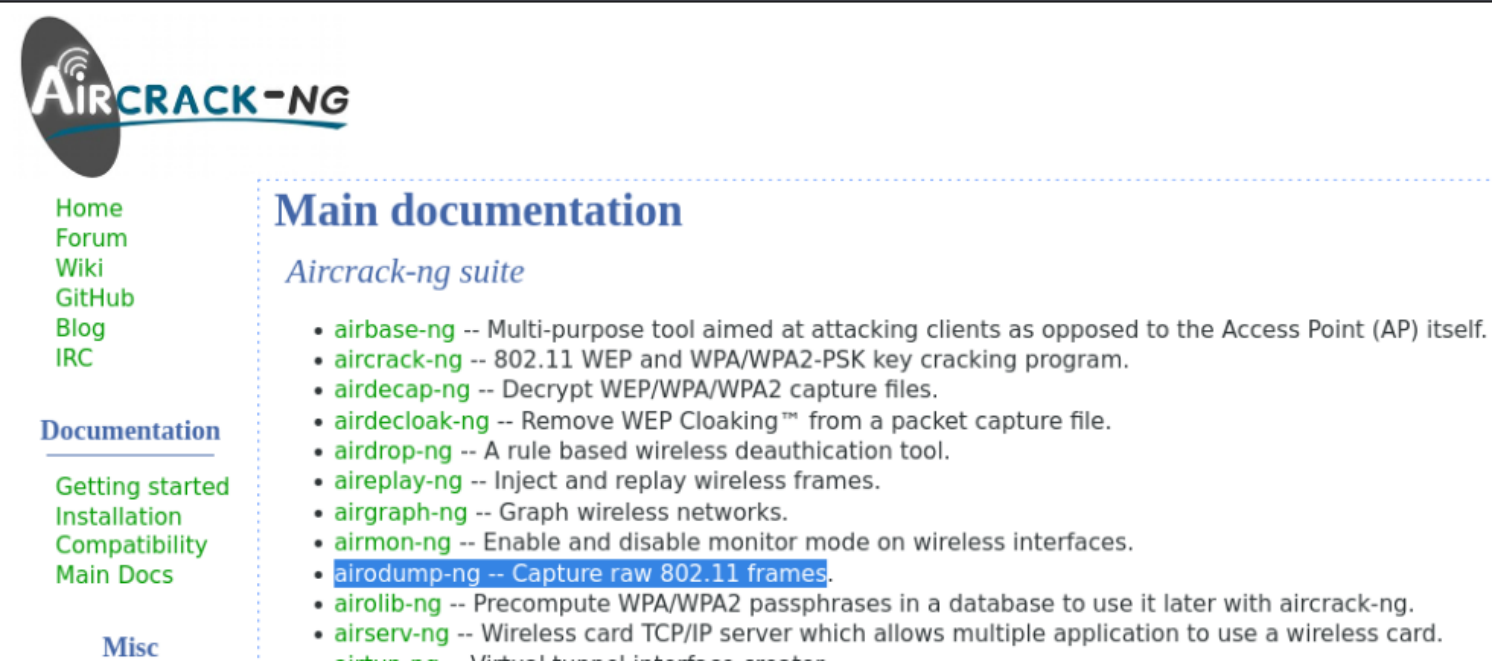
OPTIONAL PARAMETERS
    start <interface> [channel]
        Enable monitor mode on an interface (and specify a channel). Note: Madwifi-ng
```

What tool from the aircrack-ng suite is used to create a capture?

airodump-ng

✓ Correct

You can visit this website for the answer <https://www.aircrack-ng.org/documentation.html>



What flag do you use to set the BSSID to monitor?

--bssid

✓ Correct

This can be seen by visiting the man page of aircrack-ng as shown below.

OPTIONS

Common options:

-a <amode>

Force the attack mode: 1 or wep for WEP (802.11) and 2 or wpa for WPA/WPA2 PSK (802.11i and 802.11w).

-e <essid>

Select the target network based on the ESSID. This option is also required for WPA cracking if the SSID is cloaked. For SSID containing special characters, see https://www.aircrack-ng.org/doku.php?id=faq#how_to_use_spaces_double_quote_and_single_quote_etc_in_ap_names

-b <bssid> or --bssid <bssid>

Select the target network based on the access point MAC address.

And to set the channel?

✓ Correct

For us to set the channel, we can use -c or --channel flag as seen in the image below.

