This repository documents a hands-on ethical hacking lab focused on enumerating Server Message Block (SMB) services using Enum4linux.

Enum4linux is a tool for enumerating information from Windows and Samba. Samba is an application that enables Linux and Apple clients to participate in Windows networks. It enables non-Windows clients to utilize the Server Message Block (SMB) protocol to access file and print services. Samba servers can participate in a Windows domain, both as a client and a server The goal is to:

- Launch enum4linux and explore its capabilities.
- Identify computers with SMB services running.
- Use enum4linux to enumerate users and network file shares.
- Use smbclient to transfer files between systems.

This lab is performed in a fully controlled virtual lab environment using intentionally vulnerable machines (e.g., Metasploitable 2).

Poorly secured and managed Windows server networks are a huge security risk. Penetration testers must uncover any vulnerabilities in file and print sharing functions that can leave an organization vulnerable to attack. In this activity, you will explore the capabilities of the enum4linux tool to enumerate user and file sharing information from Samba servers. Finally, you will use the smbclient utility to transfer files between systems.

Lab Enviroment

attacker: Kali Linux (Provided by CISCO NetAcad)

Tools: Enum4linux, Nmap (for initial discovery)

Step 1: Verify Installation and Review Help Options

Objective:

Confirm that Enum4linux is installed on the Kali Linux system and examine its available options to understand the tool's full capabilities.

Boot into Kali Linux and log in with the default credentials:

Username: kali

Password: kali

Open a terminal:

Elevate privileges to root (recommended for most Enum4linux operations):

In the terminal, run: sudo su

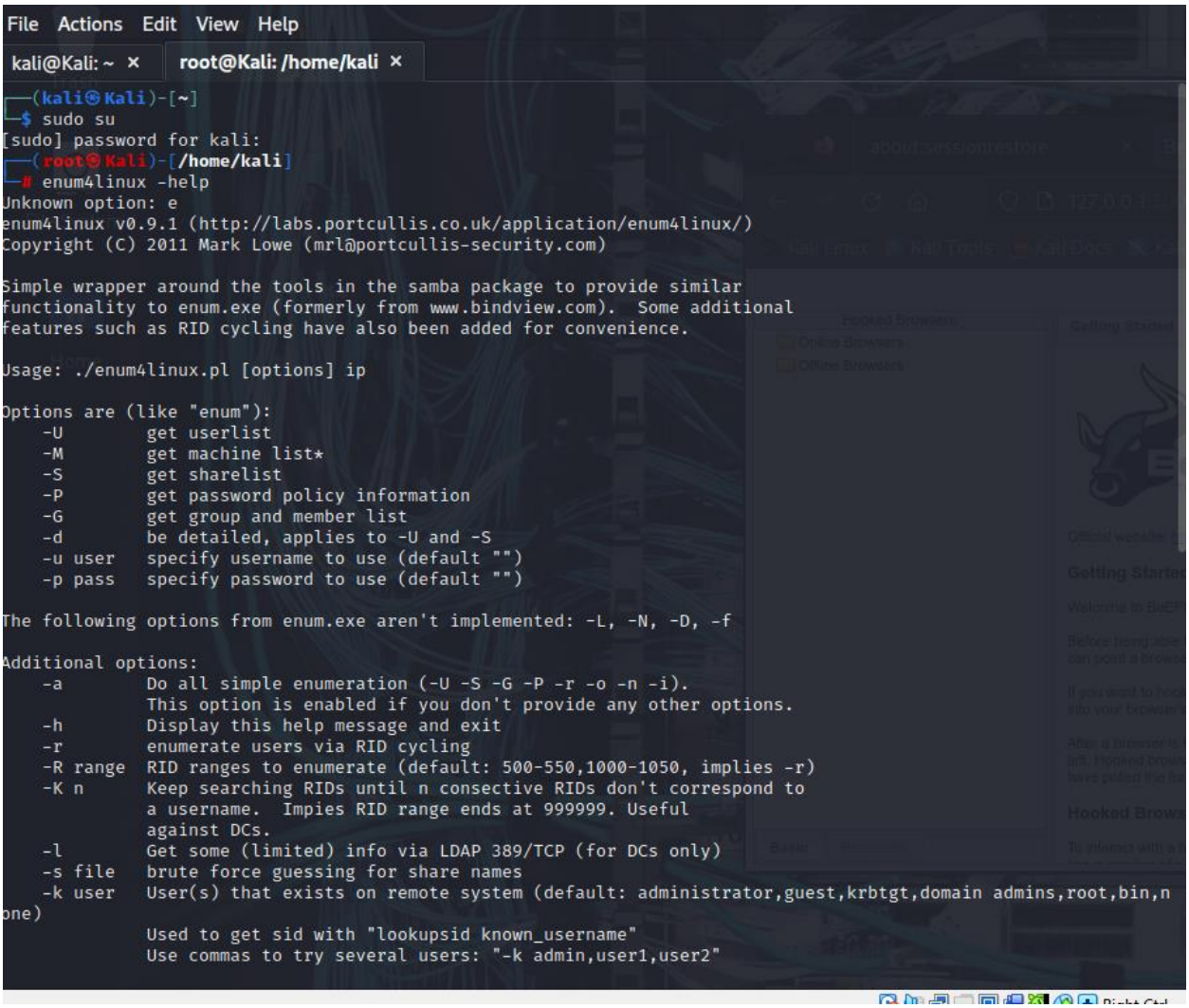
Enter the password kali when prompted.

The prompt will change to indicate root access.

Enum4linux supports targeted enumeration (e.g., -u for users, -S for shares, -G for groups).

The -a flag performs all basic enumeration tasks in one pass (commonly used).

Options like -r (enumerate users via RID cycling) and -P (password policy) are useful for deeper assessment.



This step ensures that the tool is ready and gives a clear overview of its functionality before proceeding to active scanning.

Ethical Reminder: Always perform enumeration only on systems you own or have explicit written permission to test.

Part 2: Discovering SMB Servers with Nmap

Step 1: Scanning the Network for Potential SMB Targets

Objective:

Identify hosts on the lab network that expose SMB-related services by scanning common SMB ports. This helps locate potential targets for further enumeration with Enum4linux.

