Documentation: Brute Force Login Attempt on "Hack Yourself First" website using Burp Suite

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1. Objective

To simulate a brute-force attack on the "Hack Yourself First" login portal using Burp Suite to identify potential vulnerabilities and demonstrate how unauthorized access could be obtained by exploiting weak password policies.

2. Requirements

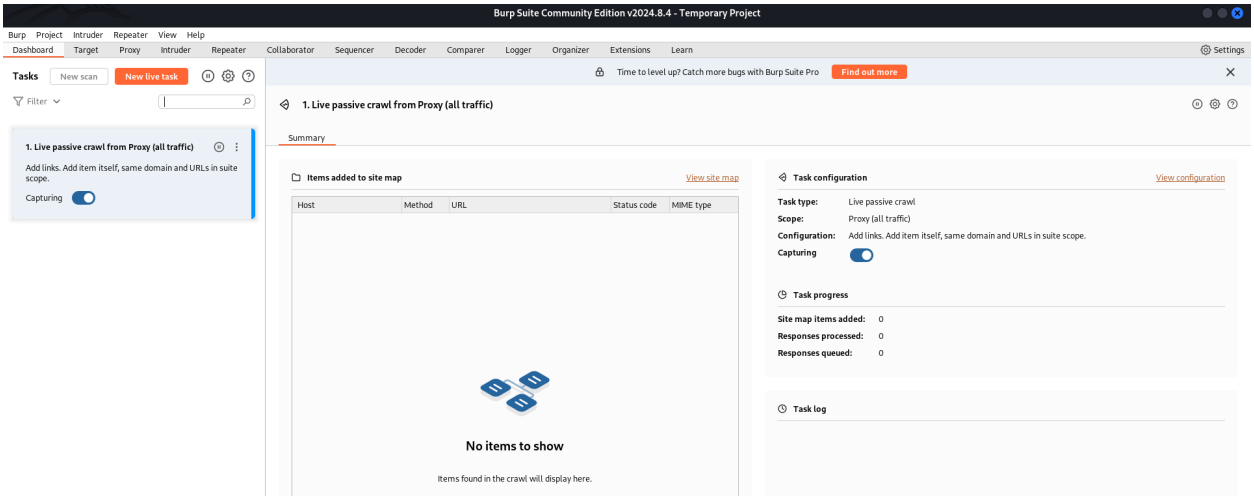
- Burp Suite
- Target website: "https://hack-yourself-first.com/"
- we have a username “dummy@123.com” and a passwords list for brute-force testing (or a custom wordlist)

