NGINX HARDENING CHEATSHEET





HOWTO: A+ with all 100%'s on SSL Labs and Mozilla Observatory

The following rules are security-oriented but blindly deploying of some of them (e.g. CSP) will broke the most of web apps!

O Hide Nginx version nserber tokens off;

O Hide Nginx server signature move clear headers '';

Use strong ECC/RSA private keys
O Keep only TLS

min. 256-bit for ECDSA (ECC) # min. 2048-bit for RSA

sst_protocols TLSv1.2;

Use only strong ciphers for TLS 1.2

ssl_ciphers "ECDHE-ECDSA-AES256-GCM-SHA384:ECDHE-RSA-AES256-GCM-SHA384:ECDHE-ECDSA-CHACHA20-POLY1305:ECDHE-RSA-CHACHA20-POLY1305:ECDHE-ECDSA-AES256-SHA384";

Use more secure ECDH Curves

ssl_ecdh_curve secp521r1:secp384r1:prime256v1;

Enable DNS CAA On your DNS service to supports CAA Policy On your DNS service that your.domain. CAA 0 issue "certificate-authority"

Keep NGINX up-to-date!

Do not follow guides just to get 100% of something. Think about what you actually do at your server!

© Enable OCSP Stapling

ssl_stapling on; ssl_stapling_verify on; ssl_trusted_certificate ssl/inter-CA-chain.pem resolver 1.1.1.1 8.8.8.8 valid=300s; resolver_timeout 5s;

(e) Force all connections over

return 301 https://\$host\$request_uri;

O Defend against the BEAST attack server_ciphers on;

O Disable HTTP compression

O HTTP Strict Transport

Security add_neader Strict-Transport-Security "max-age=63072000; includeSubdomains" always;

gzip off;

Only for private resources when using TLS.

Reduce XSS risks (Content-Security-

Policy add_header Content-Security-Policy "default-src 'none'; script-src 'self'; connect-src 'self'; img-src 'self'; style-src 'self';" always;



Based on trimstray/nginx-admins-handbook

Control the behavior of the Referer header (Referrer-

Policy "no-referrer";

Provide clickjacking protection

X-Frame-Options "SAMEORIGIN" always;

• Prevent some categories of XSS attacks (X-XSS-

Protection "1; mode=block" always

• Prevent Sniff Mimetype (X-Content-Type-Options and header X-Content-Type-Options "nosniff" always;

Deny the use of browser features (Feature-

Policy add header Feature-Policy "geolocation 'none'; midi 'none'; notifications 'none'; push 'none'; sync-xhr 'none'; microphone 'none'; camera 'none'; magnetometer 'none'; gyroscope 'none'; speaker 'none'; vibrate 'none'; fullscreen 'none'; payment 'none'; usb 'none';";