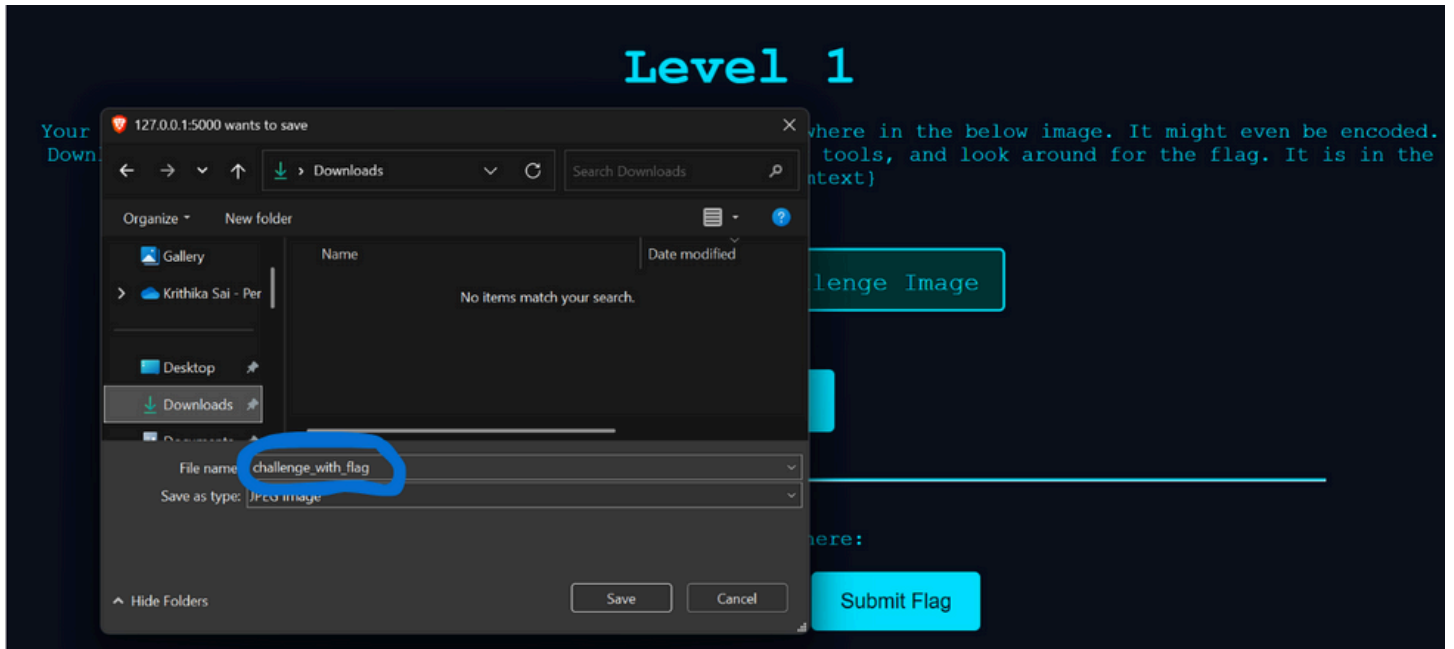


# Challenge Walkthrough

## LEVEL - 1

1) Download the image.



2) Install exiftool using the command mentioned below.

```
sudo apt install libimage-exiftool-perl
```

3) Use the below command. Replace the path given here with the path into which YOU have downloaded the image.

```
exiftool /home/ubuntu/challenge_with_flag.jpg
```

4) You should receive output as seen below. Check out the image description - that's the flag we need to capture, but it's been encoded in base64 format.

```
ExifTool Version Number      : 12.76
File Name                    : challenge_with_flag.jpg
Directory                    : /home/ubuntu
File Size                    : 37 kB
File Modification Date/Time   : 2025:04:29 05:03:10+00:00
File Access Date/Time        : 2025:04:29 05:03:10+00:00
File Inode Change Date/Time   : 2025:04:29 05:03:10+00:00
File Permissions              : -rw-rw-r--
File Type                    : JPEG
File Type Extension          : jpg
MIME Type                    : image/jpeg
JFIF Version                 : 1.01
Resolution Unit              : None
X Resolution                  : 1
Y Resolution                  : 1
Exif Byte Order              : Big-endian (Motorola, MM)
Image Description             : Y3Rme3lvdV9mb3VuZF90aGVfZmxhZ30=
Image Width                   : 860
Image Height                  : 430
Encoding Process              : Baseline DCT, Huffman coding
Bits Per Sample               : 8
Color Components              : 3
Y Cb Cr Sub Sampling         : YCbCr4:2:0 (2 2)
Image Size                   : 860x430
Megapixels                   : 0.370
```

