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Neo23x0 / Base64\_CheatSheet.md

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Learning Aid - Top Base64 Encodings Table

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Raw

## Base64 Patterns - Learning Aid

| Base64 Code | Mnemonic Aid     | Decoded* | Description  |
|-------------|------------------|----------|--|
| JAB         | 🗨️ Jabber        | \$.      | Variable declaration (UTF-16), e.g.<br>JAB1AG4AdgA for \$env:    |
| TVq         | 📺 Television     | MZ       | MZ header  |
| SUVY        | 🚗 SUV            | IEX      | PowerShell Invoke Expression                                     |
| SQBFAF      | 🐔 Squab favorite | I.E.     | PowerShell Invoke Expression (UTF-16)                            |
| SQBuAH      | 🐔 Squab uahhh    | I.n.     | PowerShell Invoke string (UTF-16) e.g.<br>Invoke-Mimikatz        |
| PAA         | 🦖 "Pah!"         | <.       | Often used by Emotet (UTF-16)                                    |
| cwBhA       | 🦖 Chewbaka       | s.a.     | Often used in malicious droppers (UTF-16) 'sal' instead of 'var' |
| aWV4        | 😮 Awe version 4  | iex      | PowerShell Invoke Expression                                     |

|        |   |      |  |
|--------|---|------|--|
| aQB1A  |  Aqua Blah (aquaplaning)           | i.e. | PowerShell Invoke Expression (UTF-16)  |
| R2V0   |  R2D2 but version 0                | Get  | Often used to obfuscate imports like GetCurrentThreadId                      |
| dmFy   |  defy / demonify                   | var  | Variable declaration   |
| dgBhA  | debugger + high availability  | v.a. | Variable declaration (UTF-16)  |
| dXNpbm | Dixon problem   | usin | Often found in compile after delivery attacks                                |
| H4sIA  |  HForce (Helicopter Force) I agree |      | gzip magic bytes (0x1f8b), e.g. <code>echo 'test'   gzip -cf   base64</code> |
| Y21k   |  Year 21k bug                      | cmd  | As used in <code>cmd.exe /c wscript.exe</code> or the like                   |
| IAB    |  I am bored                      | s    | wide lower case s, often something like <code>sEt-iTem</code>                |
| cABhAH |  Kaaba                           | p.a. | wide formatted param   |
| Qzpc   |  Quiz PC                         | C:\  | Root of Windows partition (upper case)                                       |
| Yzpc   |  Yes PC                          | c:\  | Root of Windows partition (lower case)                                       |
| UEs    |  Upper East Side                 | PK   | ZIP, Office documents  |
| ey     |  Hey                             | {    | Indicates JSON data  |

\* the . stands for 0x00 found in UTF-16 encoded text

## Often found patterns

| Base64 Code  | Decoded   | Description                  |
|--------------|---|------------------------------|
| AAAAAAAAAAAA | <code>\x00\x00\x00\x00\x00\x00\x00\x00\x00</code> | Sequence of binary zeros     |
| //////////   | <code>\xFF\xFF\xFF\xFF\xFF\xFF\xFF\xFF\xFF</code> | Sequence of 0xFF bytes       |
| ICAgICAgICAg |   | Sequence of space characters |

# Cyber Chef Recipe

[https://gchq.github.io/CyberChef/#recipe=Fork\('%5C%5Cn','%5C%5Cn',false\)From\\_Base64\('A-Za-z0-9%2B/%3D',true\)&input=SkFCCIRWcQpQQUEKU1VWWQpTUUJGQUYKYVdWNAphUUJsQQpSMIYwCmRtRnkKZGdCaEEKY3dCaEEKZFhOcGJtCkg0c0lBRldXc2wwQUF5dEpMUzdoQWdER05iazdCUUFBQUE9PQ](https://gchq.github.io/CyberChef/#recipe=Fork('%5C%5Cn','%5C%5Cn',false)From_Base64('A-Za-z0-9%2B/%3D',true)&input=SkFCCIRWcQpQQUEKU1VWWQpTUUJGQUYKYVdWNAphUUJsQQpSMIYwCmRtRnkKZGdCaEEKY3dCaEEKZFhOcGJtCkg0c0lBRldXc2wwQUF5dEpMUzdoQWdER05iazdCUUFBQUE9PQ)