```
(root@Kali)-[/home/.../Documents/hackthebox/reports/wifi-hacking-101]
# airodump-ng wlan0mon -c 1 --bssid 68:D7:9A:71:9A:24 -w QWETU
```

And how do you tell it to capture packets to a file?

✓ Correct

Using the -w flag, we can write the captured packets into a file

```
(root@Kali)-[/home/.../Documents/hackthebox/reports/wifi-hacking-101]
# airodump-ng wlan0mon -c 1 --bssid 68:D7:9A:71:9A:24 -w QWETU
```

What flag do we use to specify a BSSID to attack?

✓ Correct

This can be found by checking the man page as seen below.

-b <bssid> or --bssid <bssid>

Select the target network based on the access point MAC address.

-p <nbcpu>

Set this option to the number of CPUs to use (only available on SMP systems) for cracking the key/passphrase. By default, it uses all available CPUs

-q If set, no status information is displayed.

-C <macs> or --combine <macs>

What flag do we use to specify a wordlist?

-W

✓ Correct

This can be found by on the man page of aircrack-ng as seen below.

WEP and WPA-PSK cracking options

-w <words>

Path to a dictionary file for wpa cracking. Separate filenames with comma w using multiple dictionaries. Specify "-" to use stdin. Here is a list wordlists: https://www.aircrack-ng.org/doku.php?id=faq#where_can_i_find_good_wordlists In order to use a d dictionary with hexadecimal values, prefix the dictionary with "h:". Each byte each key must be separated by ':'. When using with WEP, key length should specified using -n.

-N <file> or --new-session <file>

Create a new cracking session. It allows one to interrupt cracking session.

How do we create a HCCAPX in order to use hashcat to crack the password?

-j

✓ Correct

This can be found by visiting the man page of aircrack-ng as shown below.

WPA-PSK options:

-E <file>

Create Elcomsoft Wireless Security Auditor (EWSA) Project file v3.02.

-j <file>

Create Hashcat v3.6+ Capture file (HCCAPX).

-J <file>

Create Hashcat Capture file (HCCAP).

-S

WPA cracking speed test.

Using the rockyou wordlist, crack the password in the attached capture. What's the password?

greeneggsandham

✓ Correct

Having the .cap file with a wordlist file, I was able to perform a dictionary attack and retrieved the password as shown in the images below.

```
(root@Kali)-[/home/.../Documents/hackthebox/reports/wifi-hacking-101]
# aircrack-ng NinjaJc01-01.cap -w /usr/share/wordlists/rockyou.txt
Reading packets, please wait...
Opening NinjaJc01-01.cap
Read 589 packets.

# BSSID          ESSID          Encryption
1 02:1A:11:FF:D9:BD James Honor 8    WPA (1 handshake)

Choosing first network as target.

Reading packets, please wait...
Opening NinjaJc01-01.cap
Read 589 packets.

1 potential targets
```

```
root@Kali: /home/scr34tur3/Documents/hackthebox/reports/wifi-hacking-101 116x55
Aircrack-ng 1.7

[00:00:39] 135524/14344392 keys tested (3479.40 k/s)
Time left: 1 hour, 8 minutes, 3 seconds 0.94%

KEY FOUND! [ greeneggsandham ]

Master Key      : 71 5F 17 D1 D7 9E 70 4D 6E 2E 9C AD 46 F5 45 F5
                  AF 5E 43 48 16 F9 5B AA 14 8F 39 AA FC 5E EB 3B

Transient Key   : B9 F6 A8 68 1A 85 C3 1C 16 30 0E 57 1A 6B B2 08
                  B4 5B 3F A4 86 13 3B 59 DA 2D E2 00 00 00 00 00
                  00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
                  00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00