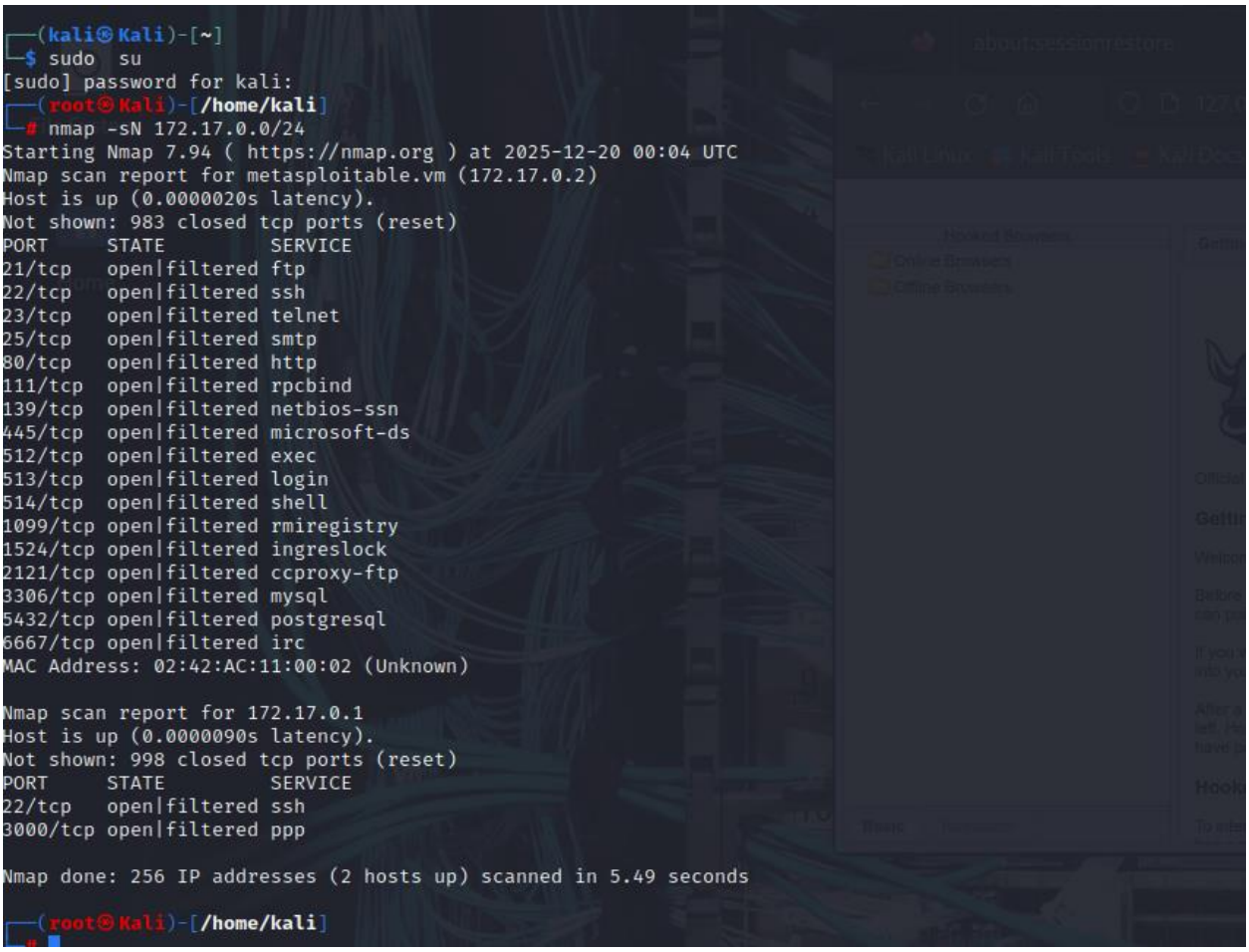
Common SMB-Related Ports:

The following ports are typically associated with SMB and supporting services

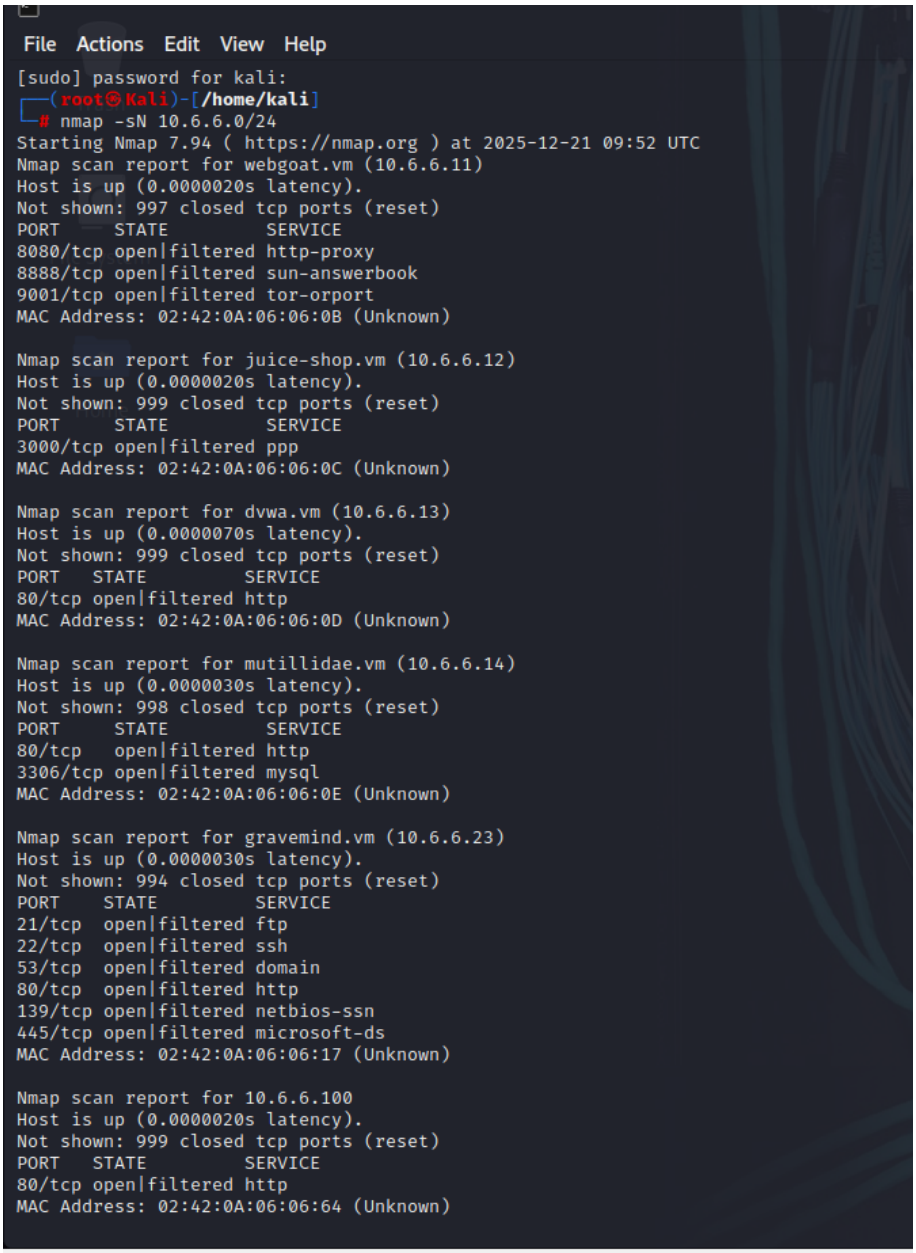
Port	Prptocol	Service Description
TCP 135	TCP	RPC (Remote Procedure Call)
TCP 139	TCP	NetBIOS Session Service
TCP 389	TCP	LDAP Server
TCP 445	TCP	SMB File Service (Direct hosting)
TCP 9389	TCP	Active Directory Web Server
TCP/UDP 137	UDP	NetBios Name Service
UDP 138	UDP	NetBIOS Datagram Service

