

Lab 1.4: Permissions Control

Objectives:

- Changing ownership of a file/directory
- Looking at permission access of a file/directory
- Changing access of a file/directory
- Handling group access
- Basic Best Practices for Permissions

A message from XYZ Corporation:

Now that you have learned to navigate a command line interface (CLI), a Windows GUI and set up a new VM, let's begin permissions control.

Not all users should have the same access or the same rights to the files in our system. Best practice is to limit a user's access to what their job duties dictate they need access to.

These people should be in your system so far:

Alec - CISO
Joe - Assistant to CISO
Carlos - CFO
Victoria - IT technician

Here are some people, directories and files for you to add/create in order to give people the access they need for their jobs as XYZ corporation.

Add users:

Roberta: Human Resources
Bob: Accountant
Barbara: IT Manager

Add **Directories & Files**:

Human Resources

employeeList.txt
hrBudget.csv

Finance

companyBudget.csv
currentExpenses.csv

Information Technology

helpdesktickets.txt

Topic 1: Ownership of a file / directory in Linux

The owner of a file or a directory is the user (besides root) who can set access permissions for that file or directory. The default owner of a file or directory is the user that made the file or directory.

Access permissions determine what any user can do to that file or folder. There are usually default permissions as well.

These default settings are sometimes a security concern based on the needs and structure of an organization. There does not need to be complete access to all documents for all users. Here we are going to change the ownerships of a file and a directory and see how that affects the way we interact with these items.

chown: changes ownership of a file.

chown username filename

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- What command would be able to show you who owns a file?
- Who owns the files that you have made so far?

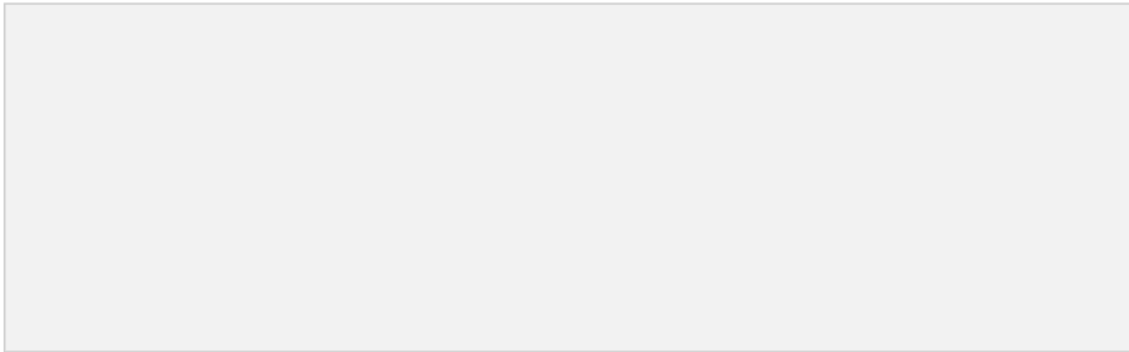
Change ownership of the *employeeList.txt* in the Human Resources Directory.

Who do you think should own this file?

Change the ownerships of the Information Technology directory.

Who should own the IT directory?

Here is how that could look:



The highlighted names represent the new owners listed for the file/directory.