## References

## Tweet

Tweet and Thread <https://twitter.com/cyb3rops/status/1187341941794660354>

## JAB

<https://www.hybrid-analysis.com/sample/ce0415b6661ef66bbedb69896ad1ece9ee4e6dfde9925e9612aec7bbf1cb7bc5?environmentId=100>

## PAA

Emotet process command line <https://app.any.run/tasks/dfba6d53-7a93-4d8b-86ba-4e737ad06b06/>

## cwBha

Explanation <https://threat.tevora.com/5-minute-forensics-decoding-powershell-payloads/>

Sample <https://www.hybrid-analysis.com/sample/b744129bfe54de8b36d7556ddfcc55d0be213129041aacf52b7d2f57012caa60?environmentId=100>



srcr commented on Oct 15, 2020



should MITRE ATT4CK be changed to MITRE ATT&CK? Very nice list though. Danke

 **Neo23x0** commented on Oct 15, 2020

Author ...

I'll remove the MITRE reference completely. Don't want that anyone tells me that it lacks a (r) character.

 **ohader** commented on Mar 9, 2022

...

Please add `YTo` and `TZo`, start of a serialized array and object in PHP ( `a:` and `o:` ), good indicator when searching for insecure deserialization vulns. PoC at <https://3v4l.org/9PI63>

 **dc-secureworks** commented on Apr 7, 2022

...

Please mention that these encodings only hold at the start of the encoded string and will not work consistently at other positions. Most people aren't aware of the 3 byte chunks used to encode base64 and the 3 encodings repetition you get by shifting one byte at a time. Also IAB decodes to 0x20 0x00 not 0x73 0x00.

Here's an example of determining the consistent subset of an encoded string at the 3 offsets. (wide "s" used)

[https://gchq.github.io/CyberChef/#recipe=Fork\('%5C%5Cn','%5C%5Cn',false\)From\\_Hex\('Auto'\)To\\_Base64\('A-Za-z0-9%2B/%3D'\)&input=NzMgMDAgMDAgMDAKNzMgMDAgNzcgNzcKNzMgMDAgRkYgRkYKMDAgNzMgMDAgMDAgMDAKNzcgNzMgMDAgNzcgNzcKRkYgNzMgMDAgRkYgRkYKMDAgMDAgNzMgMDAgMDAgMDAKNzcgNzcgNzMgMDAgNzcgNzcKRkYgRkYgNzMgMDAgRkYgRkYgRkYKMDAgMDAgMDAgNzMgMDAgMDAgMDAKNzcgNzcgNzcKRkZGRiBGRiBGRiA3MyAwMCMCBGRiBGRiBGRgoK](https://gchq.github.io/CyberChef/#recipe=Fork('%5C%5Cn','%5C%5Cn',false)From_Hex('Auto')To_Base64('A-Za-z0-9%2B/%3D')&input=NzMgMDAgMDAgMDAKNzMgMDAgNzcgNzcKNzMgMDAgRkYgRkYKMDAgNzMgMDAgMDAgMDAKNzcgNzMgMDAgNzcgNzcKRkYgNzMgMDAgRkYgRkYKMDAgMDAgNzMgMDAgMDAgMDAKNzcgNzcgNzMgMDAgNzcgNzcKRkYgRkYgNzMgMDAgRkYgRkYgRkYKMDAgMDAgMDAgNzMgMDAgMDAgMDAKNzcgNzcgNzMgMDAgNzcgNzcKRkYgRkYgRkYKMDAgMDAgMDAgNzMgMDAgMDAgMDAKNzcgNzcgNzcKRkZGRiBGRiBGRiA3MyAwMCMCBGRiBGRiBGRgoK)

Unless you're only checking the start of a buffer you'll need to trim a bit off the front and back to safely detect the consistent substring of what you're looking for. From the example of wide "s" you have cw, MA, zA. I added extra shifts in Cyberchef to illustrate the cycle and how the pattern comes back every 3rd byte.

 **antoinet** commented on Jan 27, 2023

...

Very cool gist! It occured to me: `ey` misses a quote after the brace: `{"`. And any idea for `aHR0cHM6Ly8=` (`https://`)?



**rickhenderson** commented on Aug 3, 2023



This is amazing btw.

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