Two virtual networks are included in the Kali VM with Docker containers. Use the nmap -sN command to find the services available on hosts in the 172.17.0.0 virtual network. Note: sudo is not required if you executed the sudo su command above.

┌──(root㉿kali)-[/home/kali] └─# nmap -sN 172.17.0.0/24



Conduct a nmap -sN scan on the 10.6.6.0/24 subnet. ┌──(root㉿kali)-[/home/kali] └─# nmap -sN 10.6.6.0/24



Are there any potential target computers on this subnet running SMB services? Which computer or computers? How do you know? Yes, 10.6.6.23. It has ports 139 and 445 open

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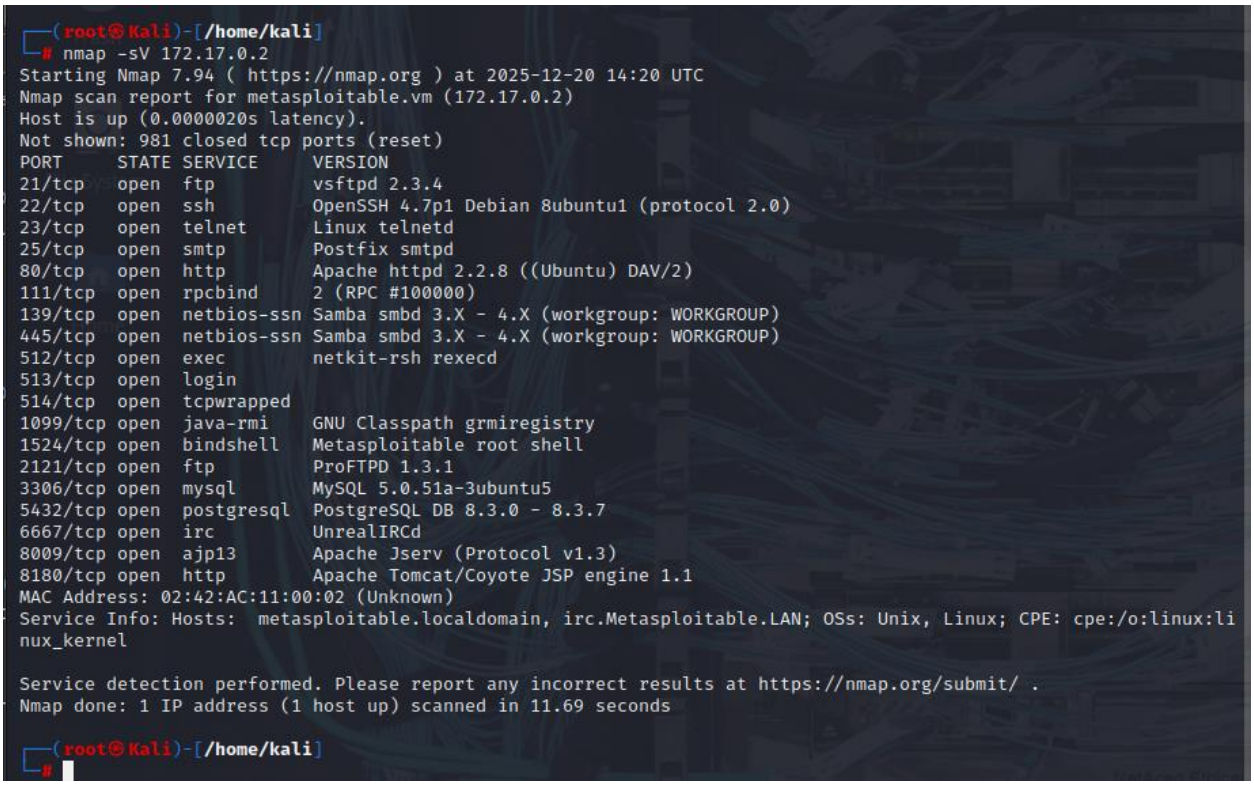
I did further enum on Ports 139 and 445 using nmap –sV 172.17.0.2

The respective ports with the versions are shown Samba smbd 3.x -4.x



Use enum4linux to enumerate users and network file shares.

Step 1: Perform an enum4linux scan on target 172.17.0.2.

In Part 1, Step 1c, you used the enum4linux help page to learn about the options available to enumerate potential targets. The most common options are: -U find configured users -S get a list of file shares -G get a list of the groups and their members -P list the password policies -i get a list of printers

Use the enum4linux -U option to list the users configured on the target 172.17.0.2. Remember that enum4linux commands require root permissions to execute.

