

# Security Misconfiguration

# What is security misconfiguration?

- Security misconfiguration is very large concept
- It can happen at any level of an application stack, including the platform, web server, application server, framework, and custom code.
- Leaving settings to default (accounts, sample applications)
- Running unnecessary servers or interpreters (ftp etc)
- Lack of updates being applied
- Server misconfigurations that allows directory listing and directory traversal attacks

- Administrative or debugging functions that are enabled or accessible
- Misconfigured SSL certificates and encryption settings
- Session cookie is not randomized enough
- Session cookie does not expire

# Example

- Error messages

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the following content:

Value cannot be null.<br... x  
localhost:85

**Server Error in '/' Application.**

*Value cannot be null.*  
*Parameter name: String* ← 1.

**Description:** An unhandled exception occurred during the execution of the current web request. Please review the stack trace for more information about the error and where it originated in the code.

**Exception Details:** System.ArgumentNullException: Value cannot be null.  
Parameter name: String

**Source Error:**

```
Line 12:     protected void Page_Load(object sender, EventArgs e)
Line 13:     {
Line 14:         int id = int.Parse(Request.QueryString["Id"]); ← 2.
Line 15:         // The admin ID has special rights over the system.
Line 16:         var hasAdminRights = id == 837235272; ← 3.
```

**Source File:** c:\Projects\VulnerableApplication\Web\Default.aspx.cs **Line:** 14 ← 4.

**Stack Trace:**

```
[ArgumentNullException: Value cannot be null.
Parameter name: String]
System.Number.StringToNumber(String str, NumberStyles options, NumberBuffer& number, NumberFo
System.Number.ParseInt32(String s, NumberStyles style, NumberFormatInfo info) +224
Web._Default.Page_Load(Object sender, EventArgs e) in c:\Projects\VulnerableApplication\Web\D
System.Web.Util.CalliHelper.EventArgFunctionCaller(IntPtr fp, Object o, Object t, EventArgs e
System.Web.UI.Control.LoadRecursive() +71
System.Web.UI.Page.ProcessRequestMain(Boolean includeStagesBeforeAsyncPoint, Boolean includeS
```

**Version Information:** Microsoft .NET Framework Version:4.0.30319; ASP.NET Version:4.0.30319.1 ← 6.

Annotations 1 through 6 are red arrows pointing to the error message, the source code line, the source file, the stack trace, and the version information respectively.

# How to test?

- Look for custom error messages.
- Look for debugger session being allowed.