

Installation and Configuration of SSL/TLS Certificate on Apache Server

Project Description: This project details the installation and configuration of a TLS certificate on an Apache Server

Installation of the Apache server

The snippet below shows the installation of the Apache 2 server through the command “**sudo apt-get install apache2**.”

```
(kali㉿kali)-[~]
$ sudo apt-get install apache2
Reading package lists... Done
Building dependency tree... Done
Reading state information... Done
The following additional packages will be installed:
  apache2-bin apache2-data apache2-utils liblzma-de
Suggested packages:
  liblzma-doc
The following NEW packages will be installed:
  liblzma-dev libxml2-16
The following packages will be upgraded:
  apache2 apache2-bin apache2-data apache2-utils li
8 upgraded, 2 newly installed, 0 to remove and 1598
Need to get 4,856 kB of archives.
After this operation, 2,119 kB of additional disk s
Do you want to continue? [Y/n] Y
Get:1 http://ftp.acc.umu.se/mirror/kali.org/kali ka
Get:2 http://ftp.acc.umu.se/mirror/kali.org/kali ka
Get:3 http://ftp.acc.umu.se/mirror/kali.org/kali ka
Get:4 http://ftp.acc.umu.se/mirror/kali.org/kali ka
Get:5 http://ftp.acc.umu.se/mirror/kali.org/kali ka
Get:6 http://ftp.acc.umu.se/mirror/kali.org/kali ka
Get:7 http://ftp.acc.umu.se/mirror/kali.org/kali ka
```

Status Verification of Apache 2 Server

The snippet checks the status of the Apache2 server through the command “**sudo systemctl status apache2**” and confirms that the status is inactive

```
(kali㉿kali)-[~]
$ sudo systemctl status apache2
● apache2.service - The Apache HTTP Server
  Loaded: loaded (/usr/lib/systemd/system/apache2.service; disabled; preset: disabled)
  Active: inactive (dead)
    Docs: https://httpd.apache.org/docs/2.4/
```

Starting the Apache 2 Server

The command “**sudo systemctl start apache2**” was used to start the Apache server, and the status turned to active (running)

```
(kali㉿kali)-[~]
$ sudo systemctl start apache2
(kali㉿kali)-[~]
$ sudo systemctl status apache2
● apache2.service - The Apache HTTP Server
   Loaded: loaded (/usr/lib/systemd/system/apache2.service; disabled; preser...
     Active: active (running) since Thu 2025-12-11 09:22:51 EST; 7s ago
   Invocation-Count: 359ad338e5254d21852e79b2772a0b15
     Docs: https://httpd.apache.org/docs/2.4/
   Process: 9039 ExecStart=/usr/sbin/apachectl start (code=exited, status=0/0)
   Main PID: 9039 (apache2)
      Tasks: 6 (limit: 2209)
     Memory: 19.9M (peak: 20.1M)
        CPU: 434ms
       CGroup: /system.slice/apache2.service
               ├─9039 /usr/sbin/apache2 -k start
               ├─9042 /usr/sbin/apache2 -k start
               ├─9043 /usr/sbin/apache2 -k start
               ├─9044 /usr/sbin/apache2 -k start
               ├─9045 /usr/sbin/apache2 -k start
               └─9046 /usr/sbin/apache2 -k start

Dec 11 09:22:50 kali systemd[1]: Starting apache2.service - The Apache HTTP Server
Dec 11 09:22:51 kali apachectl[9039]: AH00558: apache2: Could not reliably determine the server's fully qualified domain name, using 127.0.0.1 for port 80
Dec 11 09:22:51 kali systemd[1]: Started apache2.service - The Apache HTTP Server.
Lines 1-21/21 (END)
```

Accessing Webpages on the Apache2 Server

To access the default webpage on the Apache server, change to the html folder with the command “`cd /var/www/html`”. You can decide to change the files in this folder if you want to experiment with your websites.

