



# SET

## SOCIAL ENGINEER TOOLKIT

BY: ETHAN CANTRELL, COLLIN JANECKA, CARLOS BROWN, JOSEPH FAUNCE



The background is a vibrant, futuristic illustration. It features a central, dark, multi-pocketed tool kit or bag. Inside the bag, a laptop is visible, displaying a shield icon and some code. Surrounding the bag are various glowing digital icons and symbols, including shields, keys, and abstract shapes, all connected by a network of glowing lines. The color palette is dominated by purples, pinks, and oranges, creating a high-tech, cybernetic atmosphere.

## Goal

- The objective is to present specific tools within SET.
- Illustrate the tools' potential application in a social engineering campaign.
- This presentation focuses on tools that do not involve the production or distribution of materials or outputs that could raise data concerns.

*This approach is underpinned by a conscientious acknowledgment of the legal ramifications associated with particular aspects of the Social Engineering Toolkit.*



# What is Social Engineering?





# Social Engineering Overview

## Key Goal:

- Exploit human psychology, trust, & vulnerabilities to achieve specific objectives.
- Tactics like pretexting, phishing, impersonation, & deception are employed to achieve these goals.

## Tip(s):

- Act like you belong.
- Confront awkward situations.

*Some typical goals/targets are as follows:*

- **Obtaining Sensitive Information:**
  - Passwords, personal info, financial details, or intellectual property.
- **Gaining Unauthorized Access:**
  - Infiltrate secure systems, networks, or physical locations.
- **Financial Gain:**
  - Defraud individuals, organizations, or financial institutions.
- **Identity Theft:**
  - Steal personal information.
- **Manipulating Behavior:**
  - Cause people to make decisions they wouldn't typically make.
- **Spreading Malware or Viruses:**
  - Trick individuals into clicking on links or opening attachments that contain malware.

```

graph TD
    subgraph Preparation
        GI[Goal Identification] --> TI[Target Identification]
        TI --> IPS[Identify Potential Sources]
    end

    subgraph Information_Gathering [Information Gathering]
        IPS --> GIFS[Gather Info from sources]
        GIFS --> AGI[Assess Gathered Information]
    end

    subgraph Attack_Formulation [Attack Formulation]
        AGI --> CAT[Combination & Analysis of Gathered Info]
        CAT --> CAT2[Development of an Attack Vector]
        CAT2 --> PT[Prime the Target]
        PT --> ER[Exploit Relationship]
        ER --> RB[Rapport Building]
        RB --> EC[Establish Communication]
        EC --> DR[Develop Relationship]
        DR --> AGI
    end

    subgraph Debrief
        DR --> C[Citation]
        C --> M[Maintenance]
        M --> T[Transition]
        T --> GS[Goal Satisfaction]
    end

    GS --> GI

```

The diagram illustrates the Cyber Attack Process, which is a continuous cycle involving several stages and phases. The process is divided into four main phases: Preparation, Information Gathering, Attack Formulation, and Debrief.

**Preparation Phase:**

- Goal Identification** leads to **Target Identification**.
- Target Identification** leads to **Identify Potential Sources**.

**Information Gathering Phase:**

- Identify Potential Sources** leads to **Gather Info from sources**.
- Gather Info from sources** leads to **Assess Gathered Information**.

**Attack Formulation Phase:**

- Assess Gathered Information** leads to **Combination & Analysis of Gathered Info**.
- Combination & Analysis of Gathered Info** leads to **Development of an Attack Vector**.
- Development of an Attack Vector** leads to **Prime the Target**.
- Prime the Target** leads to **Exploit Relationship**.
- Exploit Relationship** leads to **Rapport Building**.
- Rapport Building** leads to **Establish Communication**.
- Establish Communication** leads to **Develop Relationship**.
- Develop Relationship** leads back to **Assess Gathered Information**.

**Debrief Phase:**

- Develop Relationship** leads to **Citation**.
- Citation** leads to **Maintenance**.
- Maintenance** leads to **Transition**.
- Transition** leads to **Goal Satisfaction**.
- Goal Satisfaction** leads back to **Goal Identification**.