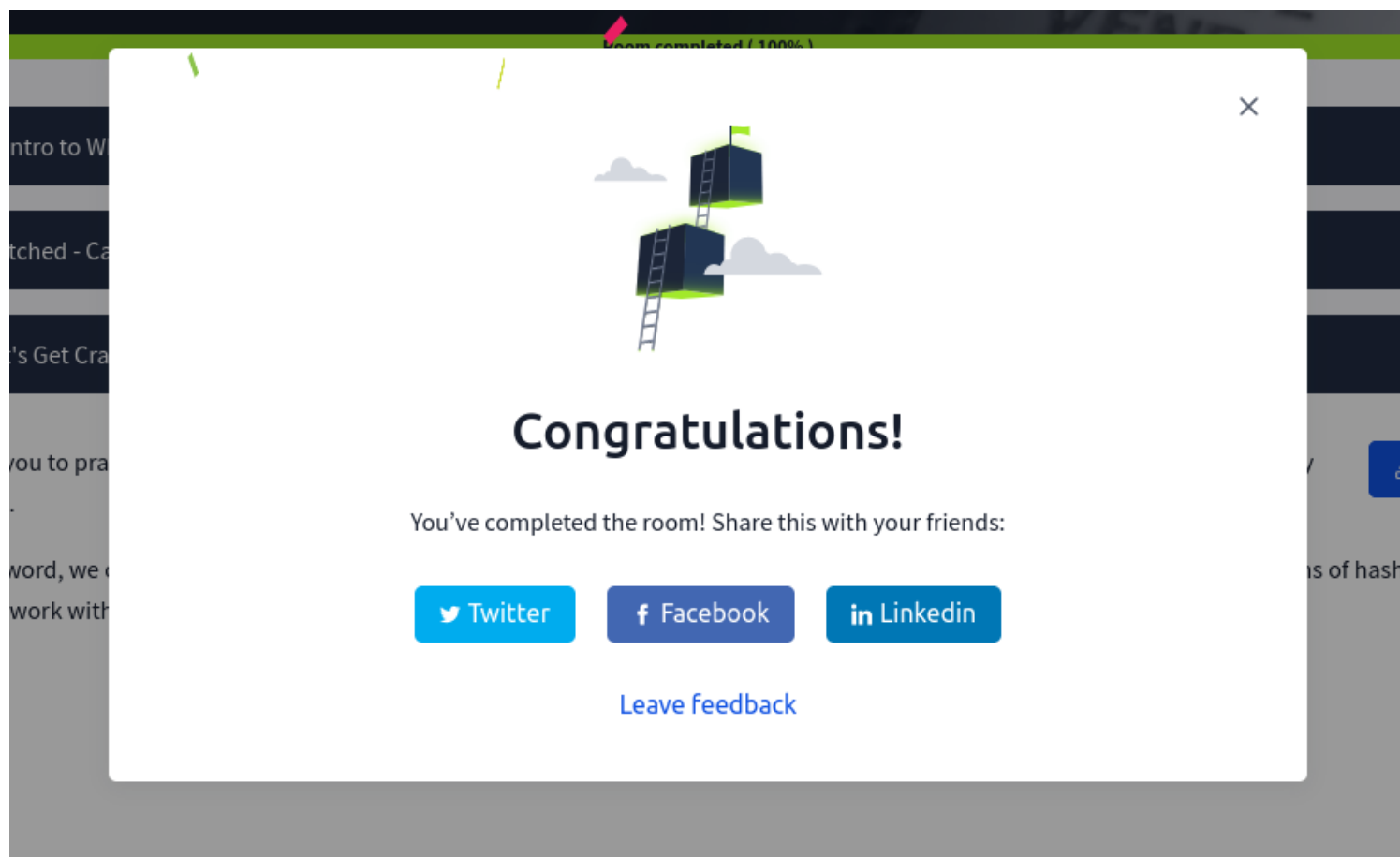
EAPOL HMAC     : 9A 6A 56 EE E4 4E 42 A3 14 71 26 9F E0 E2 93 04
```

Where is password cracking likely to be fastest, CPU or GPU?

GPU

✓ Correct

GPUs and CPUs are complementary in their capabilities, with GPUs excelling in parallel processing and high throughput tasks, while CPUs are versatile for general-purpose computing and complex decision-making tasks. The choice between GPU and CPU depends on the specific requirements of the application and the nature of the workload being performed and in the case of password cracking, GPU stands out to be our cup of tea.



<https://tryhackme.com/r/room/wifihacking101>

CONCLUSION

Learning to attack WPA(2) networks provides insights into their vulnerabilities and enhances cybersecurity awareness. By understanding how attackers exploit weaknesses, network administrators can better defend against such threats. Continual education and proactive security measures are essential in safeguarding wireless networks from evolving risks.

In my cup of knowledge with a prior knowledge of wifi attack, I have accumulated more skills, and also learned about other tools outside the scope of this room, i.e wifite, wifiphisher e.t.c

Common Attacks on WPA(2) Networks

- **Dictionary Attacks:** Exploiting weak passwords by guessing or using pre-compiled lists.
- **Brute Force Attacks:** Exhaustively trying every possible combination to crack the password.
- **WPS (Wi-Fi Protected Setup) Attacks:** Exploiting vulnerabilities in WPS implementations.
- **KRACK Attack (Key Reinstallation Attack):** Exploiting weaknesses in the WPA(2) protocol itself.