

Assignment 1: Permissions

eSoc 488: Privacy Technology in Context

Due: Tuesday, 28 August 2019

Total Homework/Assignment Points: 100 (+5 EC)

Someone on the server has made a mistake with permissions; your job is to find it, and use it to read a secret. Create a file called 'permissions_challenge' for your answers; write your netid as the first line in the file. For each question below, write your answer on a new line. Do not add question numbers before writing your answers. If you skip any problems, create a file called 'skipped,' again with your netid as the first line, and afterward write the number of each skipped problem on a separate line (if you don't skip any problems, you need not create the file).

Finding the target

1. [25] Write the command you issued to locate the file named 'SECRET' on the server. (BONUS [5]: Craft your command to report no permissions errors, but to print all other errors).
2. [10] Write the absolute path to SECRET.

Reading the secret

3. [25] Describe clearly what the permissions for SECRET mean.
4. [10] Describe what the file named 'read_foo' does.
5. [25] Use the mistakes of the directory owner to read the contents of SECRET. Clearly explain what you did.
6. [5] Copy the contents of SECRET to a new file named 'NOT_SECRET.'