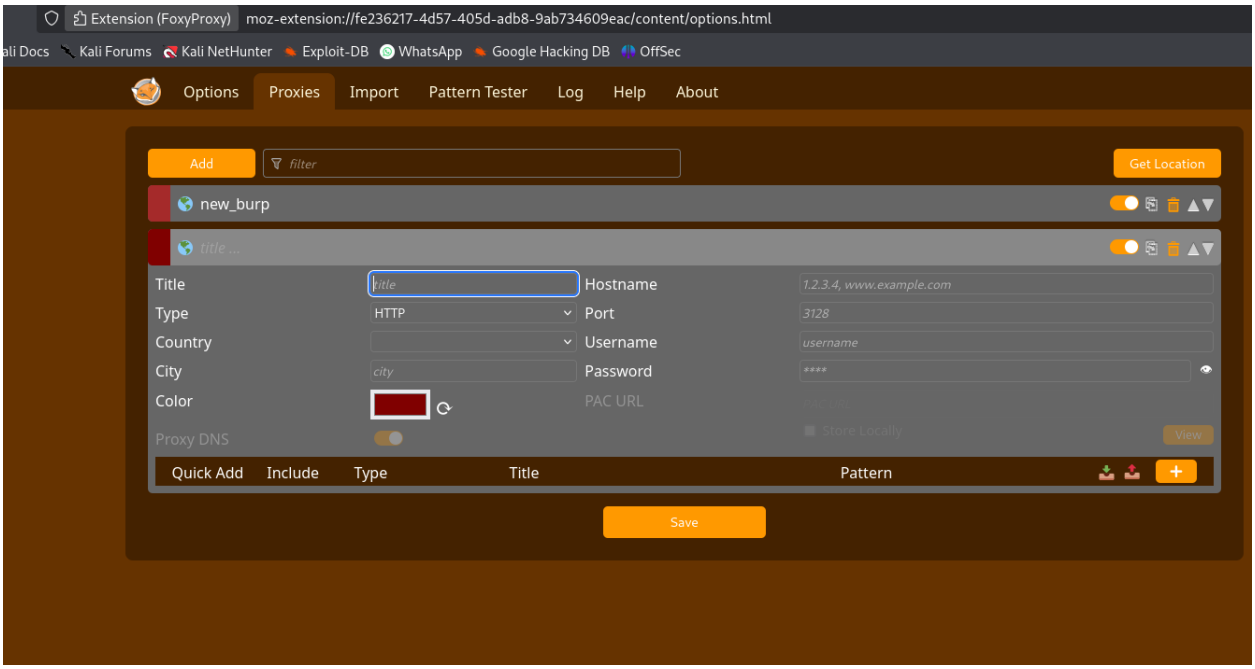
3. Scope of Testing

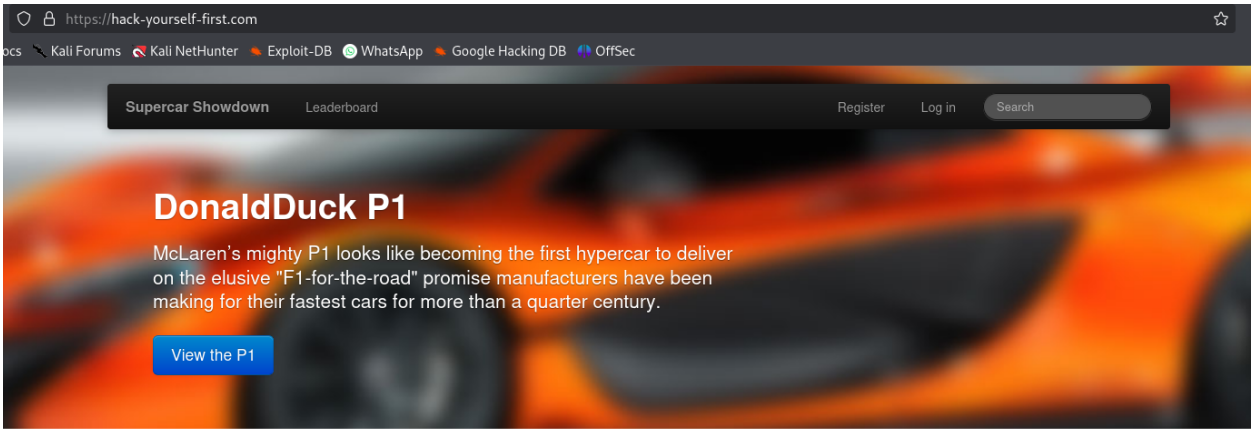
The test aims to examine the security of the login functionality by attempting a brute-force login with Burp Suite. The scope is limited to the login endpoint to evaluate if weak credentials could grant unauthorized access.

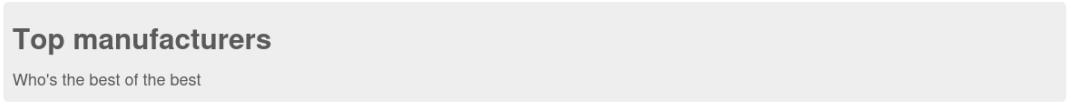
4. Environment Setup

1. **Install Burp Suite**: Ensure Burp Suite is installed and configured on your local machine.
2. **Configure the Browser**: add “FoxyProxy” extenstion in your firefox and set your foxy proxy settings to route through Burp Suite (default localhost/127.0.0.1:8080) and configure the setup by importing certificate from burp suite and add it in firefox certificates and use the Burp Suite Proxy to intercept traffic..
3. **Open "**https://hack-yourself-first.com**" and go to Login Page**: Go to the login page of the application where the brute-force test will be conducted.







