

Pickle Rick CTF - TryHackMe Write-Up

This document presents the step-by-step walkthrough of the Pickle Rick CTF on TryHackMe, showcasing enumeration, exploitation, and privilege escalation to retrieve all ingredients Rick needs.

1. Introduction

This CTF simulates helping Rick turn back from being a pickle by finding three secret ingredients on his compromised machine.

The screenshot shows the TryHackMe interface for the 'Pickle Rick' challenge. At the top, there's a navigation bar with 'Try Hack Me' logo, 'Dashboard', 'Learn', 'Compete', and 'Other' buttons. On the right, there are 'Access Machines', a search icon, a notification icon with '1', a 'Go Premium' button, and a user profile icon. Below the navigation is a banner for 'Pickle Rick' featuring Rick from Rick and Morty holding a large green ray gun. The challenge title 'Pickle Rick' is displayed above a description: 'A Rick and Morty CTF. Help turn Rick back into a human!'. Below the description are difficulty levels ('Easy') and estimated time ('30 min'). A progress bar at the bottom indicates 'Room progress (0%)'. Below the banner is a chart section with tabs for 'Chart', 'Scoreboard', 'Video', and 'Write-ups'. The chart shows a red line starting at approximately 190, jumping to 240, and then remaining flat. There are also blue, green, and orange lines starting at 150, 160, and 170 respectively, and jumping to 240. A small circular icon with two dots is on the left of the chart area.

The screenshot shows the TryHackMe interface for the 'Pickle Rick' challenge after joining. The layout is identical to the previous screenshot, but the 'Join Room' button is now visible in the top right corner of the main content area. A message box at the top says 'To access material, start machines and answer questions you need to join this room!' with a 'Join Room' button. The chart section shows the same data as the first screenshot, with the red line at 240 and other colored lines jumping to 240.

The screenshot shows the TryHackMe interface for the 'Pickle Rick' challenge after solving it. The 'Join Room' button is no longer present. The chart section shows the red line at 240 and other colored lines jumping to 240, indicating full completion of the challenge.

2. Scanning & Enumeration

After deploying the target machine, basic enumeration reveals useful files such as robots.txt and /assets directory. Gobuster is used to find hidden endpoints.

Room progress (0%)

Target Machine Information

Title: Pickle Rick v2 Target IP Address: 10.10.21.2 Expires: 58min 38s

? Add 1 hour Terminate

Task 1: Pickle Rick

Rick is sup4r cool — Mozilla Firefox

Thu 10 Jul, 18:23 AttackBox IP:10.10.107.164

Rick is sup4r cool

10.10.21.2

TryHackMe | Learn Cy... TryHackMe Support Offline CyberChef Revshell Generator

Miscellaneous Spotify When How to Build Problem Replace Lesson Canary (1037) All Mail YouTube (1037) nandi Tr Pickle + - X

Room progress (0%)

tryhackme.com/room/picklerick

Miscellaneous Gmail YouTube Maps

This Rick and Morty-themed challenge requires you to exploit a web server and find three ingredients to help Rick make his potion and transform himself back into a human from a pickle.

Deploy the virtual machine on this task and explore the web application: 10.10.21.2

Answer the questions below

What is the first ingredient that Rick needs?

Applications Places Mozilla Firefox Thu 10 Jul, 18:30 AttackBox IP:10.10.107.164

10.10.21.2/robots.txt http://10.10.21.2/

TryHackMe | Learn Cy... TryHackMe Support Offline CyberChef Revshell Generator

hubbalubbadubub

THM AttackBox 46min 58s

This Rick and Morty-themed challenge requires you to exploit a web server and find three ingredients to help Rick make his potion and transform himself back into a human from a pickle.

Deploy the virtual machine on this task and explore the web application: 10.10.21.2

Answer the questions below

What is the first ingredient that Rick needs?

Submit

What is the second ingredient in Rick's potion?

Submit

What is the last and final ingredient?

Submit

Room progress (0%)



Start Machine

This Rick and Morty-themed challenge requires you to exploit a web server and find three ingredients to help Rick make his potion and transform himself back into a human from a pickle.

Deploy the virtual machine on this task and explore the web application: 10.10.21.2

Answer the questions below

What is the first ingredient that Rick needs?

Submit

What is the second ingredient in Rick's potion?

Submit

What is the last and final ingredient?

Submit

Applications Places Index of /assets — Mozilla Firefox

Index of /assets — Mozilla Firefox

10.10.21.2/robots.txt http://10.10.21.2/ Index of /assets

10.10.21.2/assets/ TryHackMe | Learn Cy... TryHackMe Support Offline CyberChef Revshell Generator

Index of /assets

Name	Last modified	Size	Description
Parent Directory		-	
bootstrap.min.css	2019-02-10 16:37	119K	
bootstrap.min.js	2019-02-10 16:37	37K	
fail.gif	2019-02-10 16:37	49K	
jquery.min.js	2019-02-10 16:37	85K	
picklerick.gif	2019-02-10 16:37	222K	
portal.jpg	2019-02-10 16:37	50K	
rickandmorty.jpeg	2019-02-10 16:37	488K	

Apache/2.4.41 (Ubuntu) Server at 10.10.21.2 Port 80

tryhackme.com/room/picklerick

Miscellaneous Gmail YouTube Maps

Room progress (0%)

 Start Machine

This Rick and Morty-themed challenge requires you to exploit a web server and find three ingredients to help Rick make his potion and transform himself back into a human from a pickle.

