

Port 21 (FTP): let users send and receive files from servers. FTP is known for being outdated and insecure. As such, attackers frequently exploit it through: Brute-forcing passwords, Anonymous authentication (it's possible to log into the FTP port with "anonymous" as the username and password), Cross-site scripting, Directory traversal attacks. can expose sensitive information and network credentials to an attacker when transmitting data across the network or the Internet

Port 22 (SSH): It's a TCP port for ensuring secure access to servers. Hackers can exploit port 22 by using leaked SSH keys or brute-forcing credentials.

Port 23 (Telnet): is a TCP protocol that connects users to remote computers. For the most part, Telnet has been superseded by SSH, but it's still used by some websites. Since it's outdated and insecure, it's vulnerable to many attacks, including credential brute-forcing, spoofing and credential sniffing. should use a secure protocol such as SFTP or FTPS.

Port 25 (SMTP): is a Simple Mail Transfer Protocol (SMTP) port for receiving and sending emails. Without proper configuration and protection, this TCP port is vulnerable to spoofing and spamming. SMTP port 25 continues to be used primarily for SMTP relaying. SMTP relaying is the transmission of email from email server to email server.

In most cases, modern SMTP email clients (Microsoft Outlook, Mail, Thunderbird, etc.) shouldn't use this port. It is traditionally blocked by residential ISPs and Cloud Hosting Providers, to curb the amount of spam that is relayed from compromised computers or servers. Unless you're specifically managing a mail server, you should have no traffic traversing this port on your computer or server.

Port 53 (DNS): is for Domain Name System (DNS). It's a UDP and TCP port for queries and transfers, respectively. This port is particularly vulnerable to DDoS attacks. If you need to access the server remotely, you should use a secure protocol such as SFTP or FTPS.

Port 80: HTTP

Port 80 is used for [Hypertext Transfer Protocol](#) (HTTP). HTTP is an insecure protocol used to access web pages. It is recommended to close port 80 on your web server to prevent unauthorized access to your server. If you need to access the server remotely, you should use a secure protocol such as SFTP or FTPS.

Port 137-139 (NetBIOS/IP TCP, UDP) and Port 445 (SMB/IP TCP) : Server Message Block (SMB) uses port 445 directly and ports 137 and 139 indirectly. Cybercriminals can exploit these ports through: Using the [EternalBlue exploit](#), which takes advantage of [SMBv1](#) vulnerabilities in older versions of Microsoft computers (hackers used EternalBlue on the SMB port to spread WannaCry ransomware in 2017), Capturing NTLM hashes, Brute-forcing SMB login credentials

Port 514 : vulnerability is caused due to TCP connection information not being properly validated when connecting to a protocol translation resource and can be exploited to cause a reload via specially crafted packets sent to TCP ports 514 or 544.

Port 5900: VNC

Port 5900 is used for Virtual [Network Computing](#) (VNC). VNC is an insecure protocol used to remotely access and manage a server. It is recommended to close port 5900 on your web server to prevent unauthorized access to your server. If you need to access the server remotely, you should use a secure protocol such as SFTP or FTPS.

Port 6667: IRC

Port 6667 is used for [Internet Relay Chat](#) (IRC). IRC is an insecure protocol used to communicate with other users. It is recommended to close port 6667 on your web server to prevent unauthorized access to your server. If you need to communicate with other users, you should use a secure protocol such as [SSL](#) or TLS.

Resources:

<https://blog.netwrix.com/2022/08/04/open-port-vulnerabilities-list/>

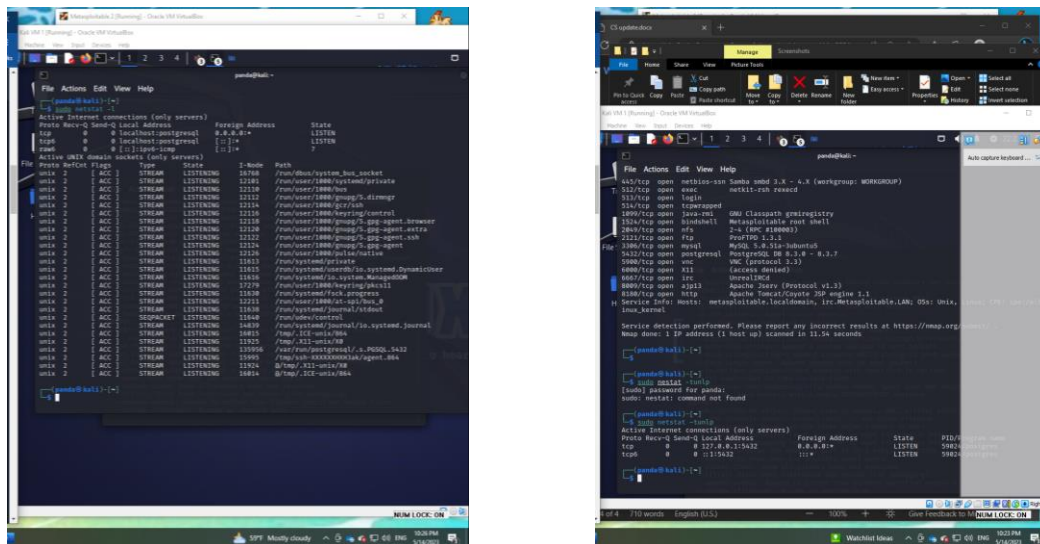
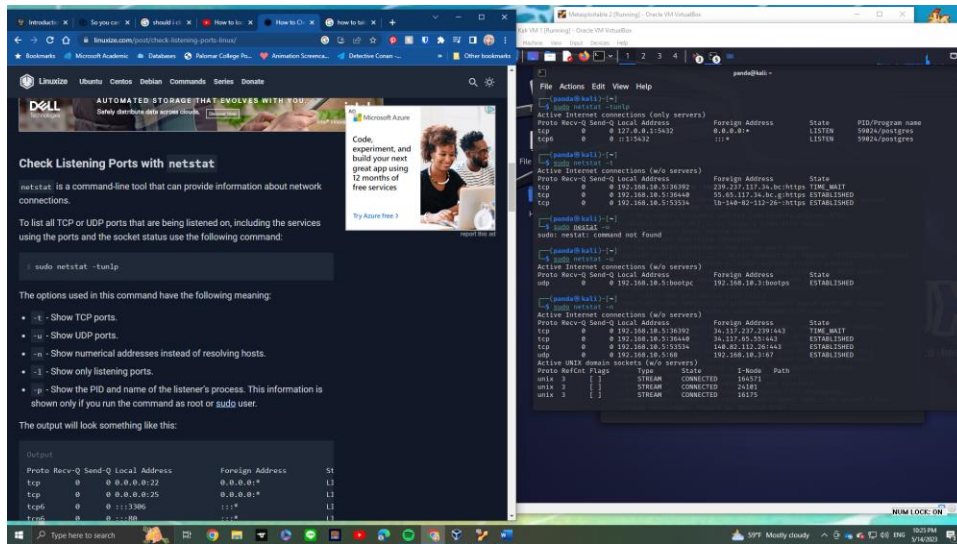
<https://www.pcidssguide.com/firewall-rule-configuration-best-practices/>

<https://www.mailgun.com/blog/email/which-smtp-port-understanding-ports-25-465-587/#subchapter-1>

<https://www.alibabacloud.com/tech-news/web-server/gigt1yorqp-what-ports-should-i-close-on-my-web-server#:~:text=Port%2023%3A%20Telnet,such%20as%20SFTP%20or%20FTPS.>

Check Listening Ports with netstat

```
sudo netstat -tunlp
```



5/15 Meeting

Discussed about the vulnerable ports I found in my vm. For my next step is to close those ports and document them. The steps I took and why they need to be closed

Next meeting will be held 5/23 Tue.

