

1. Static Application Security Testing (SAST) and Dynamic Application Security Testing (DAST):

- SAST (Static Application Security Testing): Analyzes the source code, binaries, or bytecode of an application without executing it. Most effective during the development phase, identifying vulnerabilities early in the software development life cycle.

- Advantage: Provides a comprehensive overview of potential security flaws in the source code.

- Disadvantage: Might produce false positives or miss vulnerabilities that can only be identified during runtime.

- DAST (Dynamic Application Security Testing): Assesses an application while it is running to identify vulnerabilities that might be exploited in a real-world scenario. More suitable for identifying runtime vulnerabilities and issues in the deployed application.

- Advantage: Mimics real-world attack scenarios and provides insights into actual vulnerabilities.

- Disadvantage: Limited to identifying vulnerabilities that manifest during runtime, may produce false negatives.

2. Pass-the-Hash Attacks: Pass-the-Hash is a type of attack where an attacker captures the hashed credentials of a user and uses them to authenticate without needing to know the plaintext password.

Mitigation:

- Using of Strong Authentication: Implement multi-factor authentication (MFA) to add an additional layer of security.

- Credential Protection: Regularly change passwords and store them securely using technologies like Credential Guard.

- Network Segmentation: Isolate critical systems and implement proper network segmentation to limit lateral movement.

3. Penetration Testing for IoT Devices:

Methodologies:

- Device Security Assessment: Evaluate the security of the IoT device, including firmware analysis and hardware inspection.

- Network Security Assessment: Assess the communication protocols and data transmission security.

- Cloud and Mobile App Assessment: Evaluate the security of associated cloud services and mobile applications.

Tools:

- Shodan: Search engine for discovering IoT devices.

- Firmadyne: Firmware emulation tool for IoT devices.

- Wireshark: Network protocol analyzer for monitoring IoT device communication.

4. Implications of Penetration Testing in Compliance Frameworks:

PCI DSS, HIPAA, GDPR:

- PCI DSS: Ensures payment card data security.

- HIPAA: Protects health information privacy and security.
- GDPR: Focuses on the protection of personal data.

Implications:

- Penetration testing is often a requirement for compliance.
- Helps identify and address vulnerabilities to maintain a secure environment.
- Demonstrates a commitment to security standards.

5. Red Team vs. Blue Team Exercises:

Red Team:

- Simulates an external threat, trying to compromise systems.
- Focuses on finding vulnerabilities and exploiting them.

Blue Team:

- Defends against simulated attacks.
- Enhances detection, response, and mitigation capabilities.

Considerations:

- Encourages collaboration between teams.
- Provides a comprehensive assessment of an organization's security posture.

6. Active vs. Passive Reconnaissance:

Active Reconnaissance:

- Involves direct interaction with the target, like network scanning or probing.
- Higher risk of detection but provides real-time information.

Passive Reconnaissance:

- Involves collecting information without directly interacting with the target.
- Lower risk of detection but may not provide real-time data.

In Penetration Testing: Both are crucial for gathering comprehensive information about the target.

7. Reverse Engineering in Penetration Testing: Process of analyzing software or hardware to understand its functionality and behavior.

Applications:

- Analyzing malware to understand its code and functionality.
- Understanding proprietary systems to identify vulnerabilities.

Tools:

- IDA Pro, Ghidra for binary analysis.
- OllyDbg, WinDbg for debugging.

8. Buffer Overflow Vulnerabilities: Occurs when a program writes more data to a block of memory than it was allocated, leading to potential exploitation.

Significance in Penetration Testing:

- Can lead to remote code execution.
- Exploited to inject malicious code into a system.
- Emphasizes the importance of secure coding practices.

9. DLL Injection in Penetration Testing: Forcing a process to load a dynamic link library (DLL) into its address space, often to execute malicious code.

Implications:

- Allows an attacker to manipulate the behavior of a program.
- Commonly used for privilege escalation or persistence.

10. Cryptanalysis in Penetration Testing: Involves breaking cryptographic systems to gain unauthorized access to data.

Relevance:

- Identifying weaknesses in encryption algorithms.
- Assessing the strength of cryptographic implementations.

Techniques:

- Brute-force attacks, frequency analysis, chosen plaintext attacks.