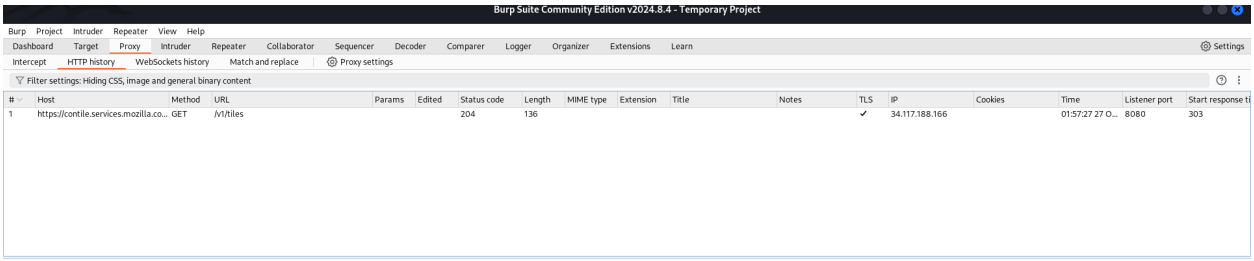


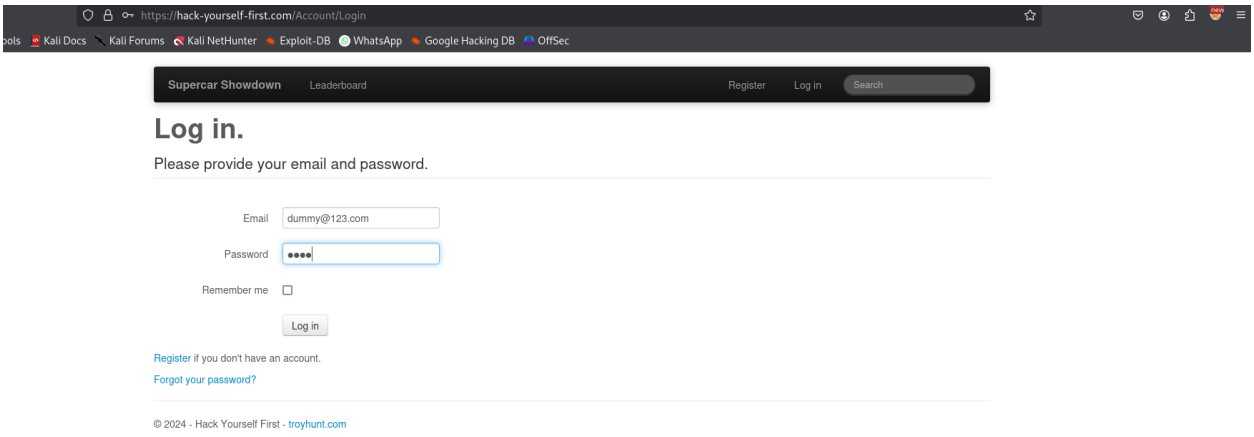
5. Testing Procedure

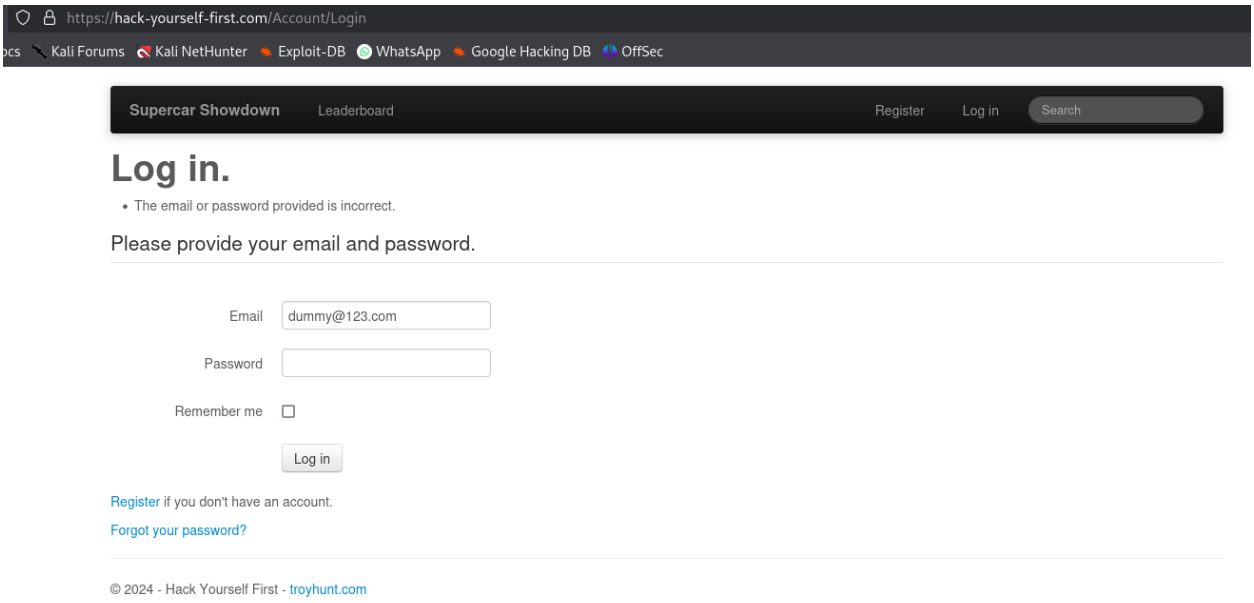