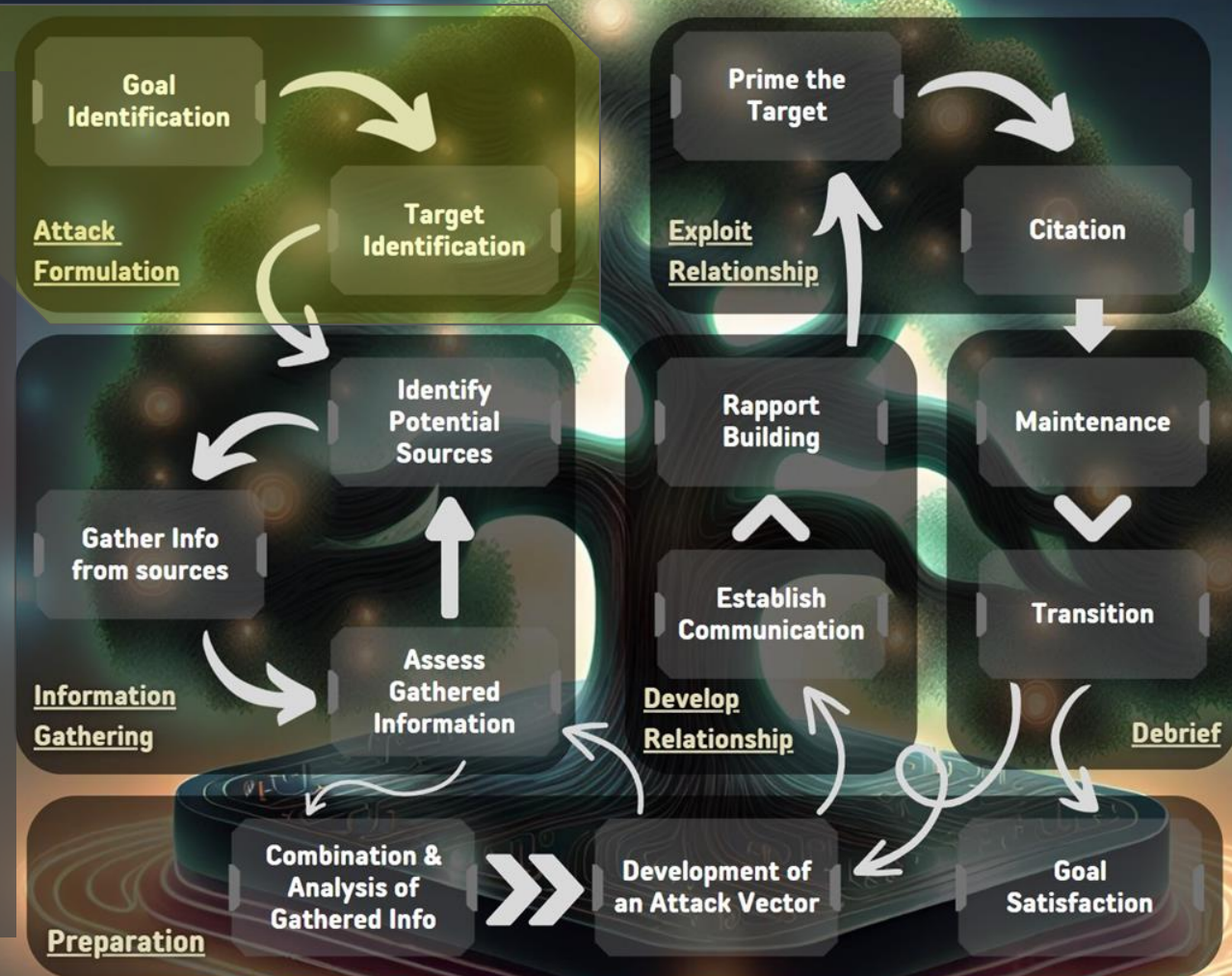
## Preparation



# Social Engineering Campaign Strategy

## Potential Target(s):

- General GitHub Users
- GitHub Developers
- Contributors and/or Collaborators
- Admin Privilege Users
- Users in Sensitive Industries
- GitHub Employees



