

3.3 Spiral cipher

cipher: taskphaWL_PL4sOingpYefdngaP{_diddL40ap}y5rn_s1m37

WRITE UP:

Step 1: Count the number of characters in the cipher

Length = 49

Step 2: Form a rectangular/square grid

Since length is 49 we form a 7x7 square grid

Step 3: Input the cipher

There are multiple ways of inputting a cipher such as:

1. Row by row and extracting spiral
2. Spiral and extracting row by row

And then we have to consider:

Direction: Clockwise or AntiClockwise

Start: Top Left or Top Right

I took the most basic approach and thought about doing trial and error hence inputting row by row and checking clockwise starting from top left.

Step 4: Analysing the cipher

I obtained,

“taskphase{4r73m1s_n0_fOWL_PL4YPL5y}paddingpadding”

Removing the padding, taskphase{4r73m1s_n0_fOWL_PL4YPL5y} is the plaintext/flag