5/17 Action

Learn how to close ports

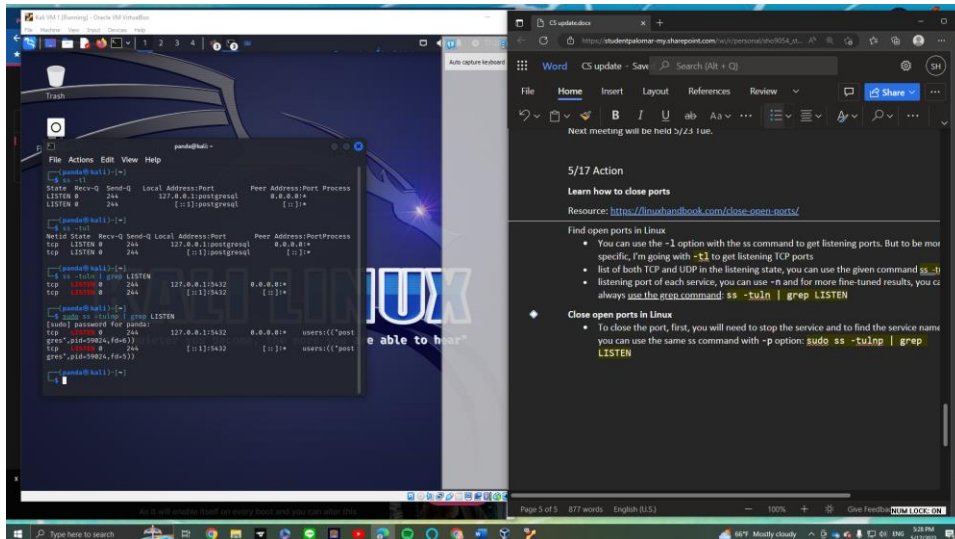
Resource: <https://linuxhandbook.com/close-open-ports/>

Find open ports in Linux

- You can use the `-t` option with the `ss` command to get listening ports. But to be more specific, I'm going with `-tln` to get listening TCP ports
- list of both TCP and UDP in the listening state, you can use the given command `ss -tul`
- listening port of each service, you can use `-n` and for more fine-tuned results, you can always use the `grep` command: `ss -tuln | grep LISTEN`

Close open ports in Linux

- To close the port, first, you will need to stop the service and to find the service name, you can use the same `ss` command with `-p` option: `sudo ss -tulnp | grep LISTEN`



Note: the website shows how to close a certain port and changing firewall rules, so I am thinking I need to look up more specific closures for the ports I want to close.

Following YouTube tutorial How to locate and close an open port in Linux

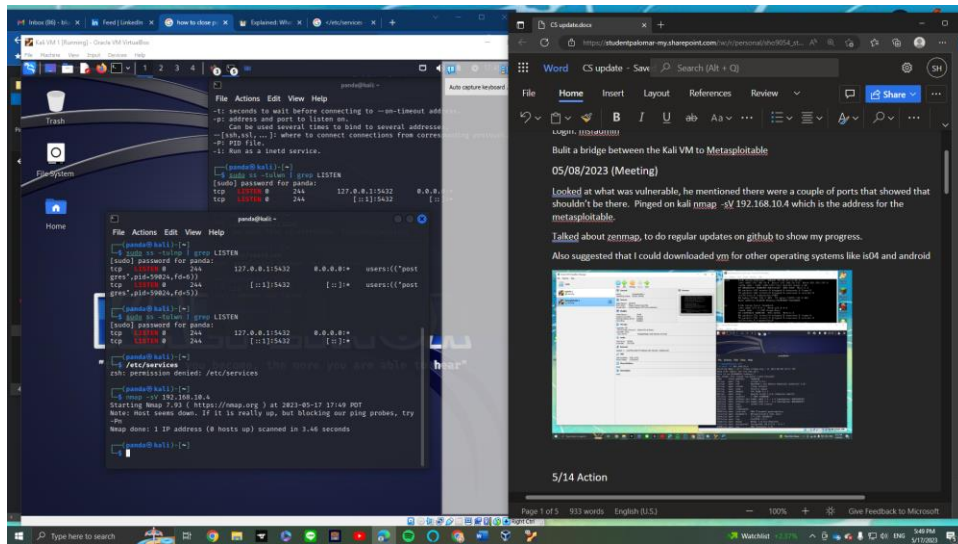
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JNQnQAm4XjQ&ab_channel=HowToMakeTechWorkfromTechRepublic