To access the website using the IP address of the system

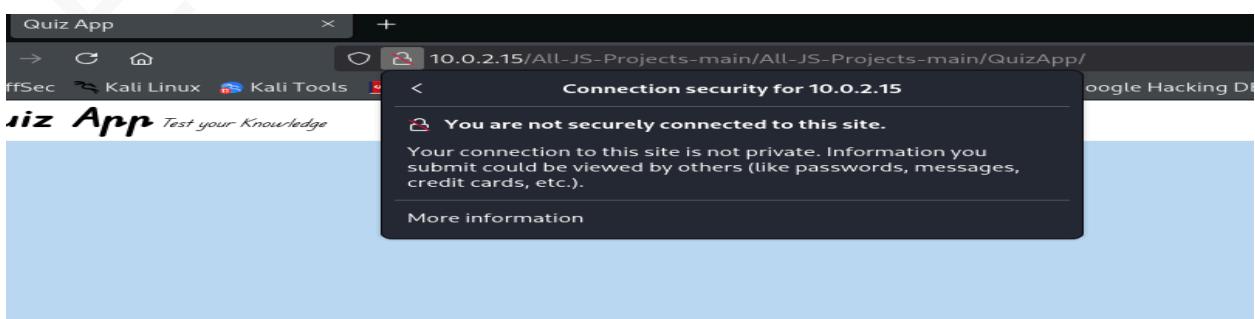
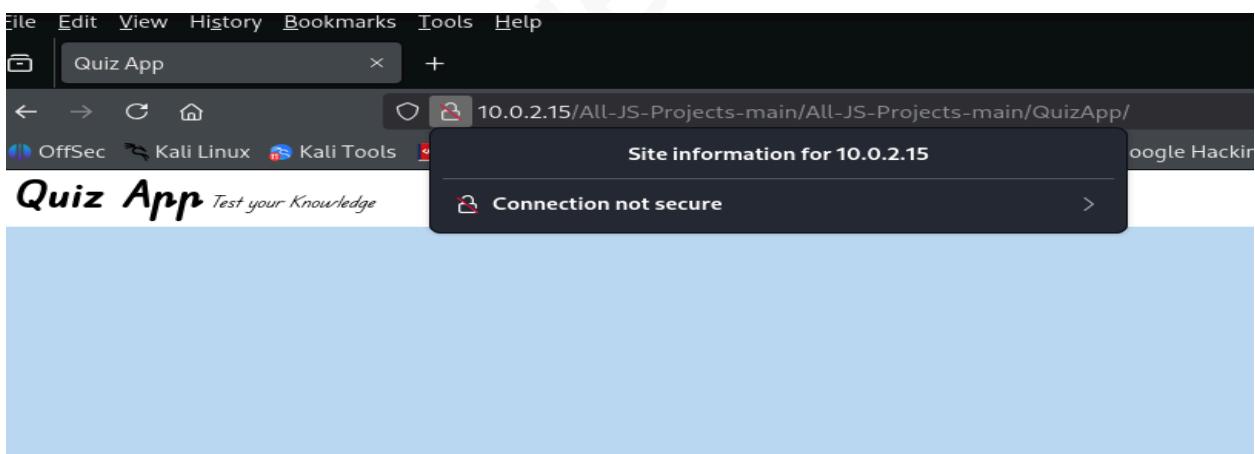
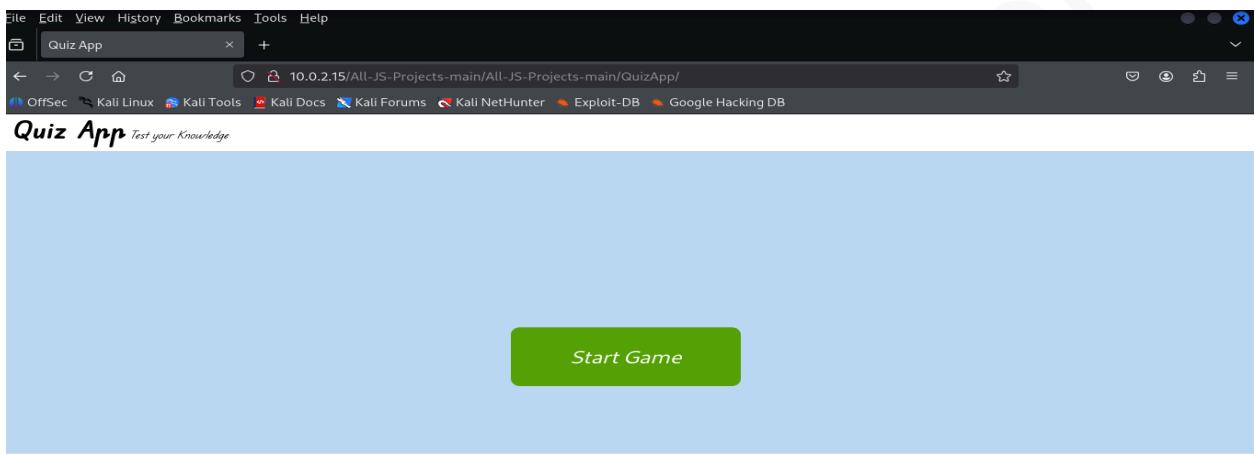
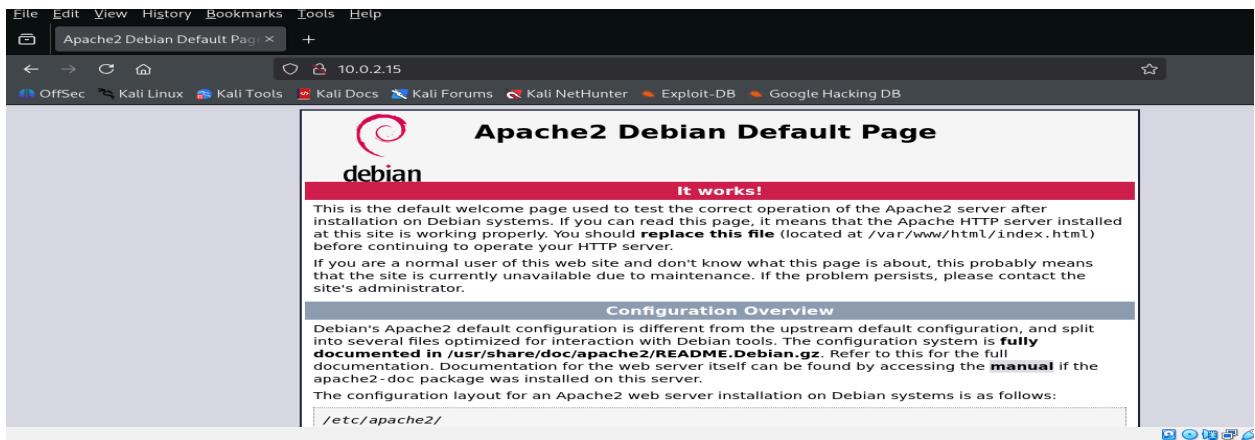
```
(kali㉿kali)-[~]
$ cd /var/www/html
$ ls
index.html index.nginx-debian.html

(kali㉿kali)-[/var/www/html]
$ ifconfig
eth0: flags=4163<UP,BROADCAST,RUNNING,MULTICAST> mtu 1500
      inet 10.0.2.15 netmask 255.255.255.0 broadcast 10.0.2.255
      inet6 fe80::6af0:6f30:ad35:f732 prefixlen 64 scopeid 0x20<link>
      inet6 fd17:625c:fd37:2:fa2d:68ca:31b9:bf08 prefixlen 64 scopeid 0x0<global>
      ether 08:00:27:d1:f8:5d txqueuelen 1000 (Ethernet)
        RX packets 56641 bytes 83024418 (79.1 MiB)
        RX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 frame 0
        TX packets 5579 bytes 358003 (349.6 KiB)
        TX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 carrier 0 collisions 0

lo: flags=73<UP,LOOPBACK,RUNNING> mtu 65536
      inet 127.0.0.1 netmask 255.0.0.0
      inet6 ::1 prefixlen 128 scopeid 0x10<host>
      loop txqueuelen 1000 (Local Loopback)
        RX packets 8 bytes 480 (480.0 B)
        RX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 frame 0
        TX packets 8 bytes 480 (480.0 B)
        TX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 carrier 0 collisions 0
```

