

Re: Are AuthTickets Secure?

Source:

<http://www.derkeiler.com/Newsgroups/microsoft.public.dotnet.framework.aspnet.security/2006-08/msg00217.html>

- *From:* "Joe Kaplan" <joseph.e.kaplan@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Wed, 23 Aug 2006 16:26:22 -0500
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You are right. The cookie is vulnerable to theft if the channel is not encrypted. Use SSL for all serious secure sites.

In my opinion, the encryption of the cookie primarily serves to make it opaque to the end user.

Joe K.

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"Dima Maltsev" <Dima.Maltsev@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message
<news:6C6E9081-85B5-4B40-8891-29EBC2FF626E@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>

HI All,

I've a question about AuthTickets.

Microsoft recommends using either SSL for all pages or Encvryption to protect the AuthTicket. Here is the quote from the <http://support.microsoft.com/kb/813829/> page:

"How to Help Make Forms Authentication Secure
. Use SSL for all pages.
. Use the Encrypt method of the FormsAuthentication class."

While I understand why SSL would protect the ticket, I have the following concern regarding the second (Encryption) option.

If a user after logging in clicks on a page which is being served over HTTP,

the AuthTicket is still being sent back to a browser in a cookie. Such requests (for non secure (HTTP) pages) can be intercepted by "a man in the middle". Even though the AuthTicket is encrypted, it can be used as is by

a
hacker to hijack the user's session.

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Am I missing something? Can anybody comment on this?

Thanks,
Dima Maltsev