Step 1: Intercepting the Login Request

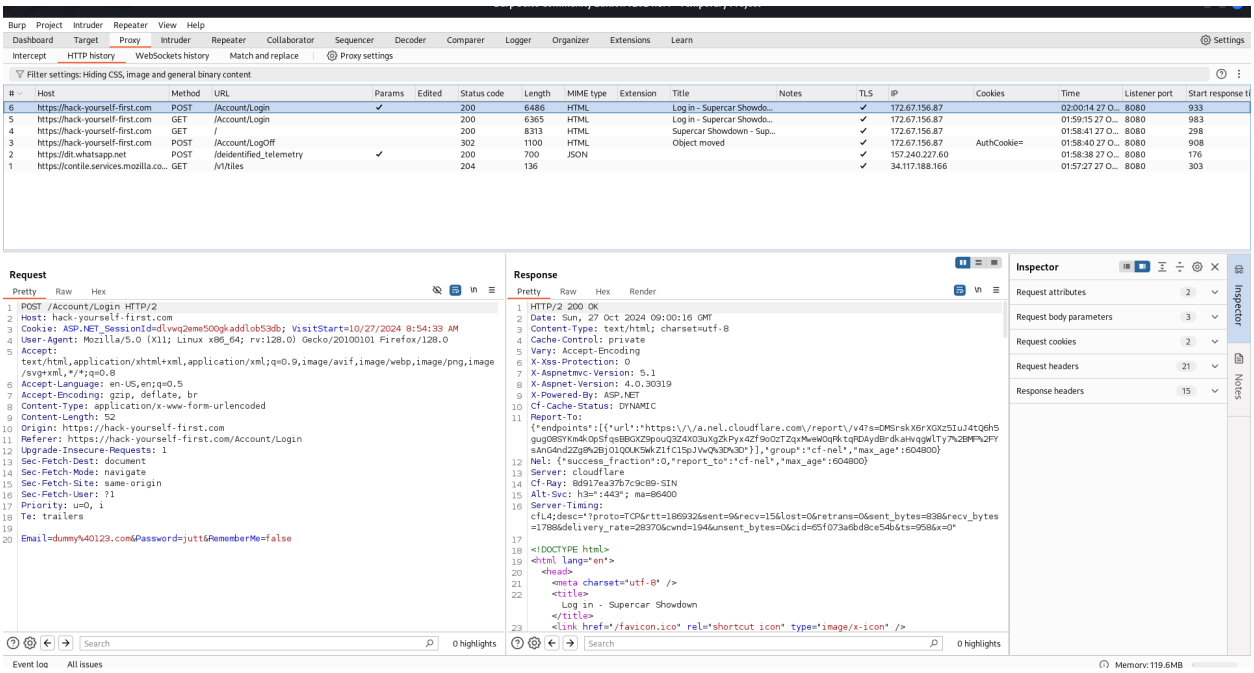
1. Open Burp Suite and go to **Proxy** tab.