Accessing the websites via the browser

We can access the webpages via the browser and confirm the connection to the webpage to see that it is not secure, and verification was also carried out via Wireshark, as the TCP stream is not encrypted.



```
Wireshark - Follow HTTP Stream (tcp.stream eq 3) - eth0

POST /wr2 HTTP/1.1
Host: o.pki.google.com
User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (X11; Linux x86_64; rv:128.0) Gecko/20100101 Firefox/128.0
Accept: */*
Accept-Language: en-US,en;q=0.5
Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate
Content-Type: application/ocsp-request
Content-Length: 83
Connection: keep-alive
Priority: u=2
Pragma: no-cache
Cache-Control: no-cache
0Q000M0K0IO ..+.....SB,.....Mw|.#1.{5.....y..>7$.!.49mB.0..M".
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Content-Type: application/ocsp-response
Date: Thu, 11 Dec 2025 14:43:15 GMT
Cache-Control: public, max-age=14400
Content-Security-Policy-Report-Only: script-src 'none'; form-action 'none'; frame-src 'none'; report-to-sytropr:52:0
Content-Security-Policy: report-on: https://csp.withgoogle.com/csp/scaffolding/sytropr:52:0
Content-Security-Policy-Report-To: {"group": "sytropr:52:0", "max_age": 2592000, "endpoints": [{"url": "https://csp.withgoogle.com/csp/report-to/scaffolding/sytropr:52:0"}]}
Server: scaffolding on HTTPServer2
Packet 122. 1 Client pkt, 1 Server pkt, 1 turn. Click to select.
Entire conversation (1,529 bytes) Show as ASCII No delta times Stream 3
Find: Case sensitive Find Next
Filter Out This Stream Print Save as... Back × Close Help
```