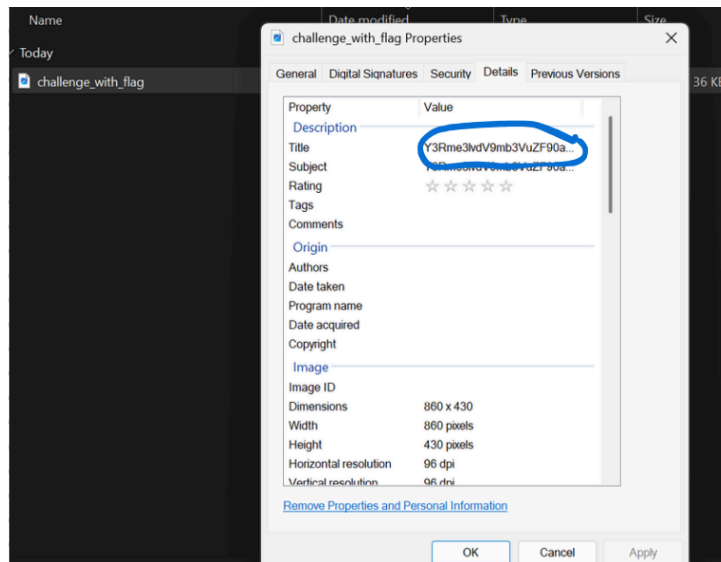
5) You can use an online base64 decoder to decode the encrypted flag.

Input
Y3Rme3lvdV9mb3VuZF90aGVfZmxhZ30=

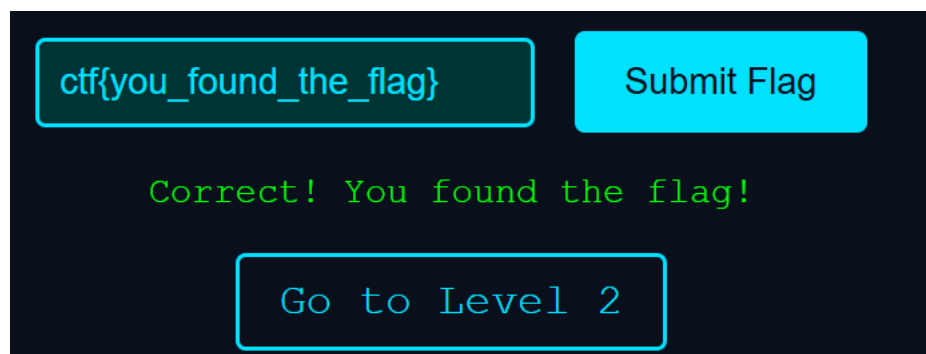
  

Output
ctf{you_found_the_flag}

6) An alternative way to solve this if you don't want to install tools is to simply right click on the image and check out the properties. You will find the base64 encoded flag in the "details" section of the properties.