2. In the browser, go to login and enter a test username “dummy@123.com” and password “1234” and attempt to log in.
3. Return to Burp Suite and review the intercepted login request. It should contain information like the login URL, HTTP method, headers, and the POST request body with credentials.





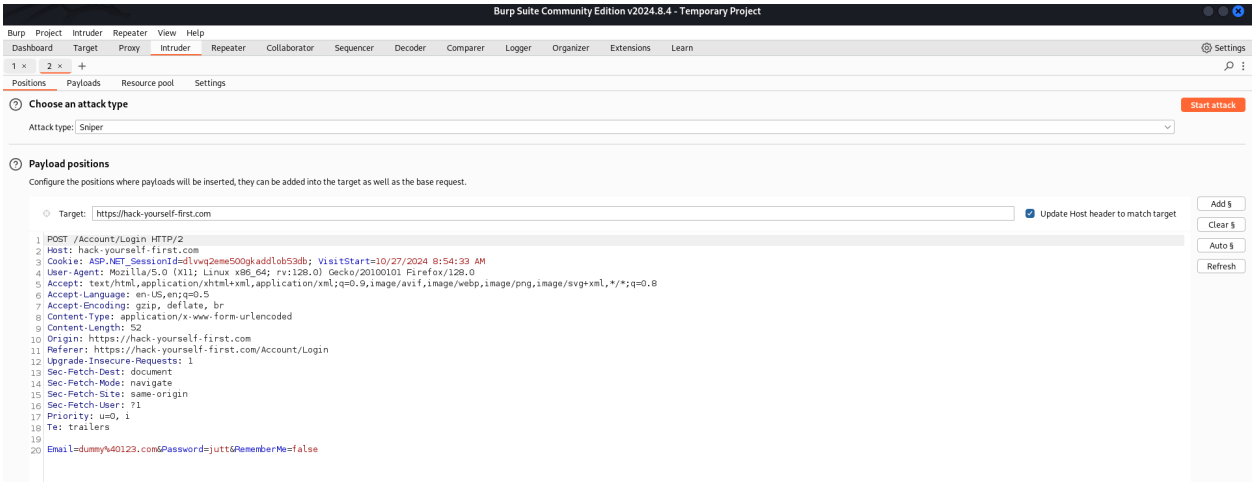




Step 2: Configuring Intruder for Brute Force Attack