# Social Engineering Campaign Strategy

## Potential Sources:

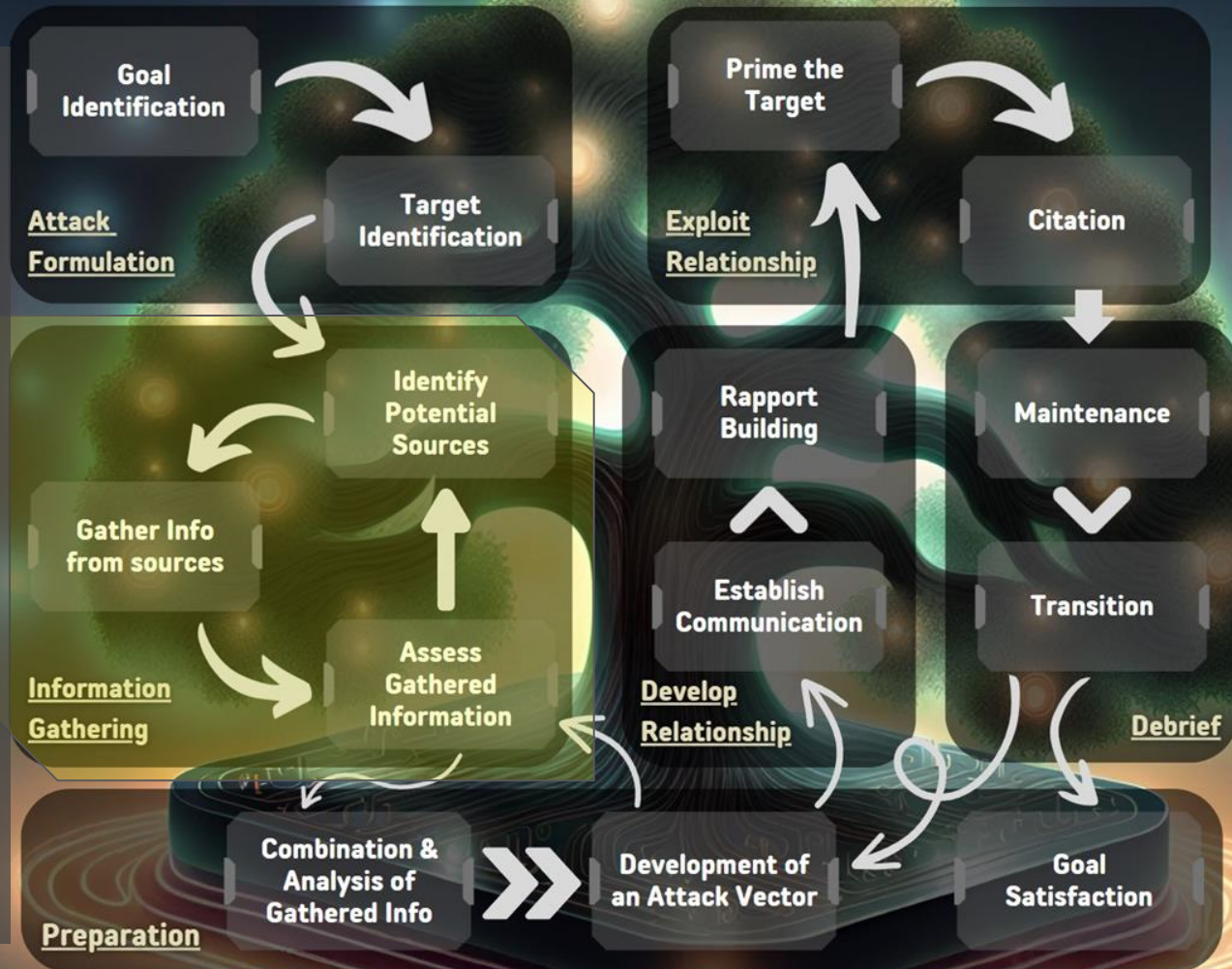
- Publicly Available Information
- Users with relevant data