1. Opened sshl
2. Type in `sudo ss -tulwn | grep LISTEN`
3. Type in `sudo ufw deny ____ port`

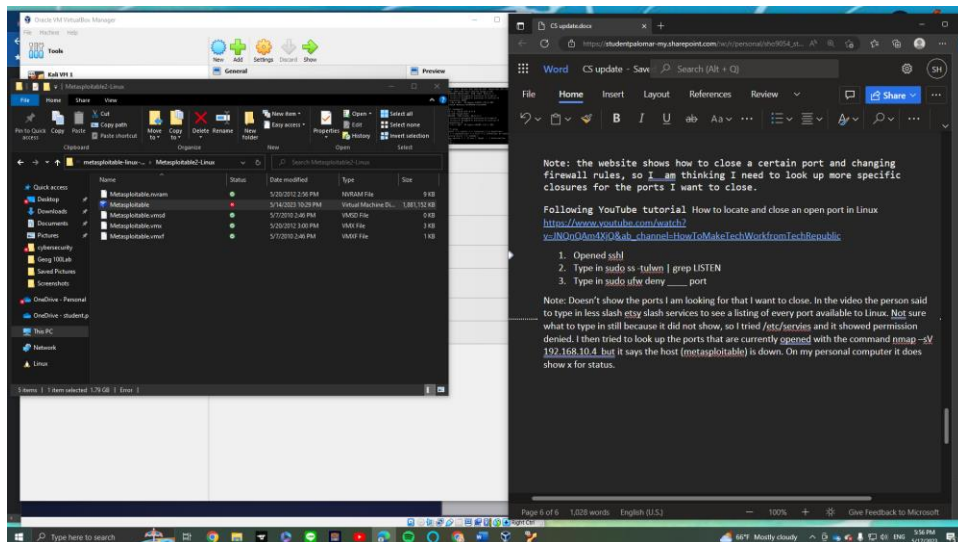
Notes:

- Doesn't show the ports I am looking for that I want to close. In the video the person said to type in `less slash etsy slash services` to see a listing of every port available to Linux.

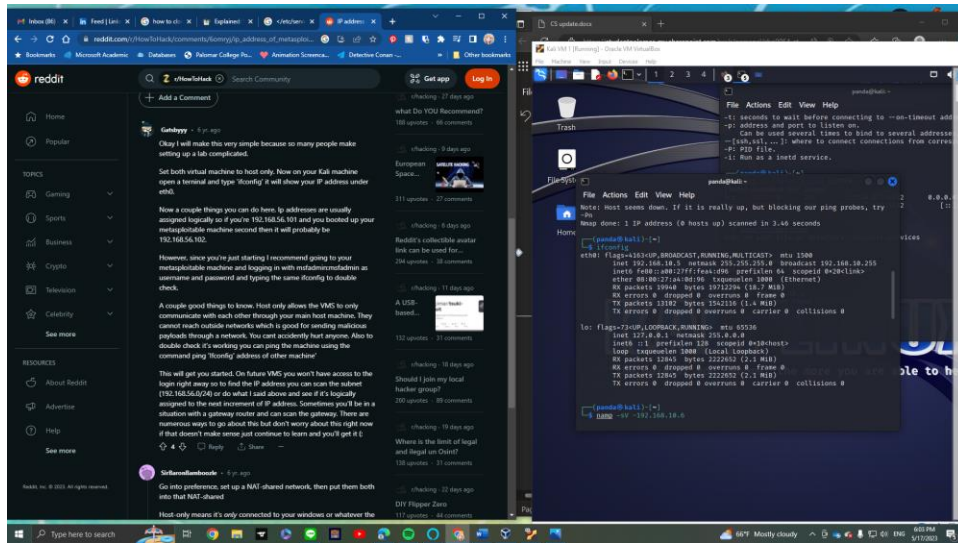
Not sure what to type in still because it did not show, so I tried /etc/servies and it showed permission denied.



- I then tried to look up the ports that are currently opened with the command `nmap -sV 192.168.10.4` but it says the host (metasploitable) is down. On my personal computer it does show x for status.