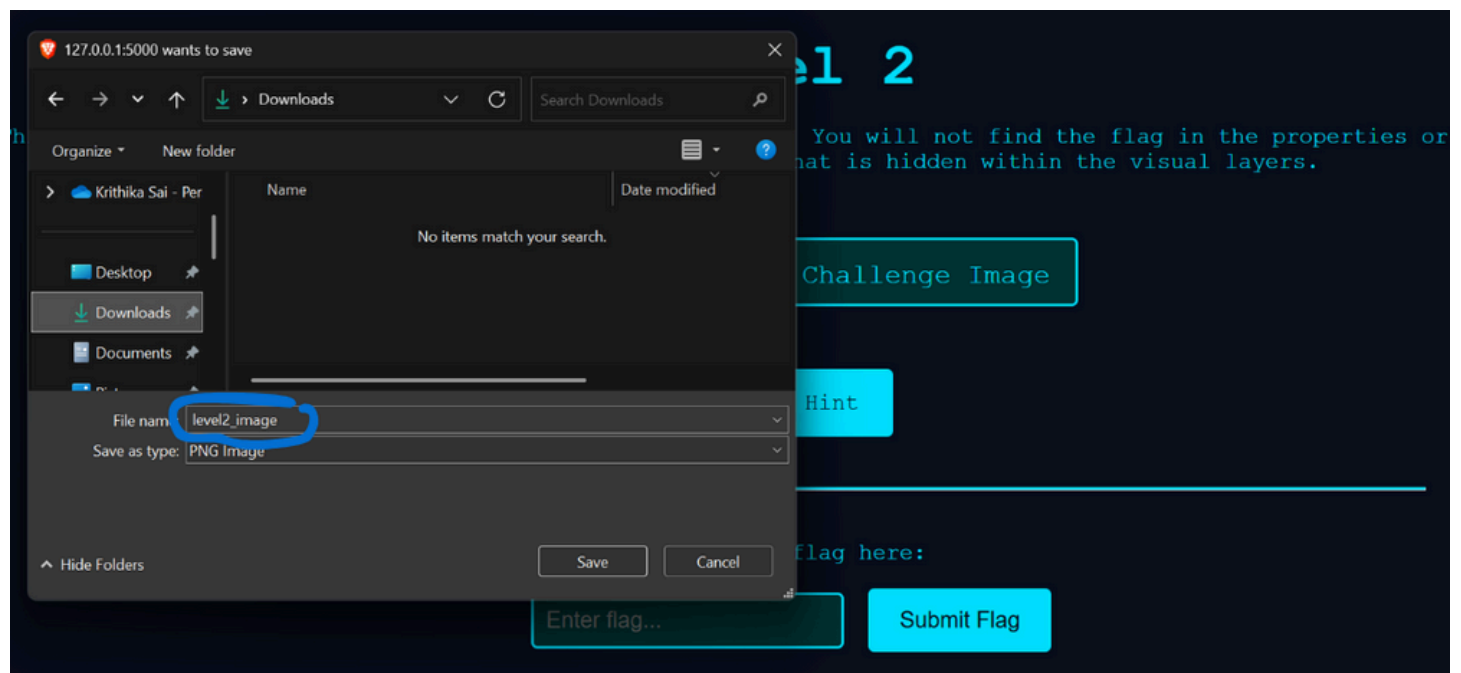


5) Copy the flag into the box to go to level 2.



## LEVEL - 2

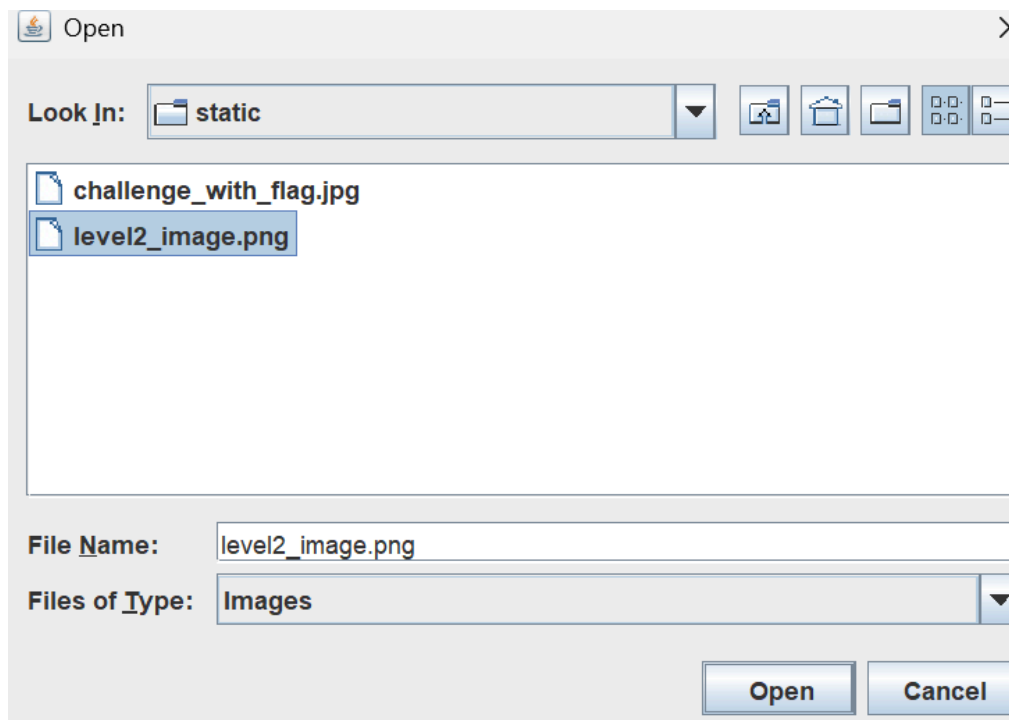
1) Download the image.



