Open Redirect

One of the most common and largely overlooked vulnerabilities by web developers is Open Redirect (also known as "Unvalidated Redirects and Forwards"). A website is vulnerable to Open Redirect when parameter values (the portion of URL after "?") in an HTTP GET request allow for information that will redirect a user to a new website without any validation of the target of redirect. Depending on the architecture of a vulnerable website, redirection could happen after certain action, such as login, and sometimes it could happen instantaneously upon loading of a page.

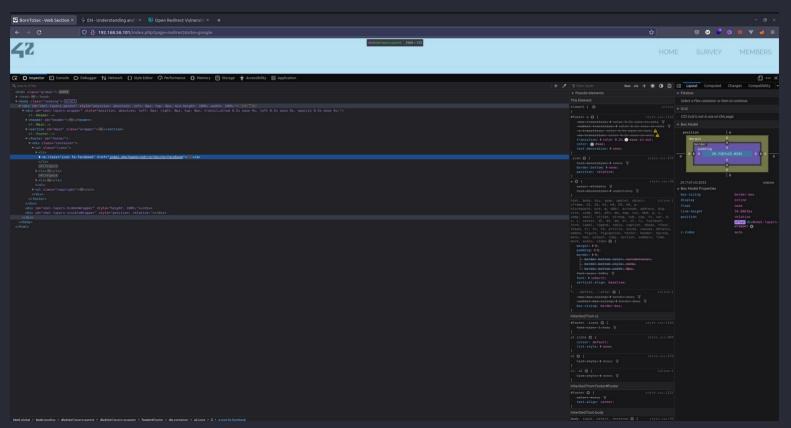
An example of a vulnerable website link could look something like this: https://www.example.com/login.html?RelayState=http%3A%2F%2Fexample.com%2Fnext
In this example, "RelayState" parameter indicates where to send user upon successful login (In our example it is "http://example.com/next"). If website doesn't validate the

"RelayState" parameter value to make sure that target web page is legitimate and intended, attacker could manipulate that parameter to send a victim to a fake page crafted by

attacker: https://www.example.com/login.html?RelayState=http%3A%2F%2FEvilWebsite.com

Walk through

Step 1: Open the code inspector in your browser

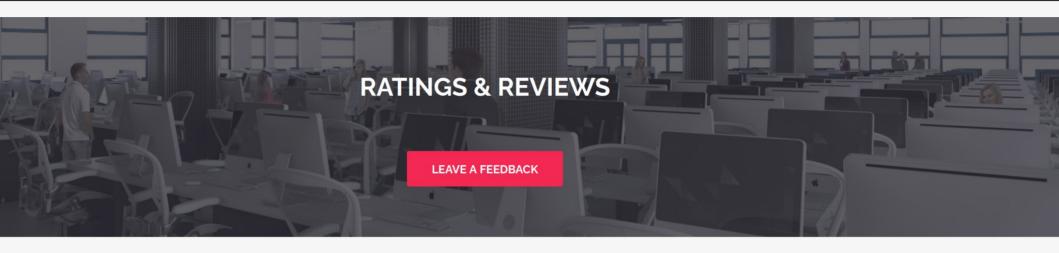


Step 2: Find an open redirect link, for example on the social media buttons

```
| Vesection id="four" class="wrapper style3 special"> | Image: New Yes Special | Image: New Yes
```

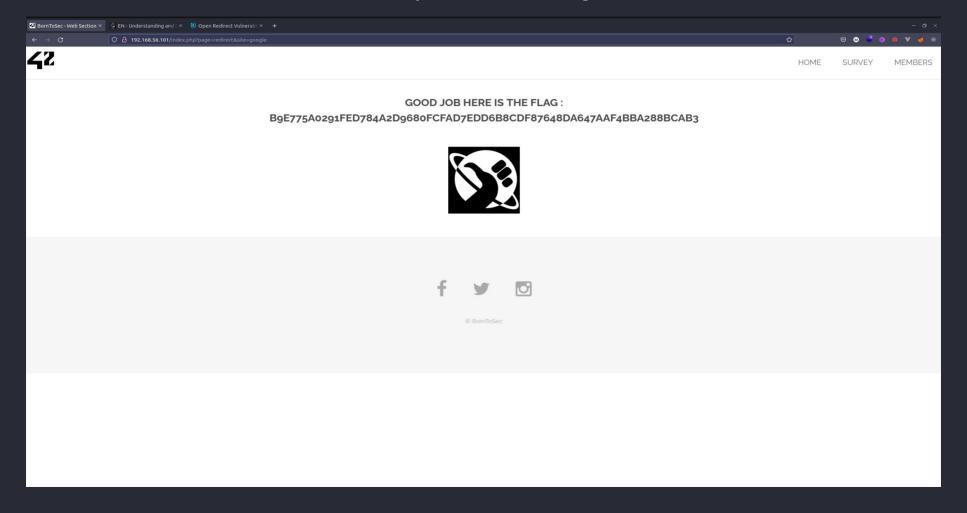
Step 3: Change the site argument to your malicious website

Step 4 : Click on the malicious link on the page





Step 5 : Get the flag!



How to fix

- Do not use forwards and redirects.
- Create a list of all trusted URLs, including hosts or a regex, in order to sanitize input. Prefer to use an allow-list approach when creating this list, instead of a block list.
- Force redirects to first go to a page that notify users they are redirected out of the website. The message should clearly display the destination and ask users to click on a link to confirm that they want to move to the new destination.