Cheat Sheet

Avenger666 V

HTB ACADEMY

## **Directory Indexing**

Active plugins should not be our only area of focus when assessing a WordPress website. Even if a plugin is deactivated, it may still be accessible, and therefore we can gain access to its associated scripts and functions. Deactivating a vulnerable plugin does not improve the WordPress site's security. It is best practice to either remove or keep up-to-date any unused plugins.

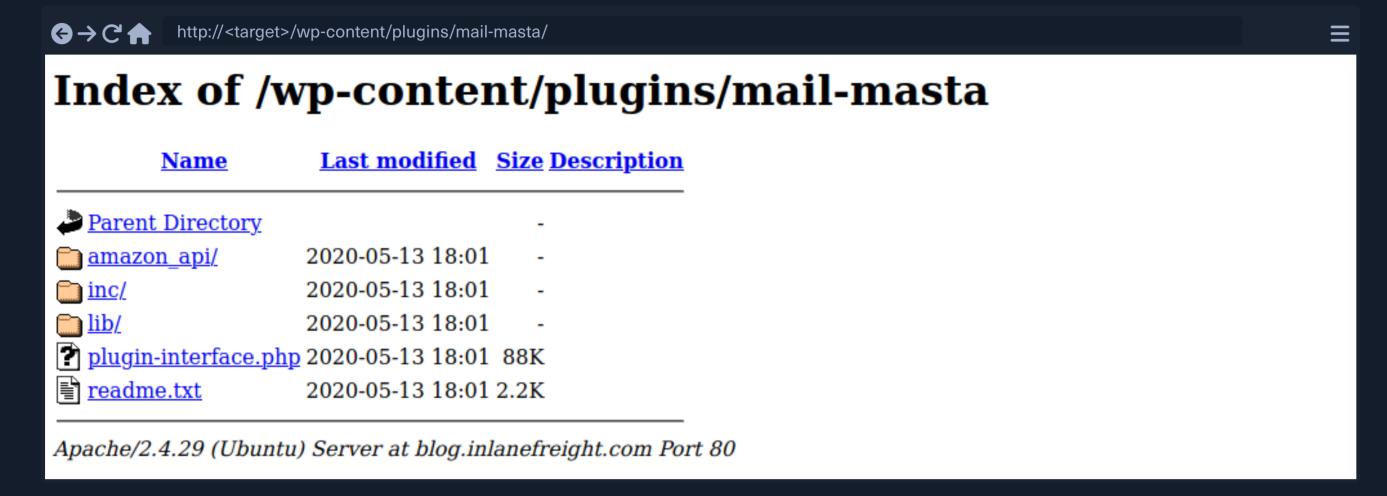
The following example shows a disabled plugin.



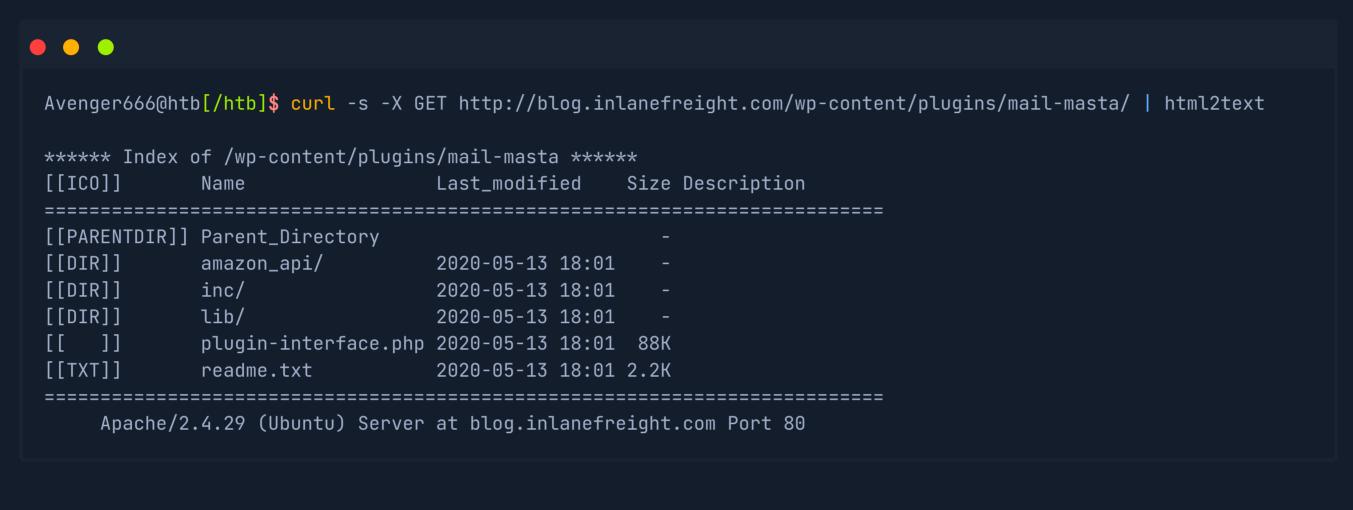
If we browse to the plugins directory, we can see that we still have access to the Mail Masta plugin.