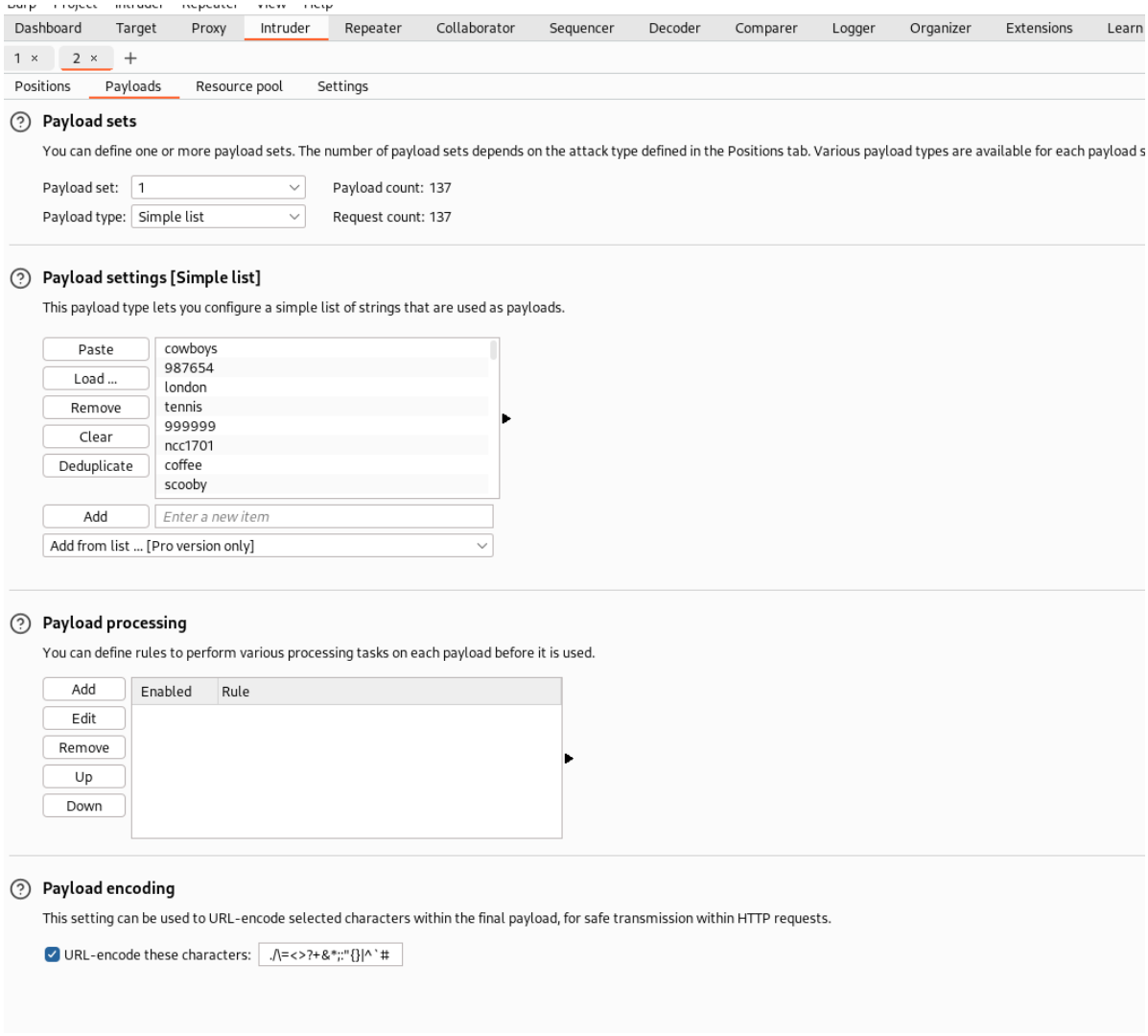
1. In Burp Suite, right-click on the intercepted request and choose **Send to Intruder**.
2. Go to the **Intruder** tab, where your intercepted request will now be listed.

3. Under the **Positions** sub-tab, identify the parameters to brute-force, it is the `password` fields.
    - Highlight the `password` values and click **Add** to set them as positions.