┌──(root㉿kali)-[/home/kali] └─# enum4linux -U 172.17.0.2

The output of this command can generate multiple screens of information if many users are discovered. Enum4linux aggregates output from multiple Samba tools to produce a concise result.

enum4linux -U 172.17.0.2

Breakdown

enum4linux → SMB enumeration tool

-U → Enumerate user accounts

172.17.0.2 → Target IP address

What information it tries to retrieve:

If SMB allows it, this will attempt to list:

-Local Windows/Samba usernames

- Domain users (if the host is domain-joined)

-Users accessible via anonymous (null session) or guest access

Possible outcomes & what they mean

Users are listed

This usually means:

SMB allows anonymous enumeration

Weak or legacy SMB configuration

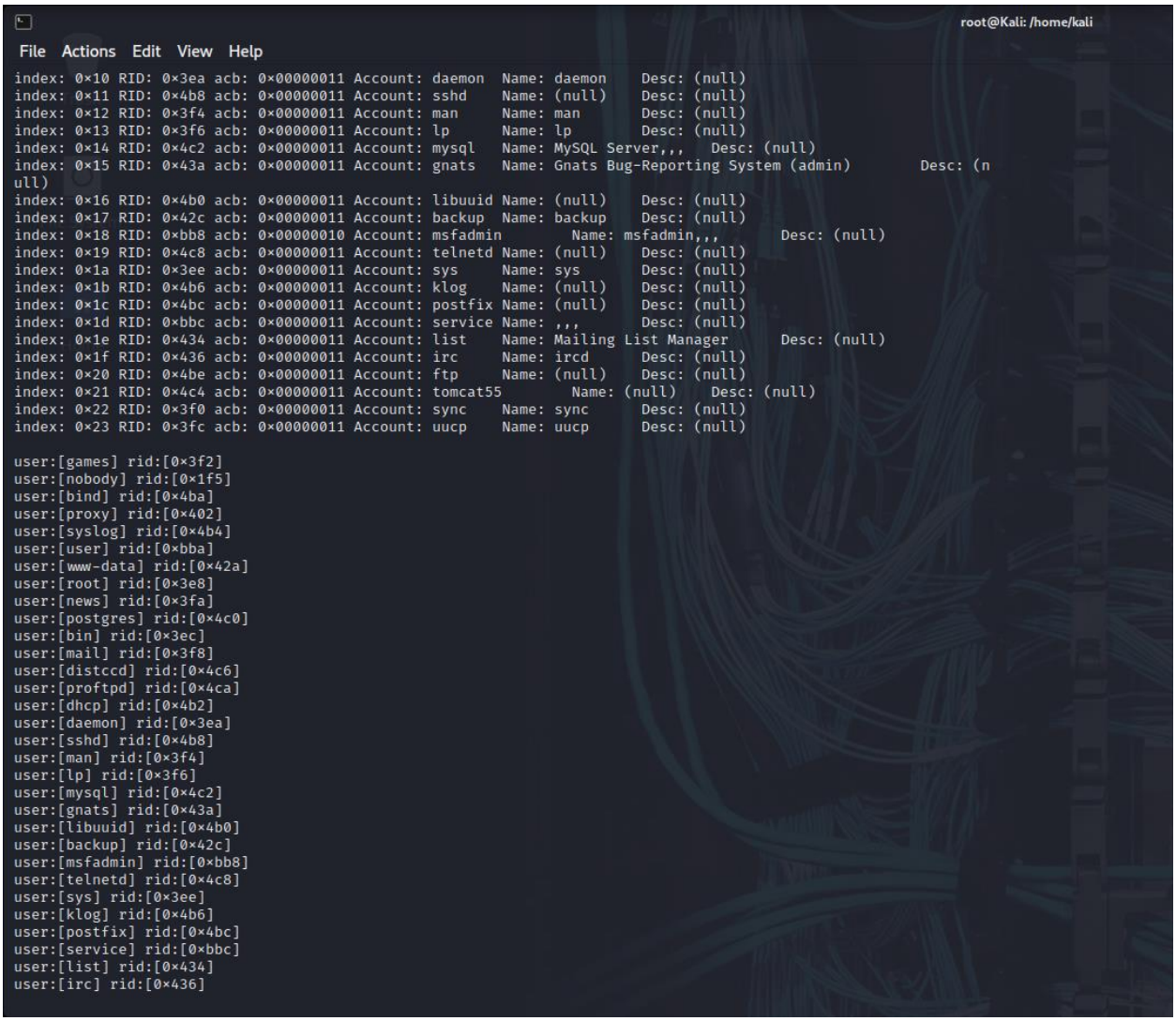
This is valuable for:

Password spraying

Brute-force attacks

Further privilege escalation

```
┌──(root㉿Kali)-[/home/kali]
└─# enum4linux -U 172.17.0.2
Starting enum4linux v0.9.1 ( http://labs.portcullis.co.uk/application/enum4linux/ ) on Sat Dec 20 14:45:58 2025

 ==========( Target Information )==========

Target ........... 172.17.0.2
RID Range ........ 500-550,1000-1050
Username ......... ''
Password ......... ''
Known Usernames .. administrator, guest, krbtgt, domain admins, root, bin, none


 ==========( Enumerating Workgroup/Domain on 172.17.0.2 )==========

[+] Got domain/workgroup name: WORKGROUP


 ==========( Session Check on 172.17.0.2 )==========

[+] Server 172.17.0.2 allows sessions using username '', password ''


 ==========( Getting domain SID for 172.17.0.2 )==========

Domain Name: WORKGROUP
Domain Sid: (NULL SID)

[+] Can't determine if host is part of domain or part of a workgroup


 ==========( Users on 172.17.0.2 )==========

index: 0×1 RID: 0×3f2 acb: 0×00000011 Account: games    Name: games     Desc: (null)
index: 0×2 RID: 0×1f5 acb: 0×00000011 Account: nobody   Name: nobody    Desc: (null)
index: 0×3 RID: 0×4ba acb: 0×00000011 Account: bind     Name: (null)    Desc: (null)
index: 0×4 RID: 0×402 acb: 0×00000011 Account: proxy    Name: proxy     Desc: (null)
index: 0×5 RID: 0×4b4 acb: 0×00000011 Account: syslog   Name: (null)    Desc: (null)
index: 0×6 RID: 0×bba acb: 0×00000010 Account: user     Name: just a user,111,, Desc: (null)
index: 0×7 RID: 0×42a acb: 0×00000011 Account: www-data Name: www-data  Desc: (null)
index: 0×8 RID: 0×3e8 acb: 0×00000011 Account: root     Name: root      Desc: (null)
index: 0×9 RID: 0×3fa acb: 0×00000011 Account: news     Name: news      Desc: (null)
index: 0×a RID: 0×4c0 acb: 0×00000011 Account: postgres Name: PostgreSQL administrator,,,      Desc: (null)
index: 0×b RID: 0×3ec acb: 0×00000011 Account: bin      Name: bin       Desc: (null)
index: 0×c RID: 0×3f8 acb: 0×00000011 Account: mail     Name: mail      Desc: (null)
index: 0×d RID: 0×4c6 acb: 0×00000011 Account: distccd  Name: (null)    Desc: (null)
index: 0×e RID: 0×4ca acb: 0×00000011 Account: proftpd  Name: (null)    Desc: (null)
index: 0×f RID: 0×4b2 acb: 0×00000011 Account: dhcp     Name: (null)    Desc: (null)
index: 0×10 RID: 0×3ea acb: 0×00000011 Account: daemon  Name: daemon    Desc: (null)
index: 0×11 RID: 0×4b8 acb: 0×00000011 Account: sshd    Name: (null)    Desc: (null)
```