■ Modules

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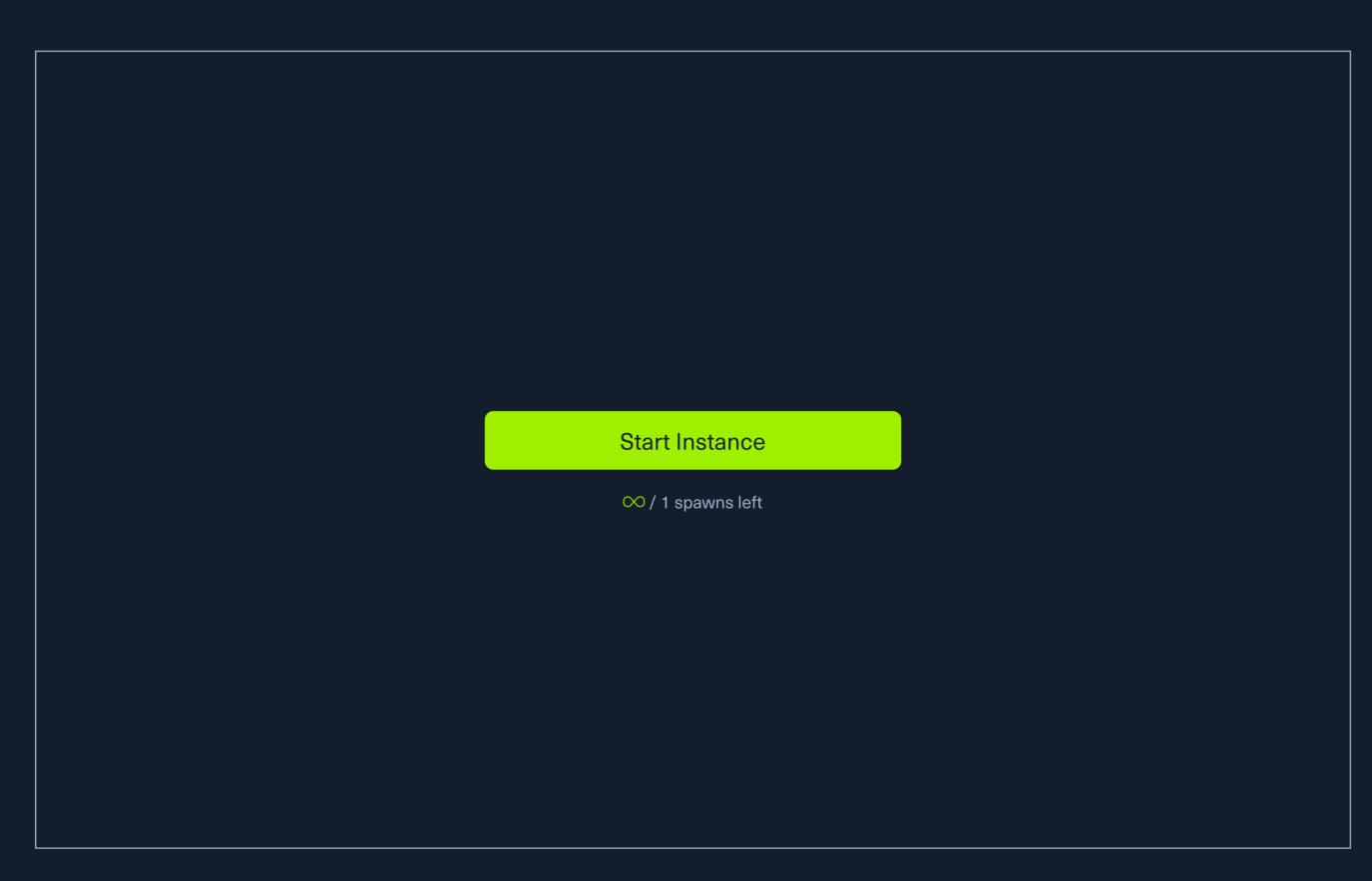


We can also view the directory listing using cURL and convert the HTML output to a nice readable format using html2text.

