

Lab 10.9.7 Hardening Safari and Email on an Apple Mobile Endpoint

From TestOut CompTIA Security+ Course

In this lab I will be configuring email and browser settings on a Corporate-owned iOS / iPadOS Device in order to harden it from external bad actors on the web. (settings will be the same on iPhone and iPad)

The scenario for this lab is as follows:

“You work as the IT security administrator for a small corporate network. The receptionist, Maggie Brown, uses an iPad to manage employee schedules and messages. You need to help her secure her email and browser on her iPad.

In this lab, your task is to complete the following:

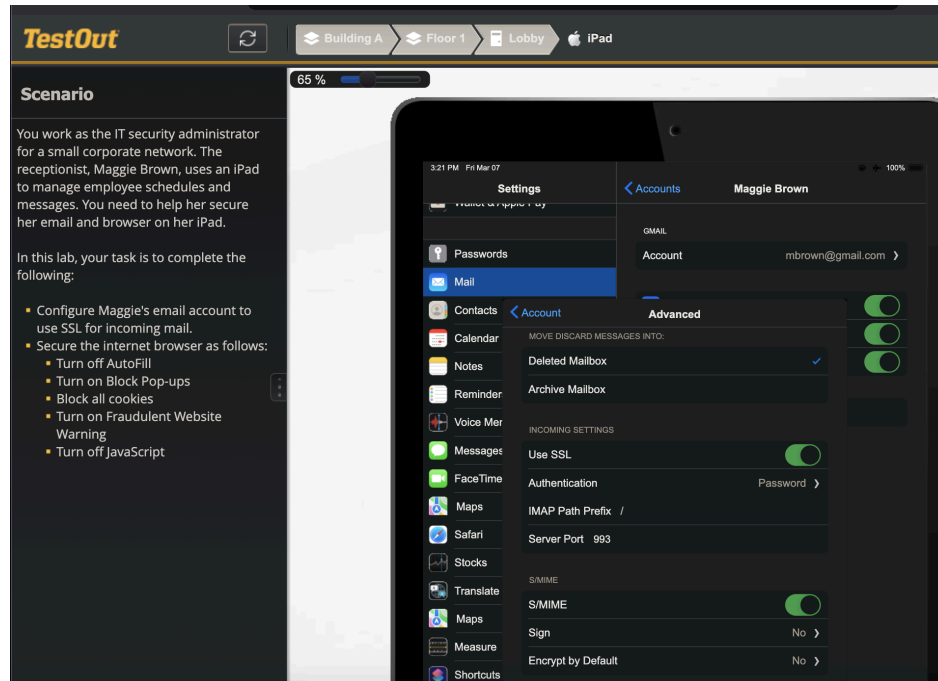
- Configure Maggie's email account to use SSL for incoming mail.
- Secure the internet browser as follows:
 - Turn off AutoFill
 - Turn on Block Pop-ups
 - Block all cookies
 - Turn on Fraudulent Website Warning
 - Turn off JavaScript”

To change settings on an iDevice (whether it be iPad or iPhone), I will need to do this from the master **Settings** app.

I will Tap **Settings** then navigate to the **Email** section.

Once there I will go to **Email > Accounts > Gmail > Advanced Settings**.

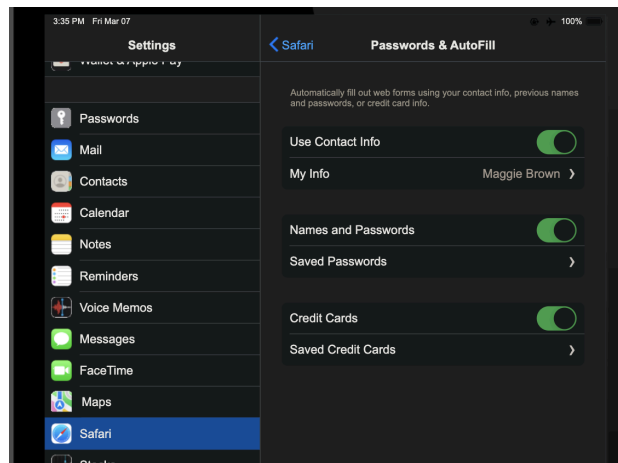
Scrolling down , I'll toggle on **Use SSL**.



Once that is set, I can move on to the next step which is to change some settings within the built-in browser, **Safari**.

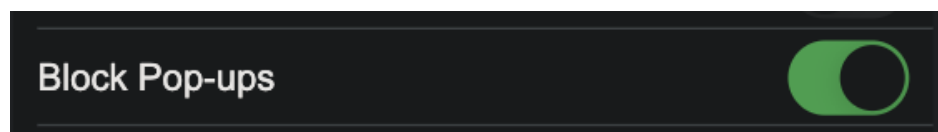
Since I am still in the Settings app, I'll scroll down to the Safari settings submenu. Once here I need to set the following :

- Turn off AutoFill
- Turn on Block Pop-ups
- Block all cookies
- Turn on Fraudulent Website Warning
- Turn off JavaScript



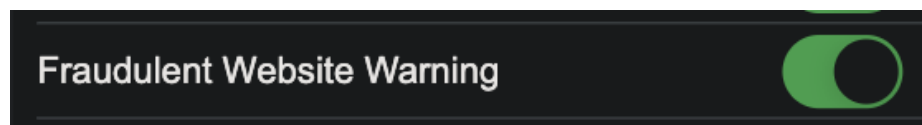
Autofill will automatically populate fields with passwords and other sensitive information. While this is convenient, this does pose a security risk where it makes it too easy for a victim to navigate to a malicious site and submit forms with their sensitive info auto-populated. This can also help in the case where the device is compromised physically which would allow bad actors to login to accounts on this device with ease.

With that set, I'll now turn on **Block Pop-Ups**.



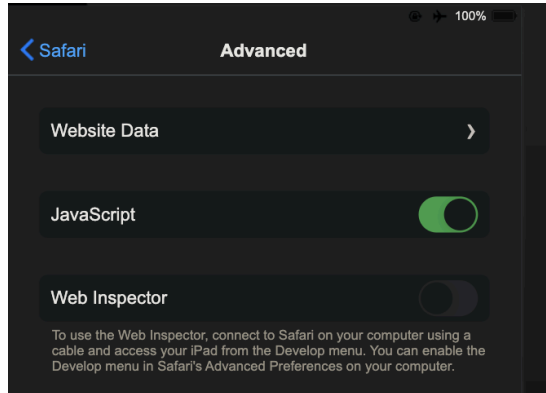
Next I will block all cookies. This will help secure the device in the event the end user runs malicious code or apps that are Cookie Stealers. If no cookies are stored, the attackers will be unable to steal them in the first place.

Right underneath **Block Pop -Ups** I can find my next setting which to turn on **Fraudulent Website Warning**.



Lastly I will disable **Javascript support**. This will severely limit the functionality of the web browser but since the end user is using a specific software for calendar bookings, it will be fine.

At the very bottom of the **Safari** settings menu I will tap **Advanced** then turn off Javascript.



Now that all settings for the Email and Browser are set, this will now conclude this lab! As a reminder I did the following:

- Configure Maggie's email account to use SSL for incoming mail.
- Secure the internet browser as follows:
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 - Block all cookies
 - Turn on Fraudulent Website Warning
 - Turn off JavaScript

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