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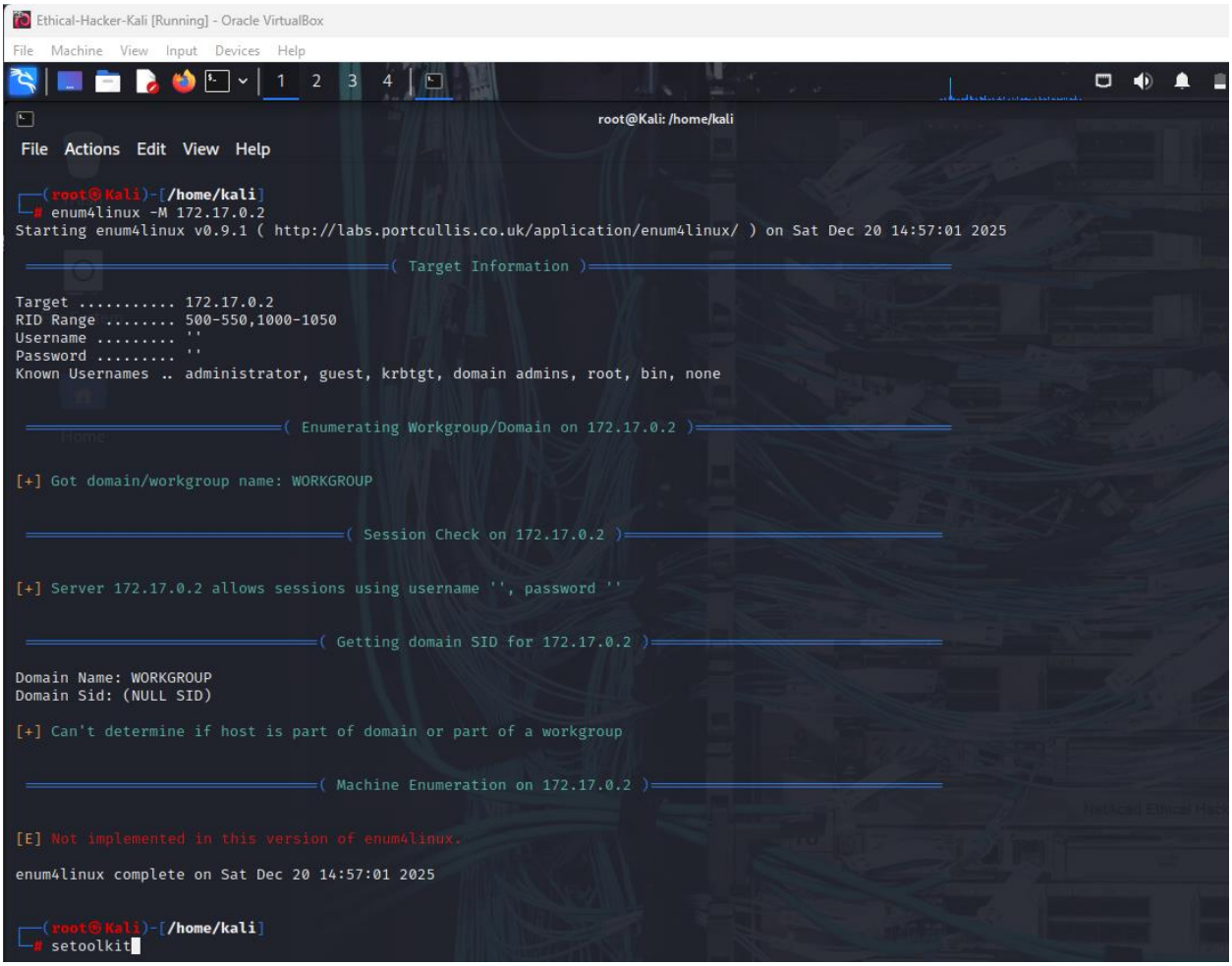
enum4linux -M 172.17.0.2

What -M tries to enumerate

The `-M` option attempts to gather **machine-level information**, such as:

- Computer / machine name
- Domain or workgroup membership
- Machine account details
- Trust relationships (if any)
- Domain SID (Security Identifie



Enumerate SMB shares - This check **what folders/services are exposed over SMB**, and whether they are accessible anonymous.

enum4linux - S 172.17.0.2

```
┌──(root㉿Kali)-[/home/kali]
└─# enum4linux -S 172.17.0.2
Starting enum4linux v0.9.1 ( http://labs.portcullis.co.uk/application/enum4linux/ ) on Sat Dec 20 15:05:10 2025

 ==========( Target Information )==========

Target ........... 172.17.0.2
RID Range ........ 500-550,1000-1050
Username ......... ''
Password ......... ''
Known Usernames .. administrator, guest, krbtgt, domain admins, root, bin, none


 ==========( Enumerating Workgroup/Domain on 172.17.0.2 )==========

[+] Got domain/workgroup name: WORKGROUP


 ==========( Session Check on 172.17.0.2 )==========


[+] Server 172.17.0.2 allows sessions using username '', password ''


 ==========( Getting domain SID for 172.17.0.2 )==========

Domain Name: WORKGROUP
Domain Sid: (NULL SID)

[+] Can't determine if host is part of domain or part of a workgroup


 ==========( Share Enumeration on 172.17.0.2 )==========


        Sharename       Type      Comment
        ---------       ----      -------
        print$          Disk      Printer Drivers
        tmp             Disk      oh noes!
        opt             Disk
        IPC$            IPC       IPC Service (metasploitable server (Samba 3.0.20-Debian))
        ADMIN$          IPC       IPC Service (metasploitable server (Samba 3.0.20-Debian))
Reconnecting with SMB1 for workgroup listing.
```