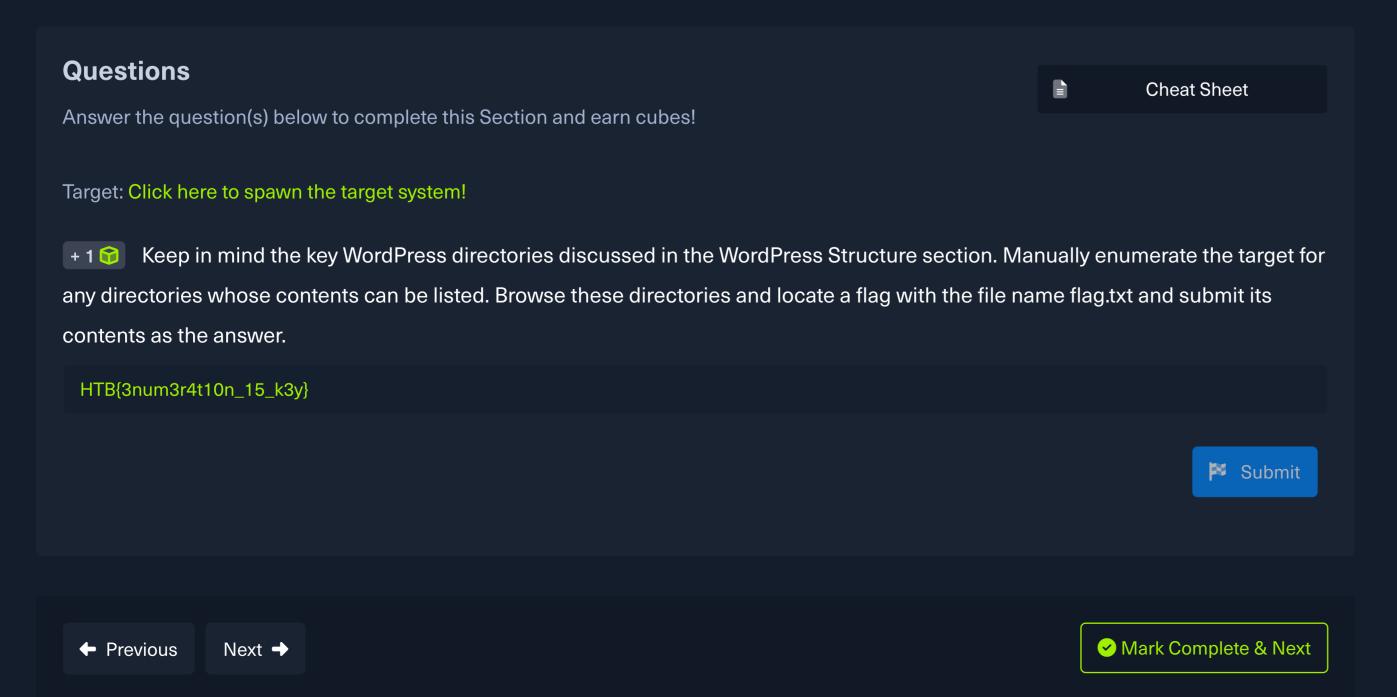


This type of access is called **Directory Indexing**. It allows us to navigate the folder and access files that may contain sensitive information or vulnerable code. It is best practice to disable directory indexing on web servers so a potential attacker cannot gain direct access to any files or folders other than those necessary for the website to function properly.





Waiting to start...



? Go to Questions **Table of Contents** Introduction Intro WordPress Structure WordPress User Roles Enumeration WordPress Core Version Enumeration Plugins and Themes Enumeration Directory Indexing **User Enumeration** 😭 Login **WPScan Overview** WPScan Enumeration **Exploitation 6** Exploiting a Vulnerable Plugin Attacking WordPress Users RCE via the Theme Editor Attacking WordPress with Metasploit **Security Measures** WordPress Hardening **Skills Assessment** Skills Assessment - WordPress My Workstation OFFLINE Start Instance ∞ / 1 spawns left

