

The CMD Conundrum

Overview

Room URL: <https://tryhackme.com/room/adventofcyberpreptrack>

Difficulty: Easy

Category: Prep

Date Completed: 12/1/2025

Objectives

Find the hidden flag file using Windows commands.

Table of Contents

[Introduction](#)

[Walk Through](#)

[Lessons Learned](#)

[Resources](#)

Introduction

McSkidy's workstation shows signs of tampering—suspicious files have been moved, logs wiped, and a mysterious folder named `mystery_data` discovered. Using the Windows Command Prompt, you must investigate the system and uncover hidden evidence that the graphical interface cannot reveal.

Useful Commands

`dir` equivalent to the `ls` command on linux

`dir /a` equivalent to the `ls -a` command on linux

`type` equivalent to the `cat` command on linux

Walk Through

1. Click view site to open the emulated windows terminal
2. use `dir` to view files and directories
 1. `dir` showed 1 file and 1 directory
 1. `readme.txt`
 2. `mystery_data`
 1. This is directory
 2. `type readme.txt`
 1. "System shows signs of tampering. Investigate the `mystery_data` folder"
 3. `cd mystery_data` to change directories
 4. `dir` shows `notes.txt`
 1. `type notes.txt`
 2. "Some logs were wiped. Hidden artifacts may still remain..."
 5. `dir /a` to show all files including hidden ones
 6. found `hidden_flag.txt`
 1. `type hidden_flag.txt` to reveal contents
[cmdconundrum.png](#)

Lessons Learned

- Learned Windows Command Prompt equivalents: `dir` (list files), `dir /a` (show hidden files), and `type` (view file contents)
 - Successfully investigated McSkidy's compromised workstation by navigating directories and uncovering hidden artifacts that revealed tampering evidence
-

Resources

[TryHackMe](#)

[List of Windows Commands](#)

Revision #2

Created 2025-12-01 17:01:03 UTC by David Rizzo

Updated 2025-12-01 17:17:57 UTC by David Rizzo