Creation of the SSL/TLS Certificate using a self-signed Certificate

A Self-signed Certificate and a private key were created with the command `sudo openssl req -x509 -nodes -days 365 -newkey rsa:2048`

```
-keyout /etc/ssl/private/apache_Selfsigned.key -out
```

```
Rekeyit /etc/ssl/certs/apache-selfsigned.key -out  
/etc/ssl/certs/apache-Selfsigned.crt"
```

/etc/ssl/certs/apache-selfsigned.crt

Changing the SSL Apache Configuration File

It is important to change the SSL Apache Configuration File by changing the directory of the SSL Certificate and the SSL Certificate key using the command “**sudo nano**

`/etc/apache2/sites-available/default-ssl.conf`" and only change the part of `SSLCertificateFile` and `SSLCertificateKeyFile`

```
ErrorLog ${APACHE_LOG_DIR}/error.log
CustomLog ${APACHE_LOG_DIR}/access.log combined

# For most configuration files from conf-available/, which are
# enabled or disabled at a global level, it is possible to
# include a line for only one particular virtual host. For example the
# following line enables the CGI configuration for this host only
# after it has been globally disabled with "a2disconf".
#Include conf-available/serve-cgi-bin.conf

#   SSL Engine Switch:      This is the default welcome page used to test the
#   Enable/Disable SSL for this virtual host.                                installation on Debian systems. If you can read this page at this site is
#   SSLEngine on               working properly. You should replace it with your own
#                               before continuing to operate your HTTP server.

#   A self-signed (snakeoil) certificate can be created by installing the
#   ssl-cert package. See /usr/share/doc/apache2/README.Debian.gz for more info.
#   If both key and certificate are stored in the same file, only the
#   SSLCertificateFile directive is needed.
SSLCertificateFile      /etc/ssl/certs/ssl-cert/apache-selfsigned.crt
SSLCertificateKeyFile   /etc/ssl/private/apache-selfsigned.key
```

Enabling the SSL Module

To enable the SSL module, we use the command “**sudo a2enmod ssl**”, this command activates the SSL module

```
(kali㉿kali)-[~/.../html/All-JS-Projects-main/All-JS-Projects-main/QuizApp]
$ sudo a2enmod ssl
Considering dependency mime for ssl:
Module mime already enabled
Considering dependency socache_shmcb for ssl:
Enabling module socache_shmcb.
Enabling module ssl.
See /usr/share/doc/apache2/README.Debian.gz on how to configure SSL and create self-signed certificates.
To activate the new configuration, you need to run:
    systemctl restart apache2
```

Enabling the SSL Virtual Host

To enable the SSL Virtual Host, we use the command “**sudo a2ensite default-ssl**”, which enables the website to take on the SSL Certificate

```
(kali㉿kali)-[~/.../html/All-JS-Projects-main/All-JS-Projects-main/QuizApp]
$ sudo a2ensite default-ssl
Enabling site default-ssl.
To activate the new configuration, you need to run:
    systemctl reload apache2
```

Restart and Reboot of the Apache Server

To restart and reboot the server with the commands “**sudo systemctl restart apache2**” and “**sudo systemctl reload apache2**”, this activates the Apache server to function effectively, and the command “**sudo apache2ctl configtest**” is used to confirm that the function works properly

```
(kali㉿kali)-[~/.../html/All-JS-Projects-main/All-JS-Projects-main/QuizApp]
$ sudo systemctl restart apache2

(kali㉿kali)-[~/.../html/All-JS-Projects-main/All-JS-Projects-main/QuizApp]
$ sudo systemctl reload apache2
```

```
(kali㉿kali)-[~/var/www/html/All-JS-Projects-main/All-JS-Projects-main/QuizApp]
$ sudo apache2ctl configtest
AH00558: apache2: Could not reliably determine the server's fully qualified domain name, using 127.0.1.1. Set the 'ServerName' directive globally to suppress this message
Syntax OK
```

Verification of the Installation of the TLS Certificate and encrypted stream on wireshark