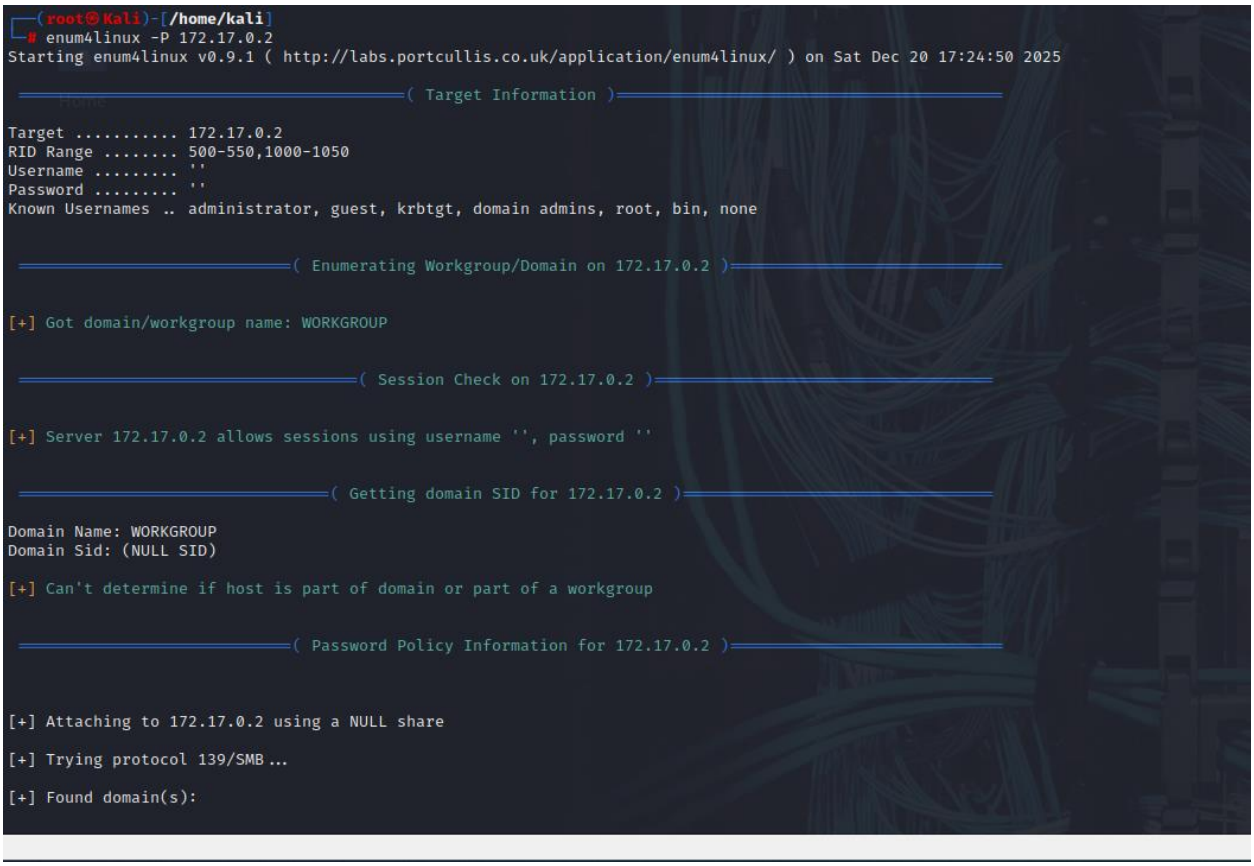
```
root@Kali: /home/kali
File  Actions  Edit  View  Help

 ==========( Getting domain SID for 172.17.0.2 )==========

Domain Name: WORKGROUP
Domain Sid: (NULL SID)

[+] Can't determine if host is part of domain or part of a workgroup


 ==========( Share Enumeration on 172.17.0.2 )==========


        Sharename       Type      Comment
        ---------       ----      -------
        print$          Disk      Printer Drivers
        tmp             Disk      oh noes!
        opt             Disk
        IPC$            IPC       IPC Service (metasploitable server (Samba 3.0.20-Debian))
        ADMIN$          IPC       IPC Service (metasploitable server (Samba 3.0.20-Debian))
Reconnecting with SMB1 for workgroup listing.

        Server               Comment
        ---------            -------

        Workgroup            Master
        ---------            -------
        WORKGROUP            METASPLOITABLE

[+] Attempting to map shares on 172.17.0.2

//172.17.0.2/print$     Mapping: DENIED Listing: N/A Writing: N/A
//172.17.0.2/tmp        Mapping: OK Listing: OK Writing: N/A
//172.17.0.2/opt        Mapping: DENIED Listing: N/A Writing: N/A

[E] Can't understand response:

NT_STATUS_NETWORK_ACCESS_DENIED listing \*
//172.17.0.2/IPC$       Mapping: N/A Listing: N/A Writing: N/A
//172.17.0.2/ADMIN$     Mapping: DENIED Listing: N/A Writing: N/A
enum4linux complete on Sat Dec 20 15:05:11 2025


┌──(root㉿Kali)-[/home/kali]
└─#
```