## Source Information:

- Used to Build Target Profile

## Info Assessment:

- Data Evaluation
- Establish Relevance
- Further Exploitation

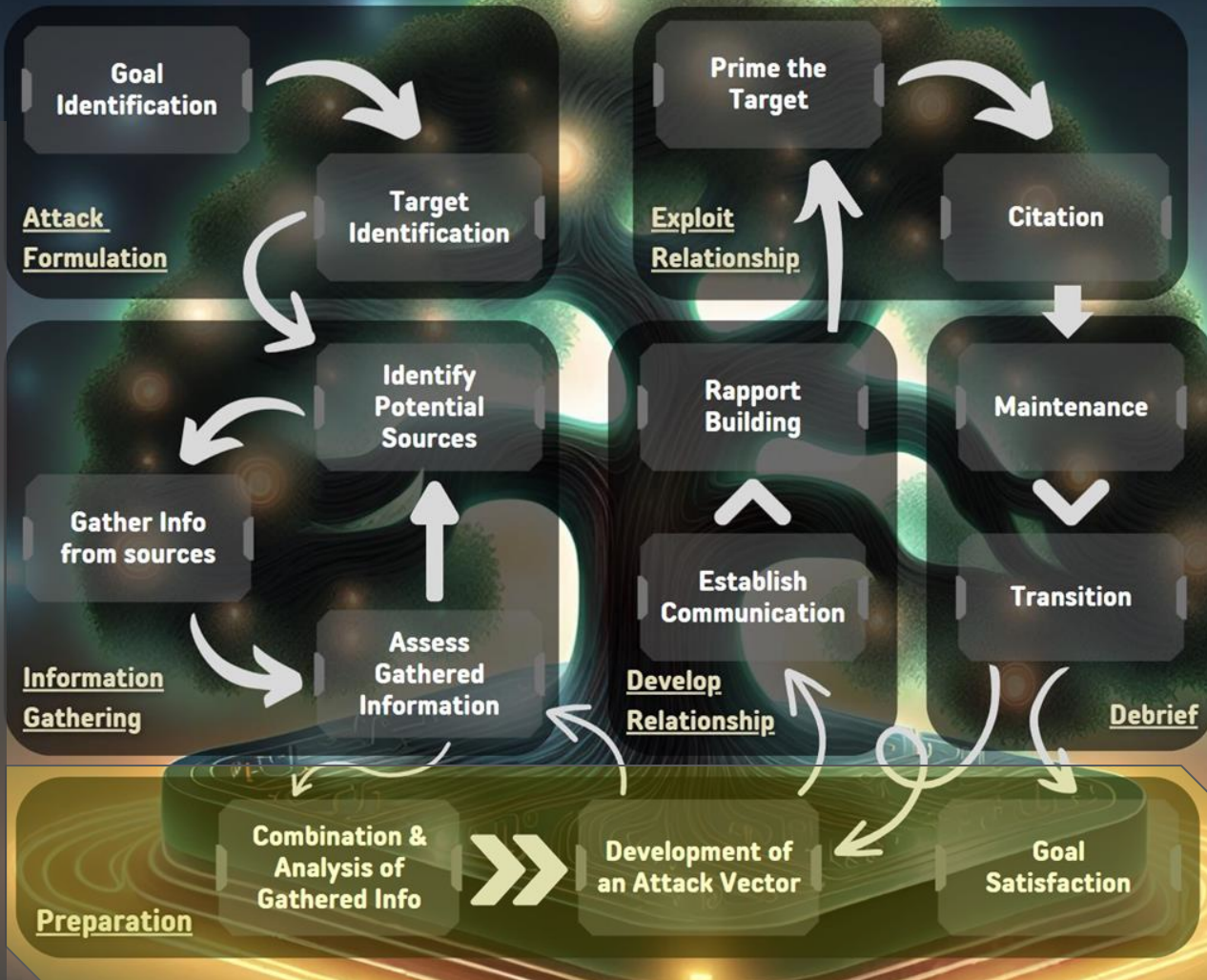




# Social Engineering Campaign Strategy

## Goal Satisfaction:

- Gaining Access
- Information Extraction
- Influencing Behavior
- Mitigating Risks



## Combine & Analyze:

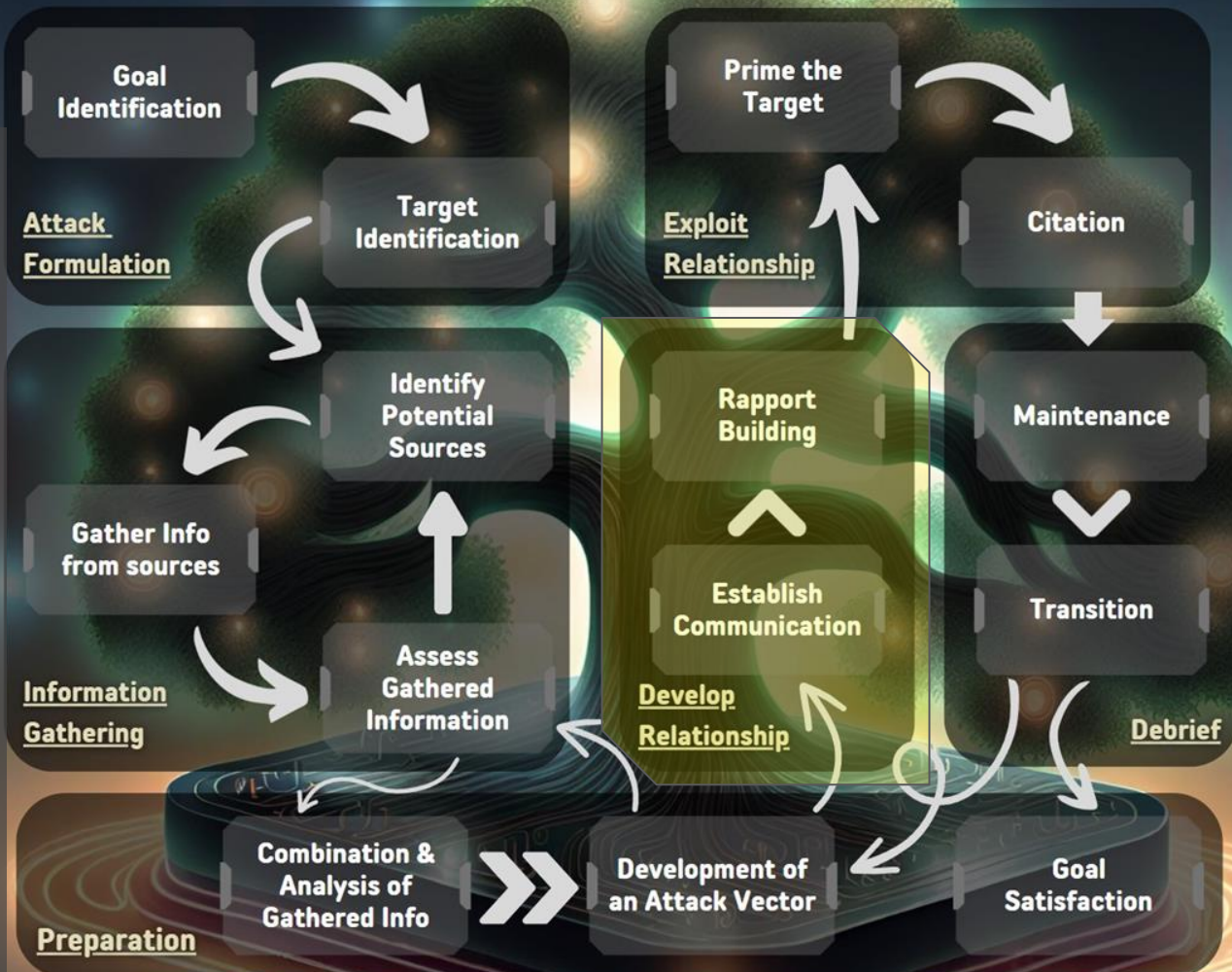
- Identify Weak Points
- Understand Operational Environment
- Profile the Target
- Map Potential Attack Vectors

