


MAIN STEPS

- Decompile / Disassemble the APK
- Review the codebase
- Run the app
- Dynamic instrumentation
- Analyze network communications



OWASP MOBILE SECURITY PROJECTS

Mobile Security Testing Guide


- <https://github.com/OWASP/owasp-mstg>

Mobile Application Security Verification Standard

- <https://github.com/OWASP/owasp-masvs>

Mobile Security Checklist

- <https://github.com/OWASP/owasp-mstg/tree/master/Checklists>

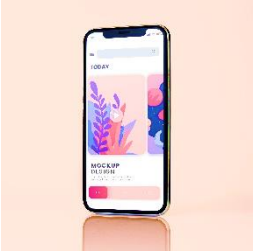


TOOLS

- adb
- apktool
- jadx
- Frida
- BurpSuite

APK Structure
<div>META-INF<ul style="list-style-type: none">Files related to the signature scheme (v1 scheme only)</div> <div>lib<ul style="list-style-type: none">Folder containing native compiled code (ARM, MIPS, x86, x64)</div> <div>assets<ul style="list-style-type: none">Folder containing application specific files</div> <div>res<ul style="list-style-type: none">Folder containing all the resources (layouts, strings, etc.) of the app</div> <div>classes.dex [classes2.dex] ...<ul style="list-style-type: none">Dalvik bytecode of the app</div> <div>AndroidManifest.xml<ul style="list-style-type: none">Manifest describing essential information about the app (permissions, components, etc.)</div>
Package Name
<div>The package name represents the app’s unique identifier (e.g. for YouTube):</div> <div>com.google.android.youtube</div>
Data Storage
<div>User applications</div> <div># /data/data/<package-name>/</div> <div>Shared Preferences Files</div> <div># /data/data/<package-name>/shared_prefs/</div> <div>SQLite Databases</div> <div># /data/data/<package-name>/databases/</div> <div>Internal Storage</div> <div># /data/data/<package-name>/files/</div>
Package Manager
<div>List all packages on the device</div> <div># adb shell pm list packages</div> <div>Find the path where the APK is stored for the selected package</div> <div># adb shell pm path <package-name></div> <div>List only installed apps (not system apps) and the associated path</div> <div># adb shell pm list packages -f -3</div> <div>List packages having the specified pattern</div> <div># adb shell pm list packages -f -3 [pattern]</div>

Application Signing
<div>One-liner to create your own keystore</div> <div># keytool -genkeypair -dname "cn=John Doe, ou=Security, o=Randorise, c=FR" -alias <alias_name></div> <div>-keystore <keystore_name> -storepass <keystore_password> -validity <days> -keyalg RSA -keysize 2048</div> <div>-sigalg SHA1withRSA</div> <div>Signing with jarsigner (Only supports v1 signature scheme)</div> <div># jarsigner -verbose -keystore <keystore_name> -storepass <keystore_password> <APK_file></div> <div><alias_name></div> <div>Signing with apksigner (Official tool from Android SDK which supports all signature schemes)</div> <div># apksigner sign --ks <keystore_name> --ks-pass pass:<keystore_password> <APK_file></div>
Code Tampering
<div>1. Disassemble and save the smali code into output directory</div> <div># apktool d <APK_file> -o <directory_output></div> <div>2. Modify the app (smali code or resource files)</div> <div>3. Build the modified APK</div> <div># apktool b <directory_output> -o <APK_file></div> <div>4. Sign the APK (see Application Signing)</div> <div>5. (Optional) Uses zipalign to provide optimization to the Android APK</div> <div># zipalign -fv 4 <input_APK> <output_APK></div>
Content Provider
<div>Query a Content Provider</div> <div># adb shell content query --uri content://<provider_authority_name>/<table_name></div> <div>Insert an element on a Content Provider</div> <div># adb shell content insert --uri content://<provider_authority_name>/<table_name></div> <div>--bind <param_name>:<param_type>:<param_value></div> <div>Delete a row on a Content Provider</div> <div># adb shell content delete --uri content://<provider_authority_name>/<table_name></div> <div>--where "<param_name>=<param_value>"</div>
Activity Manager
<div>Start an Activity with the specified Intent</div> <div># adb shell am start -n <package_name/activity_name> -a <intent_action></div> <div>Start an Activity with the specified Intent and extra parameters</div> <div># adb shell am start -n <package_name/activity_name> -a <intent_action> --es <param_name></div> <div><string_value> --ez <param_name> <boolean_value> --ei <param_name> <int_value> ...</div>