Deploy the virtual machine on this task and explore the web application: 10.10.21.2

Answer the questions below

What is the first ingredient that Rick needs?

Submit

What is the second ingredient in Rick's potion?

Submit

What is the last and final ingredient?

 Submit

All Bookmarks

Applications Places Thu 10 Jul, 18:43 AttackBox IP:10.10.107.164

```
root@ip-10-10-107-164:~  
=====  
Gobuster V3.6  
by OJ Reeves (@TheColonial) & Christian Mehlmauer (@firefart)  
=====  
[+] Url: http://10.10.21.2  
[+] Method: GET  
[+] Threads: 10  
[+] Wordlist: /usr/share/wordlists/dirb/common.txt  
[+] Negative Status codes: 404  
[+] User Agent: gobuster/3.6  
[+] Timeout: 10s  
=====  
Starting gobuster in directory enumeration mode  
=====  
.hta (Status: 403) [Size: 275]  
.htpasswd (Status: 403) [Size: 275]  
.assets (Status: 301) [Size: 309]  
.htaccess (Status: 403) [Size: 275]  
.index.html (Status: 200) [Size: 1062]  
.robots.txt (Status: 200) [Size: 17]  
.server-status (Status: 403) [Size: 275]  
Progress: 4614 / 4615 (99.98%)  
=====  
Finished
```

34min 8s

3. Login Discovery

Although common paths failed, the login page was eventually found at /login.php. The username was extracted from HTML comments and the password from robots.txt.

The left side shows a TryHackMe room interface for 'picklerick'. It features a Rick and Morty-themed illustration and three questions:

- What is the first ingredient that Rick needs? (Answer: Wubbalubbadubdub)
- What is the second ingredient in Rick's potion? (Answer:)
- What is the last and final ingredient? (Answer:)

The right side shows a terminal window with the following output:

```
root@ip-10-10-107-164:~#
File Edit View Search Terminal Help
-----
START_TIME: Thu Jul 10 18:32:01 2025
URL_BASE: http://10.10.21.2/
WORDLIST_FILES: /usr/share/dirb/wordlists/common.txt
-----
GENERATED WORDS: 4612
---- Scanning URL: http://10.10.21.2/ ----
=> DIRECTORY: http://10.10.21.2/assets/
+ http://10.10.21.2/index.html (CODE:200|SIZE:1062)
+ http://10.10.21.2/robots.txt (CODE:200|SIZE:17)
+ http://10.10.21.2/server-status (CODE:403|SIZE:275)
---- Entering directory: http://10.10.21.2/assets/ ----
(!) WARNING: Directory IS LISTABLE. No need to scan it.
(Use mode '-w' if you want to scan it anyway)

END_TIME: Thu Jul 10 18:32:04 2025
DOWNLOADED: 4612 - FOUND: 3
root@ip-10-10-107-164:~#
```

The left side shows a TryHackMe room interface for 'picklerick'. It includes a 'Write-ups' section listing various writeups contributed by users:

Write-up Title	Added By
SirBroccoli - Pickle Rick	SirBroccoli
Pickle Rick Walkthrough	p4p1
Pickle Rick - THM Writeup	stawm
Pickle Rick Walkthrough - CyberGoat	f3dai
Pickle Rick: CTF Writeup	shafdo
Pickle Rick - TryHackMe Writeup	http.deep
Pickle Rick - Beginner Writeup	bobloblaw
Pickle Rick -Video Walkthrough	KingCobra
TryHackMe - Pickle Rick	sckull
Pickle Rick - Starter Guide	ComputerCrash0

The right side shows a Mozilla Firefox browser window displaying the 'Portal Login Page' at <http://10.10.21.2/login.php>. The page features a Rick and Morty illustration and a login form.

4. Command Panel & File Inspection

Inside the web panel, commands were limited but alternate tools like awk and strings helped reveal the first and second ingredients.

The screenshot shows the TryHackMe web interface for the 'picklerick' room. On the left, there's a sidebar with a 'Write-ups' section containing a table of recent write-ups added by various users:

Write-up Title	Added By
SirBroccoli - Pickle Rick	SirBroccoli
Pickle Rick Walkthrough	p4p1
Pickle Rick - THM Writeup	stawm
Pickle Rick Walkthrough - CyberGoat	f3dai
Pickle Rick: CTF Writeup	shafdo
Pickle Rick - TryHackMe Writeup	http.deep
Pickle Rick - Beginner Writeup	blobloblaw
Pickle Rick - Video Walkthrough	KingCobra
TryHackMe - Pickle Rick	sckull
Pickle Rick - Starter Guide	ComputerCrash0

On the right, there's a 'Command Panel' section with a text input field labeled 'Commands' and a green 'Execute' button.