## Develop an Attack:

- Tailor to Align with Target
- Psychology Manipulation
- Define Path to reach Goal



# Social Engineering Campaign Strategy

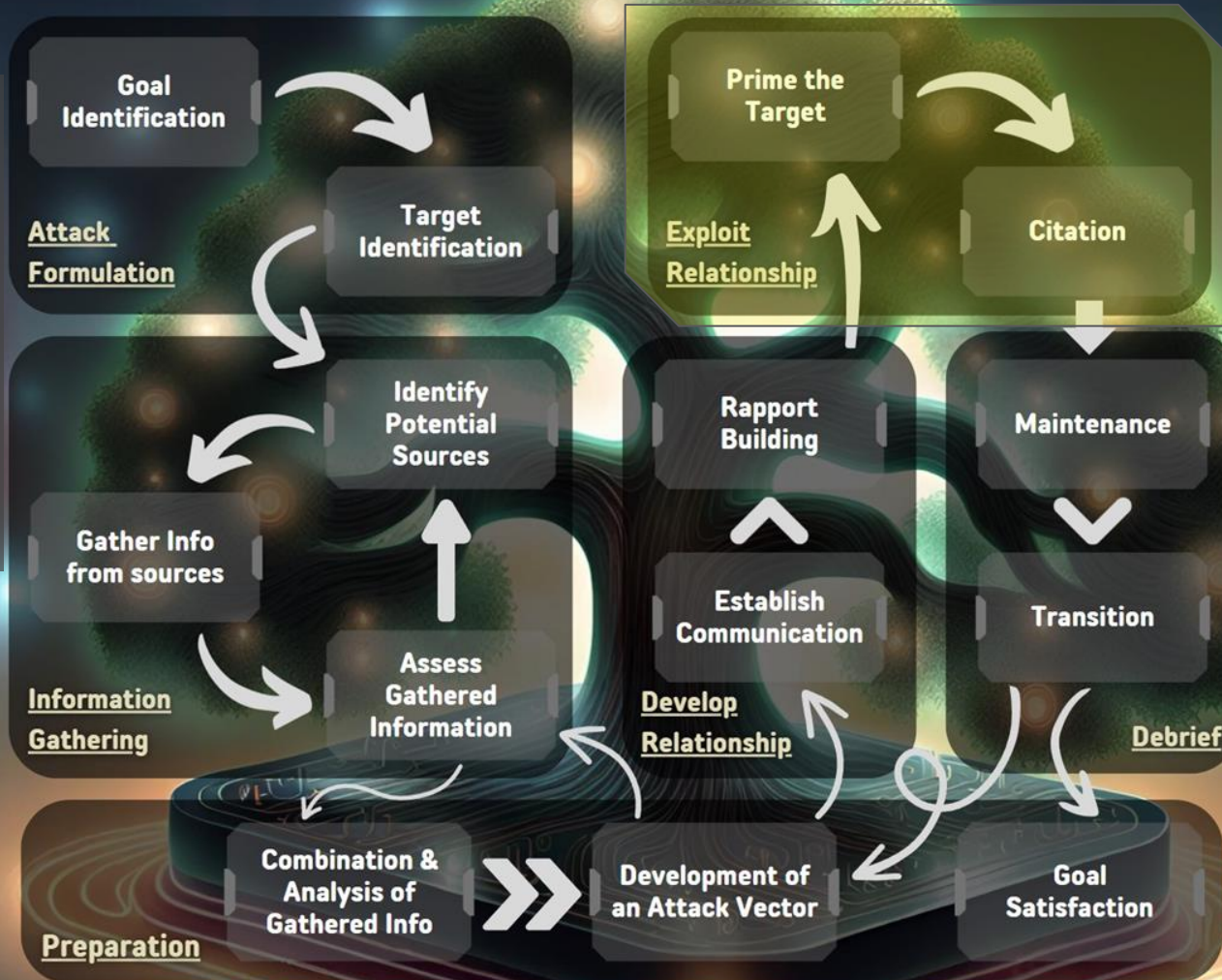


- Establish Coms:**
- Contact Method
  - Initial Contact
  - Strategic Timing
- Building Rapport:**
- Natural Engagement
  - Active Listening
  - Empathy
  - Consistency & Reciprocity
  - Emotional Appeal