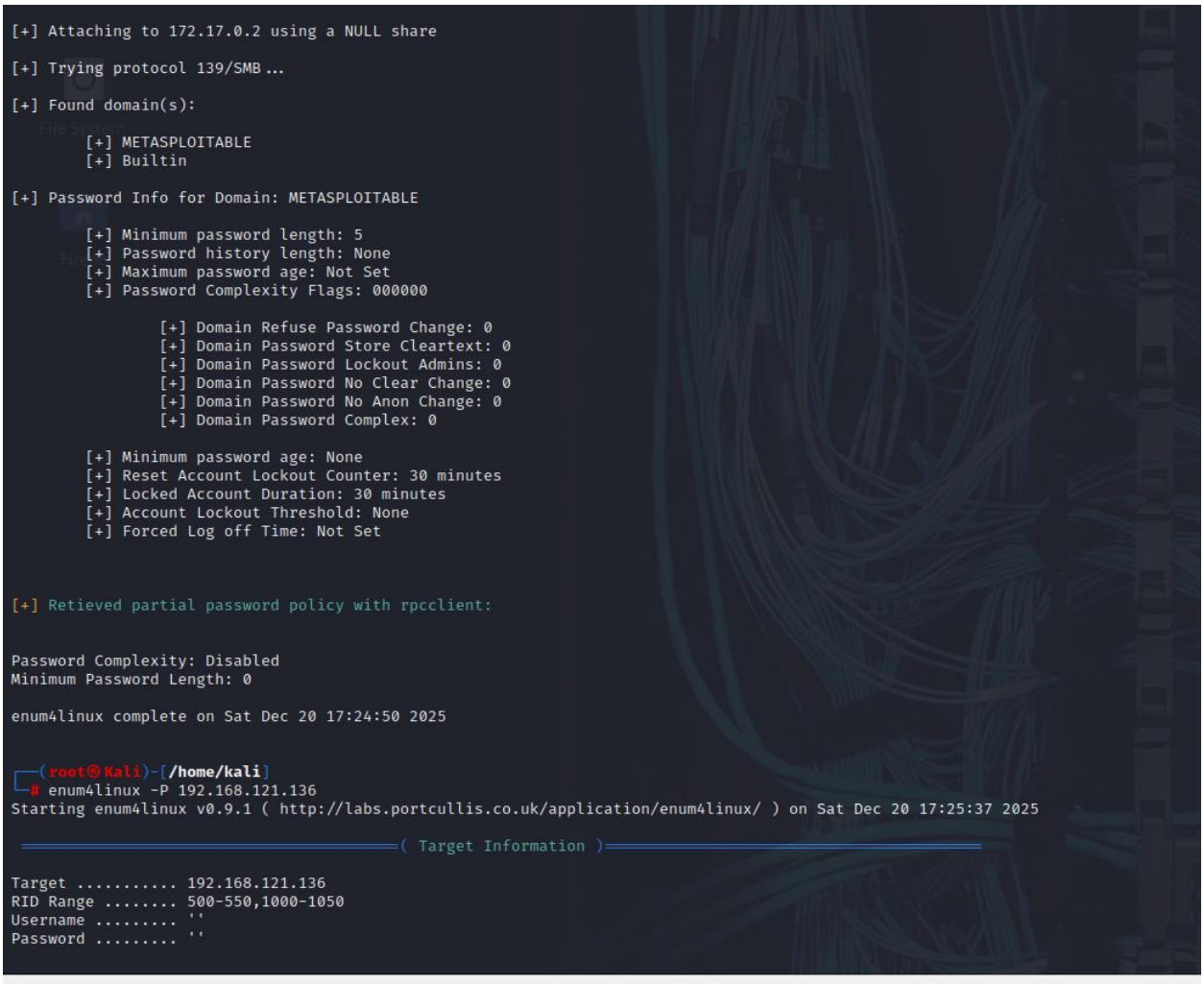
The **-P flag enumerates the SMB password policy** of the target system.

enum4linux - P 172.17.0.2

If allowed, it will show things like:

- **Minimum password length**
- **Maximum password age**
- **Password history length**
- **Account lockout threshold**
- **Lockout duration**
- **Whether complexity is enforced**

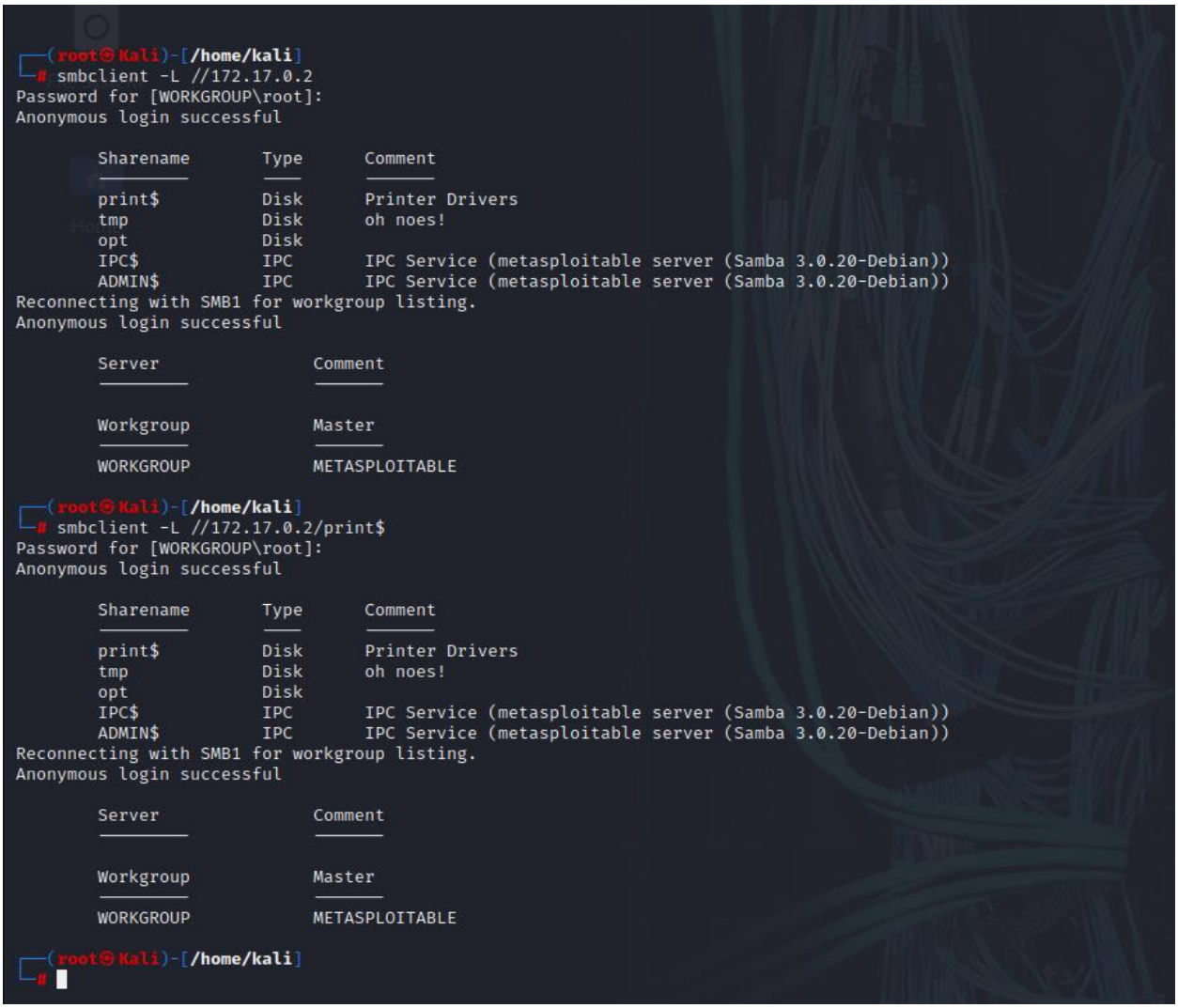




Access SMB Shares with SMBClient

`smbclient` is a command-line tool (like FTP for SMB) that lets you **list, connect to, and browse SMB share**

