

Finding files in Linux

Let's get started with some basic commands like `whereis` and `which`.

- **whereis** command tells us the location of a particular binary. This comes really handy when we land on a system as an attacker to check for known binaries and files.
- **which** command - this is similar to is the `whereis` command and it also locate the path of the a particular command or binary.

Next, which is one of the most used command is `find`. We can find a particular file with its name.

```
find /path/to/search -name "secret_file.txt"
```

We can also search for directories using it.

```
find /path/to/search -type d
```

Search file using the wildcard operator

```
find /Desktop -name "*.txt"
```

Apart from the `find` command, there is one more command called `locate`. Now `locate` is kinda great tool, it uses in a default mode, it search for a particular file in the whole file system.

```
locate passwords.txt
```

We can also find for all text file in he file system.

```
locate --all "*.txt"
```

The thing that i love about his tool is that it is really really fast. If compared to the `find` command that we discussed earlier but the issue is it is not pre-installed on most linux distros. Like while pentesting or doing a CTF, we you land on a linux machine, there is a high chance that you won't find `locate` installed on it. So, you better keep both `locate` and `find` in your arsenal.