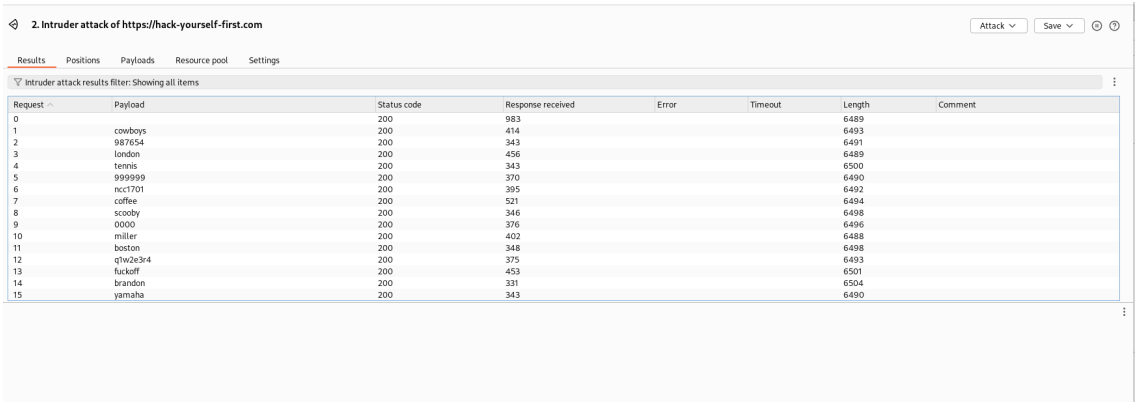
Step 3: Setting Payload Options

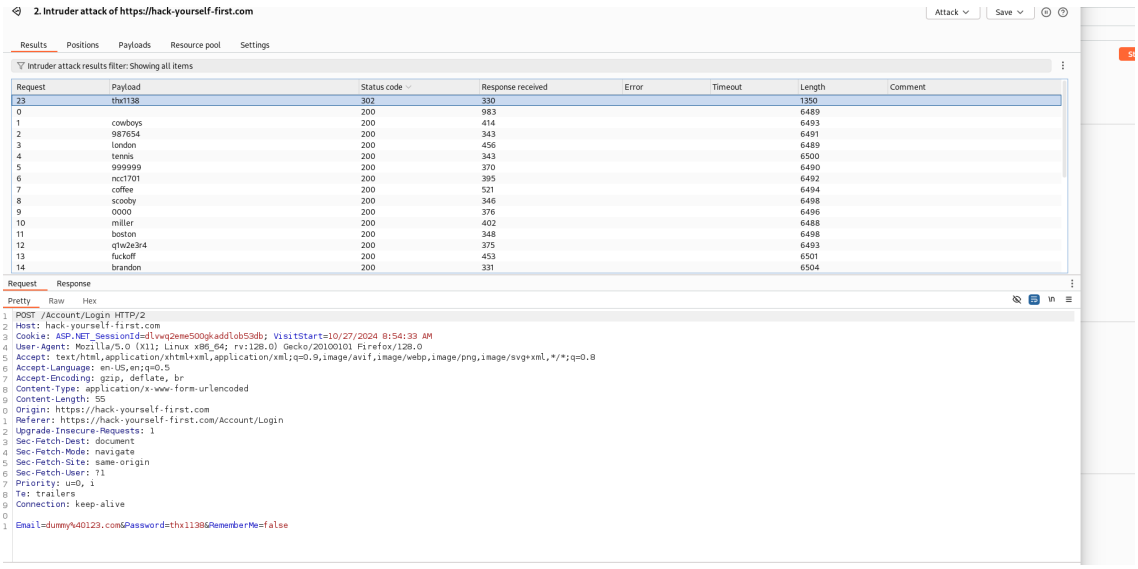
1. Go to the **Payloads** sub-tab.
2. set **Payload set : 1**
3. set **payload type : simple list**
4. go to **payload settings** and import your passwords from your custom file by clicking **Load** option



Step 4: Running the Attack and Analyzing Results

1. Go to the **Intruder** tab and click **Start Attack** to initiate the brute-force attack.
2. Observe the results:
    - Burp Suite will generate a table of responses for each password combination attempted.
    - Look for responses with distinct status codes, response lengths, or headers (e.g., a `200 OK` ,any different status code,length or a redirect).

- 



Results and Observations

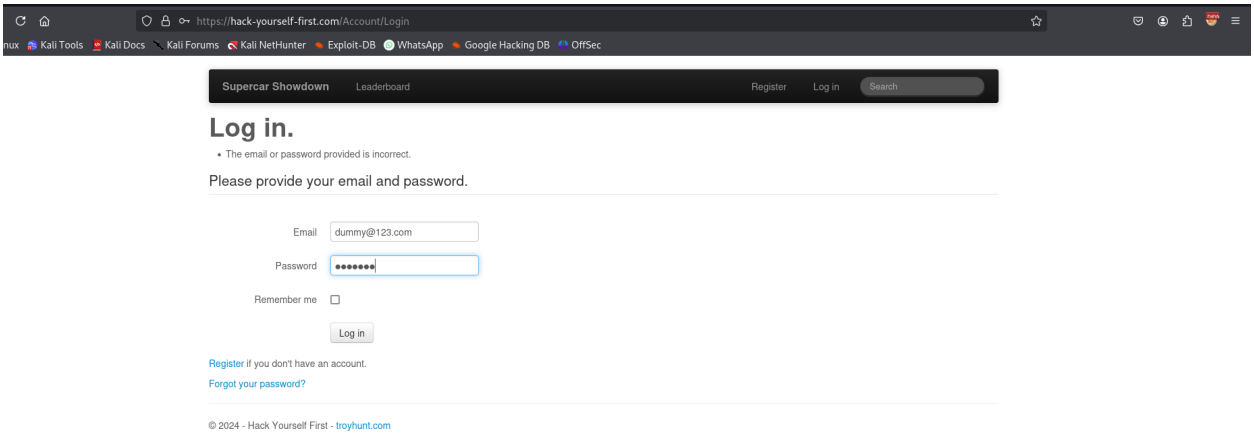
During the brute-force test, we observed the following details that may indicate a successful login attempt:

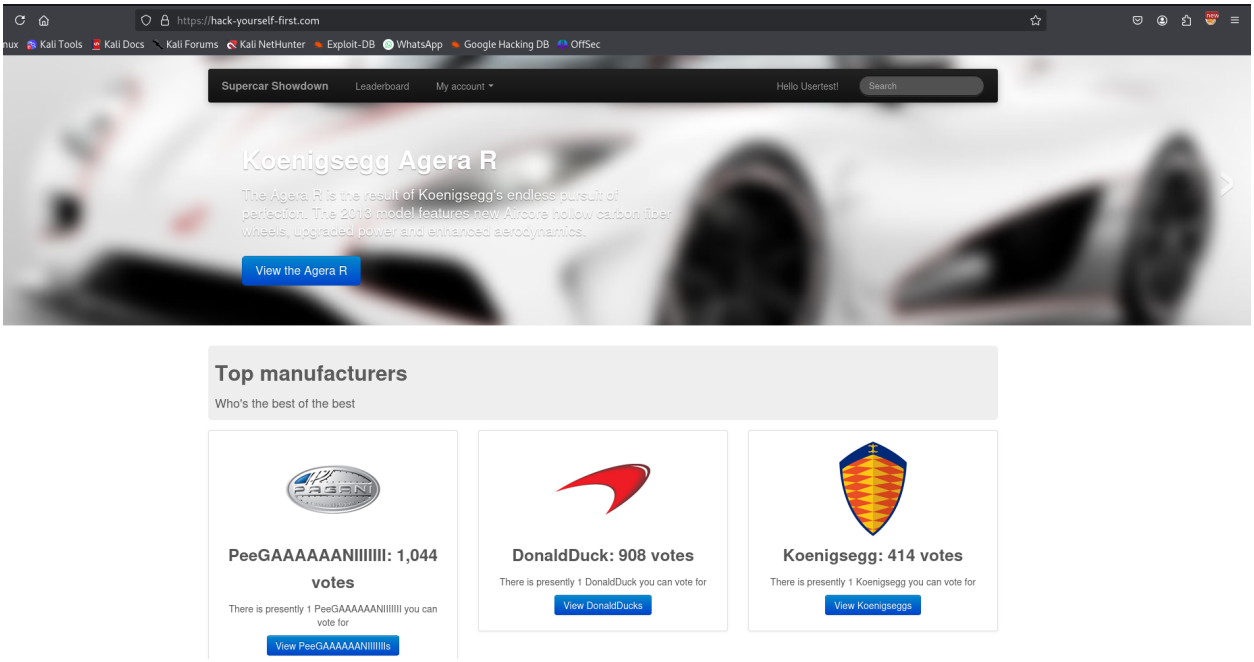
Password	Status Code	Response Length	Observation
thx1138	302	1350	Redirects and returns authentication cookies
cowboys	200	6493	Standard response; no access granted
london	200	6489	Standard response; no access granted

Detailed Observations:

- **Status Code 302 with Response Length 1350**: A specific response was identified for the password `thx1138` with status code `302` and response length `1350`, indicating a potential redirect upon successful authentication.
- **Authentication Cookies and Session ID**: Upon inspecting the request in Burp Suite, authentication cookies and a session ID were present in the response headers, suggesting that this request successfully authenticated the user.
- **Password Discovery**: The password `thx1138` appears to be a valid credential. Further testing with different usernames may validate this result

💡 → now go back to login page and try this password “thx1138” and check the result .





now look at the login option it display the user name which means that login attempt successful.

Conclusion

The brute-force test on the "Hack Yourself First" login portal revealed significant vulnerabilities due to weak password policies and a lack of brute-force protection. Using Burp Suite, we identified a successful login with the simple password `thx1138`, which returned a `302` status and authentication cookies, confirming unauthorized access.

This test underscores the need for stronger security measures, including enforced strong passwords, account lockouts, and multi-factor authentication, to safeguard against unauthorized access attempts and protect user data.