Using –L - list all available shares on the remote server



Accessing the print$ server – access was denied

```
┌──(kali㉿Kali)-[~]
└─$ smbclient //172.17.0.2/print$
Password for [WORKGROUP\kali]:
Anonymous login successful
tree connect failed: NT_STATUS_ACCESS_DENIED

┌──(kali㉿Kali)-[~]
└─$ smbclient -L  //172.17.0.2/
Password for [WORKGROUP\kali]:
Anonymous login successful

        Sharename       Type      Comment
        ---------       ----      -------
        print$          Disk      Printer Drivers
        tmp             Disk      oh noes!
        opt             Disk
        IPC$            IPC       IPC Service (metasploitable server (Samba 3.0.20-Debian))
        ADMIN$          IPC       IPC Service (metasploitable server (Samba 3.0.20-Debian))
Reconnecting with SMB1 for workgroup listing.
Anonymous login successful

        Server               Comment
        ---------            -------

        Workgroup            Master
        ---------            -------
        WORKGROUP            METASPLOITABLE

┌──(kali㉿Kali)-[~]
└─$ smbclient  //172.17.0.2/print$
Password for [WORKGROUP\kali]:
Anonymous login successful
tree connect failed: NT_STATUS_ACCESS_DENIED

┌──(kali㉿Kali)-[~]
└─$
```

Then I tried accessing tmp server – accessing was granted and got connected to smb

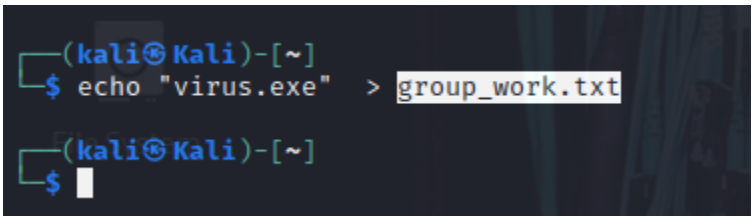
```
┌──(kali㉿Kali)-[~]
└─$ smbclient  //172.17.0.2/tmp
Password for [WORKGROUP\kali]:
Anonymous login successful
Try "help" to get a list of possible commands.
smb: \>
```

Open a new terminal and enter echo “virus.exe” > group_work.txt

This command does the following:

- `echo "virus.exe"`: prints the string `virus.exe` to the terminal.
- `>`: redirects that output into a file.
- `group_work.txt`: is the file being created or overwritten.

So the result is a new file named `group_work.txt` containing just the text:



Then connect to smbclient - smbclient //172.17.0.2/tmp -N

Enter login details

In prompt smb> enter put group_work.txt

This command is executed **inside an active** `smbclient` **session**

- SMB client **upload** the file `group_work.txt` from **local Kali machine** to the **remote SMB share** (in this case, `//172.17.0.2/tmp`).
- If successful, the file will appear in the shared folder on the remote server.

Enter dir to see the file uploaded.

This confirms that the share allows **anonymous write operations,** a major misconfiguration in real-world environments and a key finding in penetration testing lab

```
┌──(kali㉿Kali)-[~]
└─$ smbclient //172.17.0.2/tmp -N
Anonymous login successful
Try "help" to get a list of possible commands.
smb: \> put test.txt
putting file test.txt as \test.txt (0.4 kb/s) (average 0.4 kb/s)
smb: \> dir
  .                                   D        0  Sun Dec 21 08:54:50 2025
  ..                                 DR        0  Mon Aug 14 10:39:59 2023
  .X11-unix                          DH        0  Mon Aug 14 10:35:14 2023
  .ICE-unix                          DH        0  Sun Jan 28 03:08:08 2018
  .X0-lock                           HR       11  Mon Aug 14 10:35:14 2023
  684.jsvc_up                         R        0  Sat Dec 20 13:25:58 2025
  695.jsvc_up                         R        0  Sat Dec 13 19:25:03 2025
  682.jsvc_up                         R        0  Mon Aug 14 10:35:26 2023
  694.jsvc_up                         R        0  Wed Dec 17 20:50:30 2025
  test.txt                            A        5  Sun Dec 21 08:54:50 2025
  826.jsvc_up                         R        0  Sun Jan 28 07:08:40 2018
  810.jsvc_up                         R        0  Sun Jan 28 03:54:31 2018
  1582.jsvc_up                        R        0  Sun Jan 28 04:01:49 2018
  1823.jsvc_up                        R        0  Sun Jan 28 02:57:44 2018

                38497656 blocks of size 1024. 9154400 blocks available
smb: \> put group_work.txt
putting file group_work.txt as \group_work.txt (2.0 kb/s) (average 0.9 kb/s)
smb: \> dir
  .                                   D        0  Sun Dec 21 09:00:23 2025
  ..                                 DR        0  Mon Aug 14 10:39:59 2023
  .X11-unix                          DH        0  Mon Aug 14 10:35:14 2023
  .ICE-unix                          DH        0  Sun Jan 28 03:08:08 2018
  .X0-lock                           HR       11  Mon Aug 14 10:35:14 2023
  684.jsvc_up                         R        0  Sat Dec 20 13:25:58 2025
  695.jsvc_up                         R        0  Sat Dec 13 19:25:03 2025
  682.jsvc_up                         R        0  Mon Aug 14 10:35:26 2023
  group_work.txt                      A       10  Sun Dec 21 09:00:23 2025
  694.jsvc_up                         R        0  Wed Dec 17 20:50:30 2025
  test.txt                            A        5  Sun Dec 21 08:54:50 2025
  826.jsvc_up                         R        0  Sun Jan 28 07:08:40 2018
  810.jsvc_up                         R        0  Sun Jan 28 03:54:31 2018
  1582.jsvc_up                        R        0  Sun Jan 28 04:01:49 2018
  1823.jsvc_up                        R        0  Sun Jan 28 02:57:44 2018
```