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SSL/TLS Interception with BurpSuite - Before Android 7
<div><div>1. Launch Burp and modify Proxy settings in order to listen on “All interfaces” (or a specific interface)</div><div>2. Edit the Wireless network settings in your device or the emulator proxy settings</div><div>3. Export the CA certificate from Burp and save it with “.cer” extension</div><div>4. Push the exported certificate on the device with adb (into the SD card)</div><div>5. Go to “Settings->Security” and select “Install from device storage”</div><div>6. Select for “Credentials use” select “VPN and apps”</div></div>
SSL/TLS Interception with BurpSuite - After Android 7
<div><div>1. Install BurpSuite certificate on your device (see Before Android 7)</div><div>2. Disassemble the APK with apktool</div><div>3. Tamper the <code>network_security_config.xml</code> file by replacing the <code><pin-set></code> tag by the following <pre><trust-anchors> <certificates src="system" /> <certificates src="user" /> </trust-anchors></pre></div><div>4. Build and sign the APK (see Code Tampering)</div></div>
Bypass SSL Pinning using Frida
<div><div>1. Install Burp certificate on your device (see SSL/TLS Interception with BurpSuite)</div><div>2. Install Frida (Frida – Installation)</div><div>3. Use “Universal Android SSL Pinning Bypass with Frida” as follow: <code># frida -U --codeshare pcipolloni/universal-android-ssl-pinning-bypass-with-frida -f <package_name></code></div></div>
Objection - Inject Frida Gadget (non rooted device)
<div><div>Steps to inject the Frida Gadget library inside an app:</div><div>1. Disassemble the app with apktool (see Code Tampering)</div><div>2. Add the lib-gadget library (https://github.com/frida/frida/releases) inside the app (lib folder)</div><div>3. Modify the smali code to load the lib-gadget (usually on the Main Activity <code>const-string v0, "frida-gadget"</code> <code>invoke-static {v0}, Ljava/lang/System;-.>loadLibrary(Ljava/lang/String;)V</code></div><div>4. Add the INTERNET permission on the AndroidManifest.xml</div><div>5. Rebuild the app with apktool and sign it (see Code Tampering and Application Signing)</div><div>Inject Frida Gadget using Objection</div><div><code>objection patchapk --source UnCrackable-Level1.apk -V 12.10.4 --architecture x86_64</code></div></div>

adb
<div><div>Connect through USB</div><div><code># adb -d shell</code></div><div>Connect though TCP/IP</div><div><code># adb -e shell</code></div><div>Get a shell or execute the specified command</div><div><code># adb shell [cmd]</code></div><div>List processes</div><div><code># adb shell ps</code></div><div>List Android devices connected</div><div><code># adb devices</code></div><div>Dump the log messages from Android</div><div><code># adb logcat</code></div></div> <div><div>Copy local file to device</div><div><code># adb push <local> <device></code></div><div>Copy file from device</div><div><code># adb pull <remote> <local></code></div><div>Install APK on the device</div><div><code># adb install <APK_file></code></div><div>Install an App Bundle</div><div><code># adb install-multiple <APK_file_1> <APK_file_2> [APK_file_3] ...</code></div><div>Set-up port forwarding using TCP protocol from host to Android device</div><div><code># adb forward tcp:<local_port> tcp:<remote_port></code></div></div>
Frida – Installation
<div><div>Install Frida on your system with Python bindings</div><div><code># pip install frida frida-tools</code></div><div>Download the Frida server binary (check your architecture): https://github.com/frida/frida/releases</div><div><code># adb shell getprop ro.product.cpu.abi</code></div><div>Upload and execute the Frida server binary (adb service should run with root privileges)</div><div><code># adb root</code></div><div><code># adb push <frida-server-binary> /data/local/tmp/frida</code></div><div><code># adb shell "chmod 755 /data/local/tmp/frida"</code></div><div><code># adb shell "/data/local/tmp/frida"</code></div></div>
Frida – Tools
<div><div>List running processes (emulators or devices connected through USB)</div><div><code># frida-ps -U</code></div><div>List only installed applications</div><div><code># frida-ps -U -i</code></div><div>Attach Frida to the specified application</div><div><code># frida -U <package_name></code></div><div>Spawn the specified application without any pause</div><div><code># frida -U -f <package_name> --no-pause</code></div><div>Load a script</div><div><code># frida -U -l <script_file> <package_name></code></div></div>