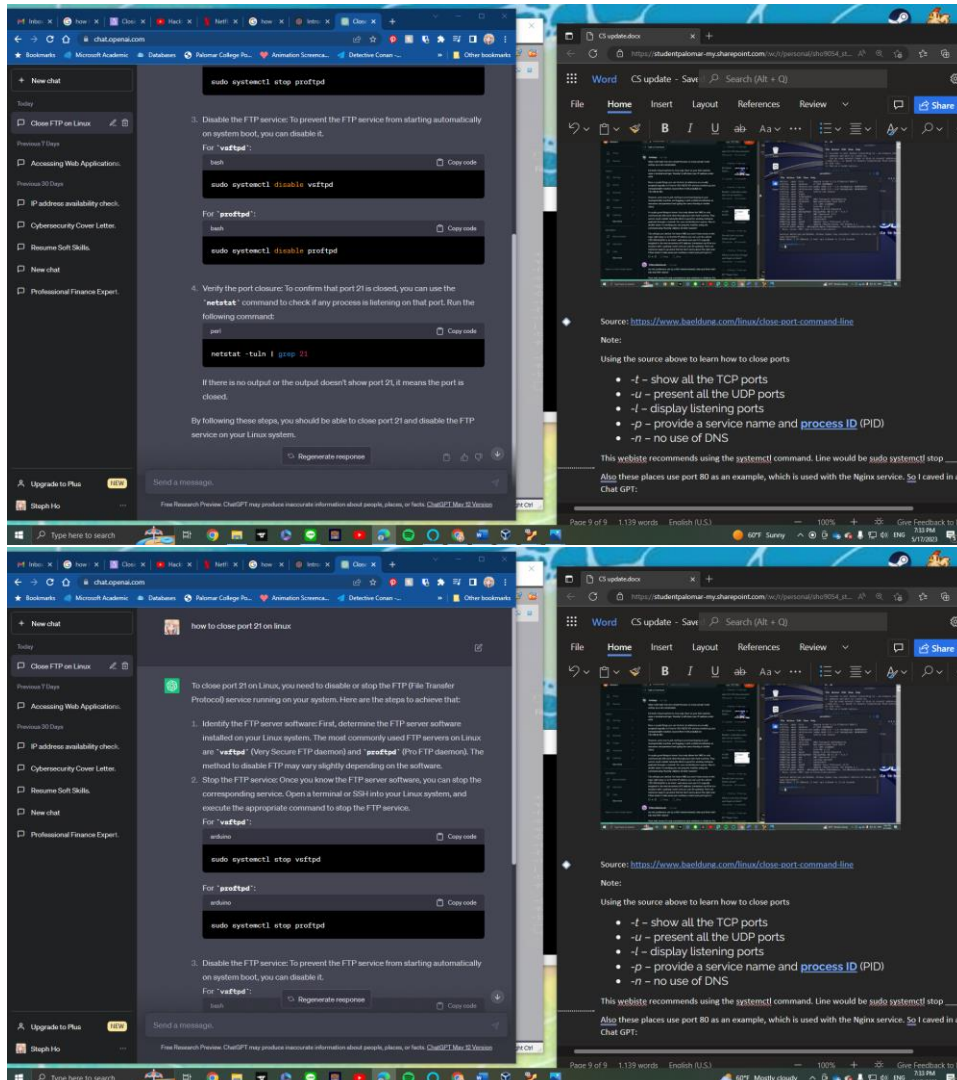


- Looked up how to find the ip address for metasploitable to make sure. In kali I typed in ifconfig



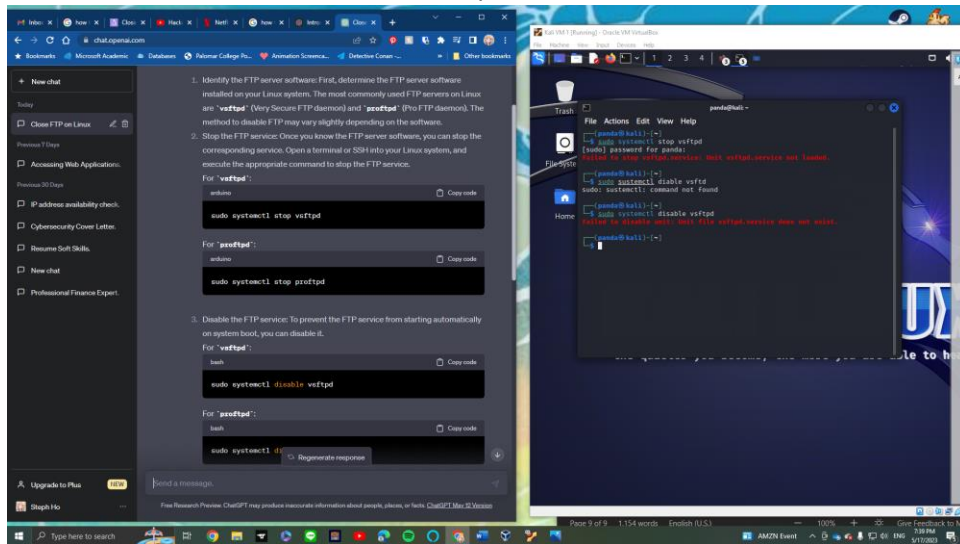
- Then tried going up and down a number and found it.

