

ADVERSARY EMULATION CAMPAIGN HINT

- 1. Understand Your Objectives:** Your primary aim is to mimic the tactics, techniques, and procedures (TTPs) of real-life adversaries to test and strengthen your organization's defenses. Make sure your objectives align with this.
- 2. Scope Appropriately:** Define what is within the scope of your operation and stick to it. This includes systems, networks, and physical spaces.
- 3. Leverage Threat Intelligence:** Use up-to-date threat intelligence to make your emulation as realistic as possible. Choose an adversary whose TTPs you will emulate.
- 4. Follow the ATT&CK Framework:** The MITRE ATT&CK framework is a great guide for emulating adversary behavior. It provides comprehensive information about different TTPs.
- 5. Multi-Vector Attacks:** Real adversaries won't limit themselves to just one vector. Consider including multiple attack vectors in your emulation.
- 6. Emphasize Stealth:** Adversaries will typically try to avoid detection. Your red team should emulate this by using stealthy techniques and avoiding unnecessary noise.
- 7. Use Tools Wisely:** Use a blend of off-the-shelf tools, custom software, and manual techniques. Remember, it's about emulating the adversary, not the tools they use.
- 8. Practice Safe Operations:** Make sure you're not causing actual harm to your organization. Always have a rollback plan in case something goes wrong.
- 9. Include Social Engineering:** Many adversaries use social engineering techniques. Including these in your emulation can make it more realistic and test your human defenses.
- 10. Regularly Update Skills:** The cybersecurity landscape is continually evolving, and so are adversaries. Regular training and education, like the courses offered by SANS, Zero Point, SpecterOps and Others, can help you keep up.
- 11. Test Incident Response:** Your emulation should not only test your defenses but also your response capabilities. How quickly and effectively can your organization respond to a breach?
- 12. Use Deception:** Plant false flags or deceptive information to emulate sophisticated adversaries and test your blue team's analytical capabilities.
- 13. Real-Time Adjustments:** Monitor the operation and make real-time adjustments as necessary. A real adversary would change their tactics if they were not working, and so should you.
- 14. Post-Operation Analysis:** After the operation, conduct a thorough analysis. What worked, what didn't, and why?
- 15. Share Knowledge:** Lessons learned should be shared across your organization to improve overall security. Use the red team operation as a learning tool, not just a test.

Tools: Atomic Red Team, Cobalt Strike, Caldera, RTA, Infect Monkey, Covenant or SliverC2

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