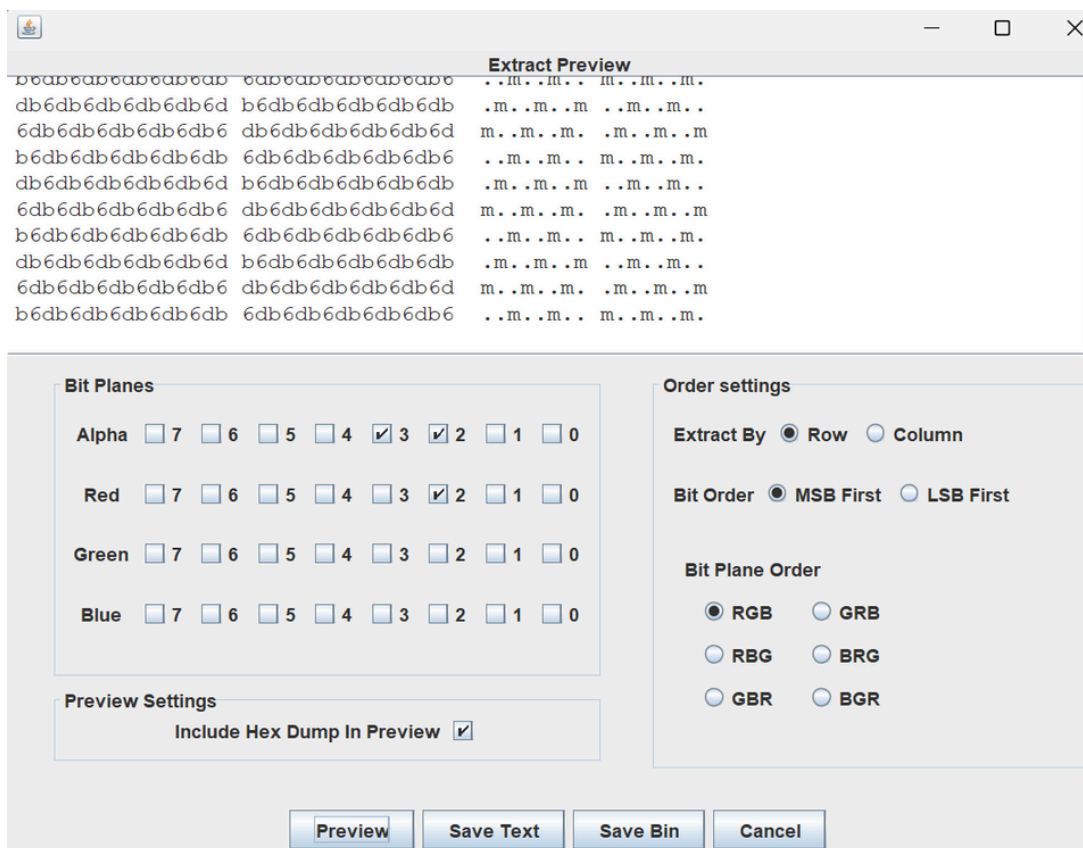
2) Possible tools to use:

### OPTION 1

- Install `stegsolve` from the below link  
🌐 `ctf-tools/stegsolve/install at master · zardus/ctf-tools`
- Open the image file.



- Play around with these options and values until the flag becomes visible.