Also these places use port 80 as an example, which is used with the Nginx service. So I caved in a used Chat GPT:

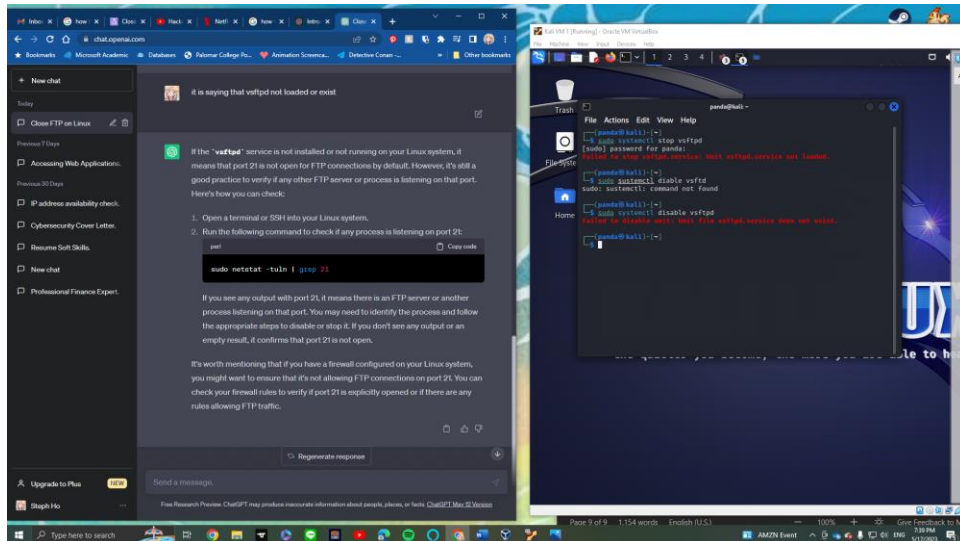


1. Identify the FTP server software: vsftpd
2. Used command sudo systemctl stop vsftpd

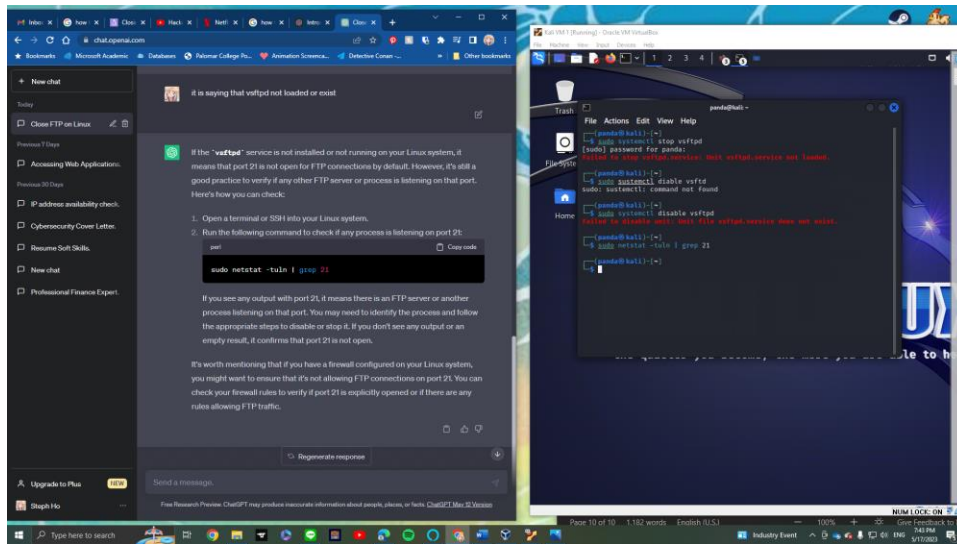
3. It failed and tried to disable but then says it doesn't exist



4. Suggests to verify if other FTP server or process is listening on port 21



5. Nothing opened after



6.