

Write-Up: ROT13 + ROT5 Cipher

Challenge Description

We were given the ciphertext:

```
RKP{u96s_oy55q_e5g9g65a}
```

From the format, it is clear that this follows a typical CTF flag structure (`XXX{...}`), but the contents are encoded.

Step 1 – Identifying the Cipher

By observing the challenge hint:

- **ROT13 for letters**
- **ROT5 for numbers**

This suggests a combination cipher:

- Apply **ROT13** to all alphabetical characters (A–Z, a–z).
- Apply **ROT5** to all digits (0–9).
- Leave special characters like `{`, `}`, `_` unchanged.

Step 2 – Using dcode.fr

1. Go to **dcode.fr**.
2. Select the **ROT13 Decoder** tool.
3. Paste the ciphertext:

```
RKP{u96s_oy55q_e5g9g65a}
```

4. Enable the option:
 - **Apply ROT-5 on numbers (ROT13.5)**
5. Click **Decrypt**.

Step 3 – Output

The screenshot shows the dCode website interface. On the left, there is a search bar with placeholder text "e.g. type 'sudoku'" and a "SEARCH A TOOL ON dCODE" button. Below the search bar is a link to "BROWSE THE FULL dCODE TOOLS' LIST". The main area is titled "ROT-13 CIPHER" and includes a breadcrumb navigation: Cryptography > Substitution Cipher > ROT-13 Cipher. To the right, there is a "ROT13 DECODER" section with a text input field containing "RKP{u96s_oy55q_e5g9g65a}" and a checked checkbox for "APPLY ROT-5 ON NUMBERS (ROT13.5)". A "DECRYPT ROT13" button is also present.

After applying:

- ROT13 → letters shift by 13 places.
- ROT5 → numbers shift by 5.

We get:

EXC{h41f_b100d_r0t4t10n}