# Social Engineering Campaign Strategy

## Target Priming:

- Positive Framing
- Alignment with Beliefs
- Problem-Solution Approach
- Urgency & Necessity



## Citation:

- Name-Dropping
- Fake Credentials
- Impersonation
- Appeal to Expertise



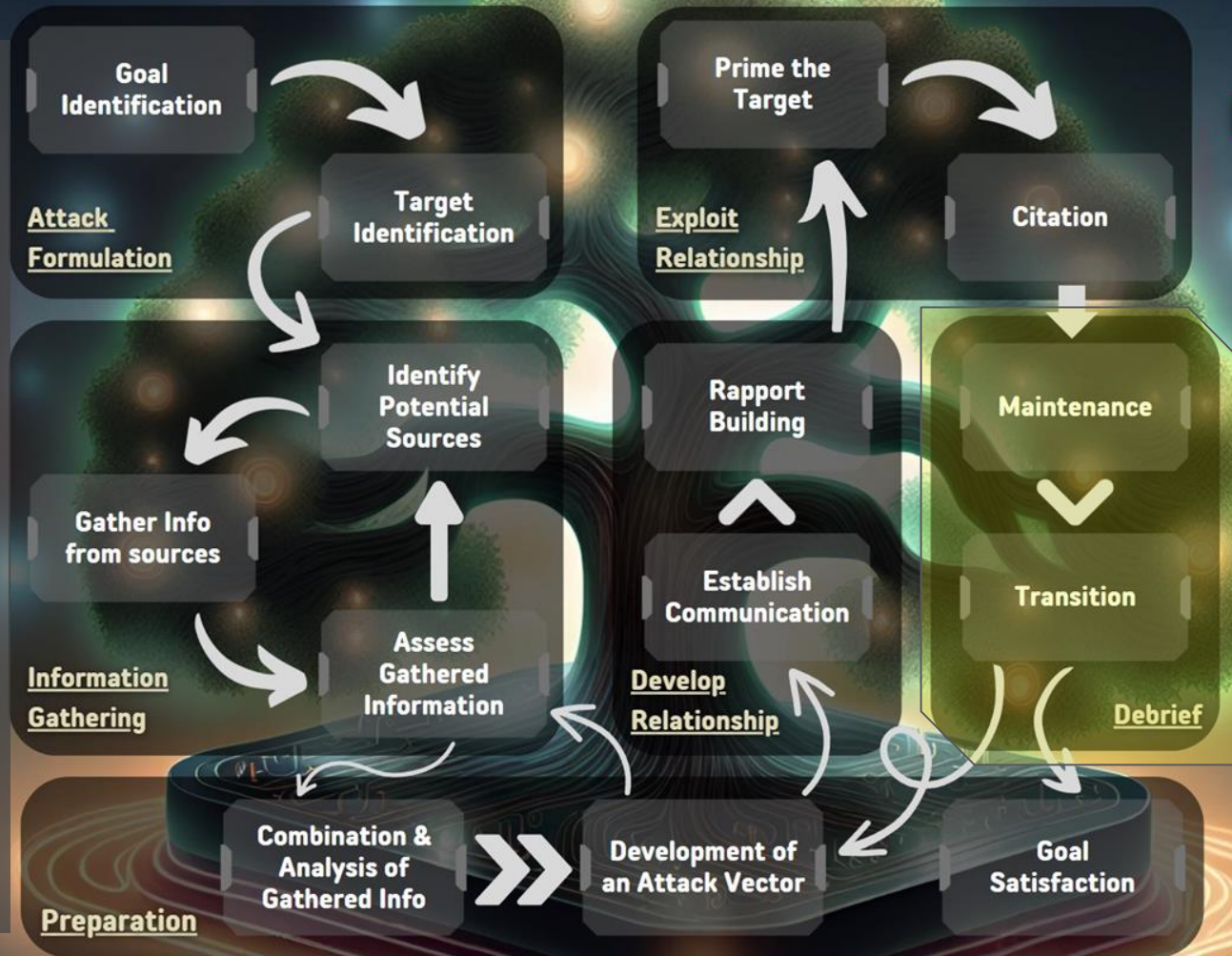
# Social Engineering Campaign Strategy

## Maintenance:

- Regular Contact
- Reinforce Trust
- Provide Feedback
- Address Concerns
- Maintain Pretense

