

wget Commands

Command wget stands for web get. The wget is a free non-interactive file downloader command. Non-interactive means it can work in background when user is not logged in. This allows user to get disconnected with the system while wget finish its work.

It can even download entire website as a local version of remote websites, fully recreating the structure of original website. In short, you can mirror an entire website with wget.

It supports HTTP, HTTPS and FTP protocol. It is a freely available package and licensed under GNU GPL. This command works on all operating systems including MAC OS and Windows.

The main feature of wget is its robustness and recursiveness. Due to its robustness, it work even in slow internet connection. It automatically starts downloading the file from where it was left in case of network failure. Due to its recursiveness, it keeps trying until the file is retrieved completely.

Flags:-

1. The **wget** command is used to download files from the internet via HTTP, HTTPS, or FTP protocols.

```
(root@kali:~/sm)
└─$ wget http://testphp.vulnweb.com/login.php
--2024-05-03 18:20:05-- http://testphp.vulnweb.com/login.php
Resolving testphp.vulnweb.com (testphp.vulnweb.com)... 44.228.249.3
Connecting to testphp.vulnweb.com (testphp.vulnweb.com)[44.228.249.3]:80... connected.
HTTP request sent, awaiting response... 200 OK
Length: unspecified [text/html]
Saving to: 'login.php'

login.php                                     [ <=> ] 5.39K ---KB/s in 0.001s

2024-05-03 18:20:06 (8.24 MB/s) - 'login.php' saved [5523]
```

2. The **-O** flag in wget allows you to specify the name of the downloaded file.

```
(root@kali:~/sm)
└─$ wget -O Test http://testphp.vulnweb.com/login.php
--2024-05-03 18:22:04-- http://testphp.vulnweb.com/login.php
Resolving testphp.vulnweb.com (testphp.vulnweb.com)... 44.228.249.3
Connecting to testphp.vulnweb.com (testphp.vulnweb.com)[44.228.249.3]:80... connected.
HTTP request sent, awaiting response... 200 OK
Length: unspecified [text/html]
Saving to: 'Test'

Test                                         [ <=> ] 5.39K ---KB/s in 0.001s

2024-05-03 18:22:04 (5.43 MB/s) - 'Test' saved [5523]

(root@kali:~/sm)
└─$ ls
build          Downloads  m-12.txt  m-17.txt  m-21.txt  m-26.txt  m-30.txt  m-35.txt  m-3.txt   m-44.txt  m-49.txt  m-53.txt  m-58.txt  m-9.txt   Pictures  Test
classes-error.zip login.php  m-13.txt  m-18.txt  m-22.txt  m-27.txt  m-31.txt  m-36.txt  m-40.txt  m-45.txt  m-4.txt   m-54.txt  m-5.txt   Mobile-Security-Framework-MobSF  Public  Videos
desktop       m-0.txt   m-14.txt  m-19.txt  m-23.txt  m-28.txt  m-32.txt  m-37.txt  m-41.txt  m-46.txt  m-50.txt  m-55.txt  m-6.txt   Music     qark      summary.txt
desktop       m-10.txt  m-15.txt  m-1.txt   m-24.txt  m-29.txt  m-33.txt  m-38.txt  m-42.txt  m-47.txt  m-51.txt  m-56.txt  m-7.txt   nmap      templates
documents     m-11.txt  m-16.txt  m-20.txt  m-25.txt  m-2.txt   m-34.txt  m-39.txt  m-43.txt  m-48.txt  m-52.txt  m-57.txt  m-8.txt   nuclei-templates

(root@kali:~/sm)
└─$ cat Test
<!DOCTYPE HTML PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD HTML 4.01 Transitional//EN"
"http://www.w3.org/TR/html4/loose.dtd">
<html><!-- InstanceBegin template="/Templates/main_dynamic_template.dwt.php" codeOutsideHTMLOutsideIsLocked="false" -->
<head>
<meta http-equiv="Content-Type" content="text/html; charset=iso-8859-2">

<!-- InstanceBeginEditable name="document_title_rgn" -->
<title>login pages</title>
<!-- InstanceEndEditable -->
<link rel="stylesheet" href="style.css" type="text/css">
<!-- InstanceBeginEditable name="headers_rgn" -->
<!-- here goes headers headers -->
<!-- InstanceEndEditable -->
<script language="JavaScript" type="text/JavaScript">
<!--
function MM_reloadPage(init) { //reloads the window if Nav4 resized
  if (init==true) with (navigator) { if ((appName=="Netscape")&&(parseInt(appVersion)==4)) {
    document.MM_pgW=innerWidth; document.MM_pgH=innerHeight; onresize=MM_reloadPage; }}
  else if (innerWidth!=document.MM_pgW || innerHeight!=document.MM_pgH) location.reload();
}
MM_reloadPage(true);
-->
```

3. The **-P** flag in wget is used to specify the directory where the downloaded file should be saved.

```
(root@kali:~/sm)
└─$ wget -P Desktop http://testphp.vulnweb.com/login.php
--2024-05-03 18:23:48-- http://testphp.vulnweb.com/login.php
Resolving testphp.vulnweb.com (testphp.vulnweb.com)... 44.228.249.3
Connecting to testphp.vulnweb.com (testphp.vulnweb.com)[44.228.249.3]:80... connected.
HTTP request sent, awaiting response... 200 OK
Length: unspecified [text/html]
Saving to: 'Desktop/login.php'

login.php                                     [ <=> ] 5.39K ---KB/s in 0.001s

2024-05-03 18:23:48 (7.92 MB/s) - 'Desktop/login.php' saved [5523]
```

4. The **--limit-rate** flag in wget is used to limit the download speed of the file being retrieved.

```
(root@kaliSMPC002)-[/home/sm]
# wget --limit-rate 1m http://testphp.vulnweb.com/login.php
--2024-05-03 18:25:33-- http://testphp.vulnweb.com/login.php
Resolving testphp.vulnweb.com (testphp.vulnweb.com)... 44.228.249.3
Connecting to testphp.vulnweb.com (testphp.vulnweb.com)|44.228.249.3|:80... connected.
HTTP request sent, awaiting response... 200 OK
Length: unspecified [text/html]
Saving to: 'login.php.1'

login.php.1          [ <=> ] 5.39K --.-KB/s in 0.001s

2024-05-03 18:25:33 (8.89 MB/s) - 'login.php.1' saved [5523]
```

5. The **-b** flag in wget is used to run the download process in the background, allowing it to continue even after you close the terminal session.

```
(root@kaliSMPC002)-[/home/sm]
# wget -b http://testphp.vulnweb.com/login.php

Continuing in background, pid 5481.
Output will be written to 'wget-log'.
```

6. The command **tail -f wget-log** would continuously display the last few lines of the file named wget-log as it is being updated in real-time. This is useful for monitoring the progress of ongoing downloads managed by the wget command and observing any status messages or errors logged during the process.

```
(root@kaliSMPC002)-[/home/sm]
# tail -f wget-log
Resolving testphp.vulnweb.com (testphp.vulnweb.com)... 44.228.249.3
Connecting to testphp.vulnweb.com (testphp.vulnweb.com)|44.228.249.3|:80... connected.
HTTP request sent, awaiting response... 200 OK
Length: unspecified [text/html]
Saving to: 'login.php.2'

      OK .....                6.84M=0.001s

2024-05-03 18:29:19 (6.84 MB/s) - 'login.php.2' saved [5523]
```