The screenshot shows the TryHackMe web interface for the 'picklerick' room. On the left, there are three questions about ingredients:

- What is the first ingredient that Rick needs? (Answer: Wubbalubbadubdub)
- What is the second ingredient in Rick's potion? (Answer:)
- What is the last and final ingredient? (Answer:)

On the right, there's a 'Command Panel' section with a text input field containing 'cat clue.txt' and a green 'Execute' button. The output shows the contents of the 'clue.txt' file:

```
Sup3rS3cretP1ck13Ingred.txt
assets
clue.txt
denied.php
index.html
login.php
portal.php
robots.txt
```

Room progress (33%)

Answer the questions below

What is the first ingredient that Rick needs?

mr. meeseek hair ✓ Correct Answer

What is the second ingredient in Rick's potion?

Answer format: ***** Submit

What is the last and final ingredient?

Answer format: ***** Submit

How likely are you to recommend this room to others?

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Submit now

Created by

Rick is sup4r cool — Mozilla Firefox

Applications Places Thu 10 Jul, 19:03 AttackBox IP:10.10.107.164

Rick is sup4r cool — Mozilla Firefox

10.10.21.2/portal.php TryHackMe | Learn Cy... TryHackMe Support Offline CyberChef Revshell Generator

Rick Portal

Commands

Potions

Creatures

Potions

Beth Clone Notes

Command Panel

Commands

Execute

mr. meeseek hair

THM AttackBox 14min 5s

tryhackme.com/room/picklerick

Miscellaneous Gmail YouTube Maps

Room progress (66%)

Answer the questions below

What is the first ingredient that Rick needs?

mr. meeseek hair ✓ Correct Answer

What is the second ingredient in Rick's potion?

1 jerry tear ✓ Correct Answer

What is the last and final ingredient?

Answer format: ***** Submit

How likely are you to recommend this room to others?

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Submit now

Created by

Rick is sup4r cool — Mozilla Firefox

Applications Places Thu 10 Jul, 19:10 AttackBox IP:10.10.107.164

Rick is sup4r cool — Mozilla Firefox

10.10.21.2/portal.php TryHackMe | Learn Cy... TryHackMe Support Offline CyberChef Revshell Generator

Rick Portal

Commands

Potions

Creatures

Potions

Beth Clone Notes

Command Panel

strings 3rd.txt

Execute

3rd.txt snap

THM AttackBox 6min 44s

5. Privilege Escalation

Using 'sudo -l', it was discovered that www-data had full root access. This allowed direct reading of the final ingredient in /root.

The screenshot shows a TryHackMe room interface. On the left, there's a challenge section with three questions:

- What is the first ingredient that Rick needs? Answered as "mr. meeseek hair" (Correct Answer).
- What is the second ingredient in Rick's potion? (Answer format: *****) (Submit button)
- What is the last and final ingredient? (Answer format: *****) (Submit button)

Below the questions is a satisfaction survey with a scale from 1 to 10 and a "Submit now" button. The survey bar is at approximately 5.5.

On the right, a Mozilla Firefox window titled "Rick is sup4r cool" is open. The address bar shows "http://10.10.21.2/portal.php". The page content includes a sidebar with "Commands", "Potions", "Creatures", and "Beth Clone Notes". The main area shows a "Command Panel" with the command "strings ~/home/rick/second ingredients" and its output:

```
total 12
drwxrwxrwx 2 root root 4096 Feb 10 2019 .
drwxr-xr-x 4 root root 4096 Feb 10 2019 ..
-rw-rw-rwx 1 root root 13 Feb 10 2019 second ingredients
```

The status bar at the bottom of the browser window says "10min 33s".

This screenshot shows the same TryHackMe room interface as the previous one, but with different terminal output. The challenge section remains the same.

The terminal session in the Firefox window shows a different command being run:

```
Commands
Execute
rick
ubuntu
```

The status bar at the bottom of the browser window says "13min 10s".

6. Conclusion

All three ingredients were successfully found, completing the challenge.

The screenshot shows a browser window for the tryhackme.com room 'picklerick'. At the top, there's a navigation bar with back, forward, and search icons, followed by the URL 'tryhackme.com/room/picklerick'. Below the URL are tabs for 'Miscellaneous', 'Gmail', 'YouTube', and 'Maps'. On the right side of the header are various browser extensions and a 'All Bookmarks' link. The main content area features a circular illustration of Rick and Morty in a green, glowing environment. A green checkmark icon is overlaid on the bottom right of the circle. To the right of the circle is a green box containing the text 'Woop woop! Your answer is correct' with a small 'x' icon. Below the illustration, the text 'Congratulations on completing Pickle Rick!!!' is displayed with a small confetti emoji. Underneath this, there are five dark blue rectangular cards with white text: 'Points earned 90', 'Completed tasks 1', 'Room type Challenge', 'Difficulty Easy', and 'Streak 1'. Further down, there's a shield icon with a lock symbol next to the text 'This room counted toward joining the league' with a small trophy emoji. At the bottom left is a 'Leave Feedback' button, and at the bottom right is a 'Continue' button.