## OPTION 2

- Install binwalk using the below command.

```
sudo apt install binwalk
```

- Run this command to analyze and extract embedded files or data.

```
ubuntu@ip-172-31-24-34:~$ binwalk -e level2_image.png
```

DECIMAL	HEXADECIMAL	DESCRIPTION
0	0x0	PNG image, 1152 x 648, 8-bit/color RGBA, non-interlaced
91	0x5B	Zlib compressed data, compressed

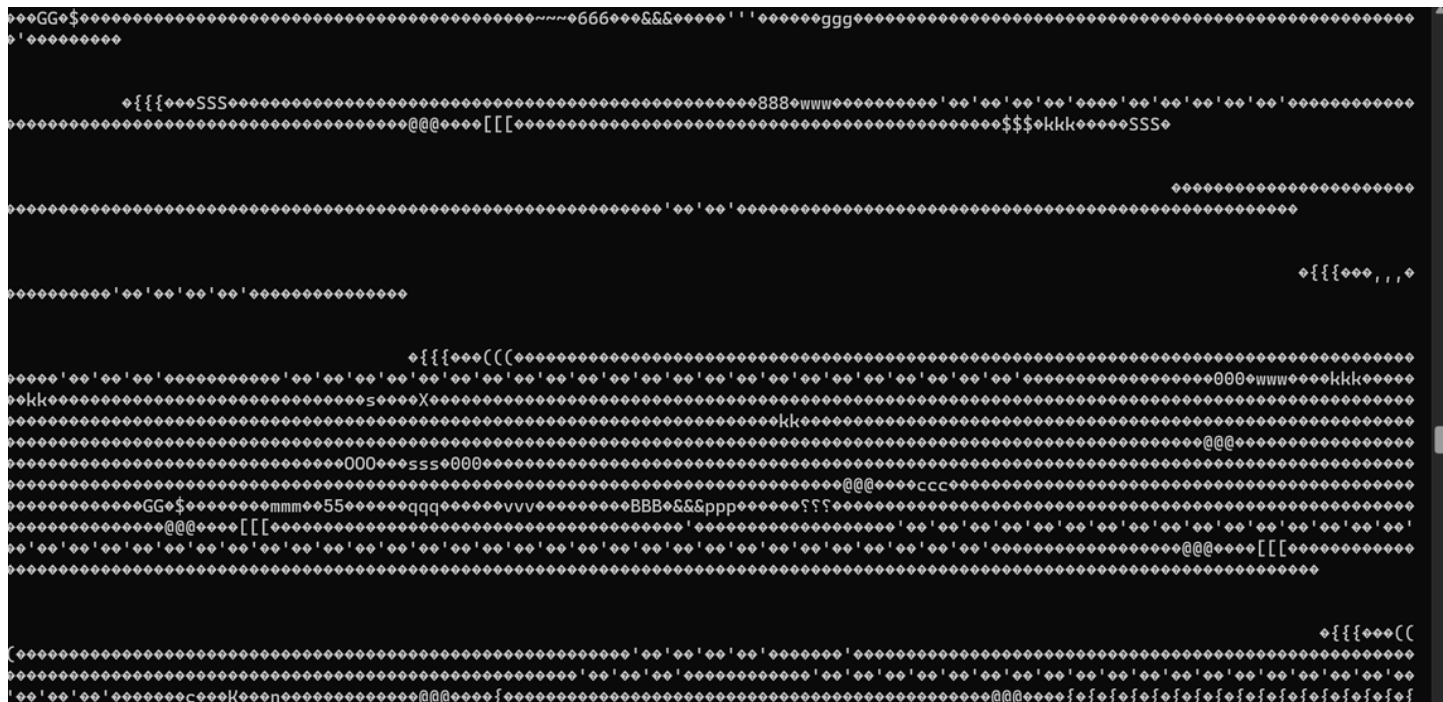
- Use the commands `cd _level2_image.png.extracted` and `ls -lh` to find out what is extracted.

```
ubuntu@ip-172-31-24-34:~/_level2_image.png.extracted$ ls -lh
total 3.0M
-rw-rw-r-- 1 ubuntu ubuntu 0 Apr 29 06:34 5B
-rw-rw-r-- 1 ubuntu ubuntu 119K Apr 29 06:34 5B.zlib
-rw-rw-r-- 1 ubuntu ubuntu 2.9M Apr 29 06:36 hidden.txt
```

- Decompress the flag.

```
zlib-flate -uncompress < 5B.zlib > decompressed.txt
```

- Examine the contents.



### OPTION 3

Naked eye.

## LEVEL - 3

Listen to the given audio carefully...there might be something embedded in there other than musical instruments.