## Transition:

- Information Extraction
- Minimize Suspicion
- Complete Defined Goal(s)



# Social Engineering Campaign - Example

## GitHub Campaign

**Goal:** Deceive GitHub users into revealing their login credentials by posing as GitHub Support.

### ➤ **Prep:**

- Gather user information.
- Create spoofed email:
  - support@ghubsecurityupdate.com

### ➤ **Contact:**

- Send phishing email, posing as the GitHub Security Team.
- Inform user(s) of a critical security update, required to to safeguard account.

### ➤ **Phishing Website:**

- Email linked to a cloned GitHub login page.
  - QR Code attack is also viable here.

### ➤ **Credential Harvesting:**

- Unsuspecting users input their credentials.
  - Info is collected & stored for future unauthorized use.

## Continued

### ➤ **Confirmation & Redirection:**

- After inputting their credentials, users may believe they've completed the security verification.
  - Users redirected to the official GitHub site.

### ➤ **Use of Stolen Credentials:**

- Unauthorized access to GitHub user accounts.
- Further exploitation for malicious purposes:
  - Data theft.
  - Spreading malware.
  - Conduct further attacks.





# The Social Engineering Toolkit (SET)

# SET Description

- The Social Engineering Toolkit (SET) is a collection of tools integrated into Kali Linux, designed to target the human factor of cybersecurity.
- Open-source Python toolkit, freely available, encompassing a wide array of tools that facilitate diverse strategies for a social engineering campaign.
- SET also incorporates penetration testing attack vectors, in the form of Fast-Track.

Some of the tools within SET include:

- Spear-Phishing Attacks
- Website Attacks
- Mass Mailing Attacks
- QRCode Attacks
- Powershell Attacks
- Creating Payloads & Listeners
- Arduino-Based Attacks
- Infectious Media Generator



# Social Engineering Toolkit (SET) - Dashboard

### Shell No. 1

Actions Edit View Help

## Initial/ Start Screen

The Social-Engineer Toolkit is a product of TrustedSec.

Visit: <https://www.trustedsec.com>

Select from the menu:

- 1) Social-Engineering Attacks
- 2) Penetration Testing (Fast-Track)
- 3) Third Party Modules
- 4) Update the Social-Engineer Toolkit
- 5) Update SET configuration
- 6) Help, Credits, and About

```
99) Exit the Social-Engineer Toolkit
```

```
set>
```

## Initial/Start Screen Menu Options

The Social-Engineer Toolkit is a product of TrustedSec.

Visit: <https://www.trustedsec.com>

# Pros & Cons of SET

## Pros:



- **Versatility**: A diverse selection of specialized tools is available, & designed to address specific needs.
- **User-Friendly Interface**: Provides a menu-driven, user-friendly interface making it widely accessible.
- **Community Support**: With 2+ million downloads, SET has a strong user-base & community support.
- **Educational Value**: Can be used for educational purposes, helping individuals understand social engineering tactics & their mitigations.
- **Open Source**: SET is freely available, & its code can be inspected & modified by users, contributing to transparency & trust.

## Cons:



- **Legal & Ethical Concerns**: Unauthorized use can lead to criminal charges, & using it for malicious purposes is unethical.
- **Risk of Data Misuse**: Harvested data can be used for malicious activities, posing data risk.
- **Buggy**: Often requires application relaunch for the toolkit to properly function.
- **Prior Knowledge Needed**: Good understanding of social engineering, networking, & cybersecurity principles.
- **Platform Specific**: Primarily designed for Linux distributions. A less straightforward set-up is needed for macOS & Windows configurations.



# Website Cloning & Credential Harvesting

Two side-by-side browser screenshots illustrating website cloning and credential harvesting. Both browsers show the LinkedIn login page, but the right browser displays a local file path (10.0.2.15) instead of the original URL (https://www.linkedin.com).

**Left Browser (Original Site):**

- URL: `https://www.linkedin.com`
- Page Content: LinkedIn logo, "Join now", "Sign in", "Welcome to your professional community", "Email or phone", "Password", "Forgot password?", "Sign in", "or", "By clicking Continue, you agree to LinkedIn's User Agreement, Privacy Policy, and Cookie Policy."

