

CS456 Assignment 3: Web Security

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Vulnerabilities:

1. No prepared statements for input to the sql query. User input is directly executed in the query.
2. User input is inserted into the html document directly, allows XSS attacks.
3. Database credentials are hard-coded in the php file.
4. Passwords are stored as plain text in database.

Fixes:

1. Use a prepared statement for executing sql queries, prevents against SQL Injections.
2. Sanitize user input for escape characters using htmlspecialchars(), prevents XSS.
3. Store database credentials in environment variables on privileged device/account.
4. Password should be compared to hashed version stored in database (test_add.php would be hashing and storing so I simulated that here).

Amended Source Code:

```
assignment3_php_websecurity > test_retrieve.php
1  <?php
2  if ($_GET["name"]) {
3      $item1 = '';
4      $item2 = '';
5      /* PREVENT XSS WITH htmlspecialchars */
6      $item1 .= htmlspecialchars(
7          string: $_GET["name"],
8          flags: ENT_QUOTES,
9          encoding: 'UTF-8'
10     );
11     $item2 .= htmlspecialchars(
12         string: $_GET["pass"],
13         flags: ENT_QUOTES,
14         encoding: 'UTF-8'
15     );
16
17     echo "...Searching " . $item1 . " ... <br /><br/>";
18
19     /* Fix Hardcoded database credentials behind environment vars */
20     $servername = getenv(name: 'SERVER_ADDRESS');
21     $username = getenv(name: 'DB_UNAME');
22     $password = getenv(name: 'DB_PASSWORD');
23     $dbname = getenv(name: 'DB_NAME');
24
25     // Create connection
26     $conn = new mysqli(hostname: $servername, username: $username, password: $password, database: $dbname);
27     // Check connection
28     if ($conn->connect_error) {
29         die("Connection failed: " . $conn->connect_error);
30     }
31
32     /* HASH PASSWORD */
33     $hashed_pwd = password_hash(
34         password: $password,
35         algo: PASSWORD_BCRYPT
36     );
37
38     /* ADDING PREPARE STATEMENT: */
39     $sql = "SELECT * FROM credential WHERE username='$item1' AND
40 password='$hashed_pwd'";
41     $stmt = $conn->prepare(query: $sql);
42     $stmt->bind_param(types: "ss", var: &$item1, vars: &$item2);
43     $stmt->execute();
44     $result = $stmt->get_result();
45
46     if ($result->num_rows > 0) {
47         // output data of each row
48         while ($row = $result->fetch_assoc()) {
49             echo "The credential for " . $row["username"] . " is found!<br>";
50         }
51     } else {
52         echo "Not found!";
53     }
54     $conn->close();
55     exit();
56 }
57 ?>
```