**Right Browser (Cloned Site):**

- URL: `10.0.2.15`
- Page Content: Identical to the left browser, but with the email field filled with `thehaaster@gmail.com` and the password field masked with dots.

# Website Cloning & Credential Harvesting

LinkedIn: Log In or Sign Up

https://www.linkedin.com

Kali Linux Kali Tools Kali Docs Kali Forums Kali NetHunter Exploit-DB

LinkedIn Join now Sign in

Welcome to your professional community

Email or phone

Password

[Show](#)

[Forgot password?](#)

Sign in

or

By clicking Continue, you agree to LinkedIn's [User Agreement](#), [Privacy Policy](#), and [Cookie Policy](#).

**Official  
LinkedIn**



LinkedIn: Log In or Sign Up

10.0.2.15

Kali Linux Kali Tools Kali Docs Kali Forums Kali NetHunter Exploit-DB

LinkedIn Join now Sign in

Welcome to your professional community

Email or phone

Password

[Show](#)

[Forgot password?](#)

Sign in

or

By clicking Continue, you agree to LinkedIn's [User Agreement](#), [Privacy Policy](#), and [Cookie Policy](#).

**Cloned  
LinkedIn**



**Harvested Credentials**

[session\_key] ⇒ thehaaster@gmail.com  
[session\_password] ⇒ alwayschecktheurlb4using



# Attack of the Clones

- Leverages Credential Harvester techniques to clone a website's login page, using both username & password fields.
  - For optimal usage, both the username & password fields should be on the same page.
  - Illustrated with Google as an example.
- Collects user credentials & other sensitive information, to be employed later for malicious purposes.
  - Credit Card info
  - Username/Passwords
  - Emails
  - etc

## What we did.

- Used a cloned website in a phishing email
  - Cloned google website
  - Sent cloned site to emails with link attached
  - Gathered Potential Targets



# Demonstration



Website Cloning, Phishing Email, & Credential Harvesting



*Set resolution to  
1080p*



# Phishing Email linking to Cloned Website

File Actions Edit View Help

\*\*\*\* Important Information \*\*\*\*

For templates, when a POST is initiated to harvest credentials, you will need a site for it to redirect.

You can configure this option under:

/etc/setoolkit/set.config

Edit this file, and change HARVESTER\_REDIRECT and HARVESTER\_URL to the sites you want to redirect to after it is posted. If you do not set these, then it will not redirect properly. This only goes for templates.

1. Java Required
2. Google
3. Twitter

*CLI view deploying this attack utilizing SET's existing template(s).*

set:webattack> Select a template:2

[\*] Cloning the website: http://www.google.com

[\*] This could take a little bit ...

The best way to use this attack is if username and password fields are available. Regardless, this captures all POSTs on a website.

[\*] The Social-Engineer Toolkit Credential Harvester Attack

[\*] Credential Harvester is running on port 80

[\*] Information will be displayed to you as it arrives below:

You have been awarded Google Play Points!

testusersettool@gmail.com

You have been awarded Google Play Points!

Congratulations! You have been awarded 200 Google Play Points! Please claim your points by logging into your google account. To access your Play points, [Login Here](#)

Go to link: <http://10.0.2.15> | [Change](#) | [Remove](#)

**Note:** Inspecting the link reveals that the URL is not a valid Google webpage.

Send

# Email Attack - Concealing the URL

Compose

Inbox

Starred

Snoozed

Important

Sent

Drafts

Categories

Social

Updates

Forums

Promotions

More

Labels



1 of 289



You have been awarded Google Play Points!



You have been award

## Edit Link

*Masks the link by displaying the desired text*



Text to display: Login Here

Link to:

☒ Web address

☐ Email address

To what URL should this link go?

http://10.0.2.15

[Test this link](#)

Not sure what to put in the box? First, find the page on the web that you want to link to. (A [search engine](#) might be useful.) Then, copy the web address from the box in your browser's address bar, and paste it into the box above.

Cancel

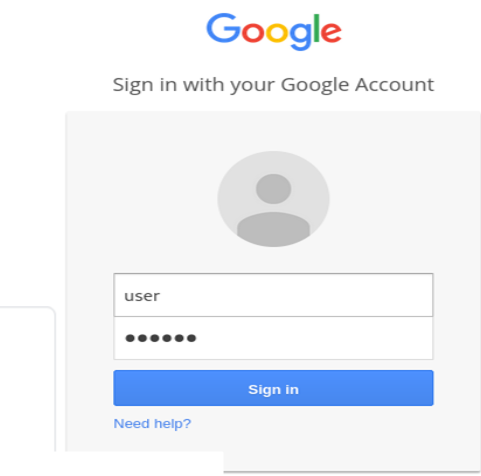
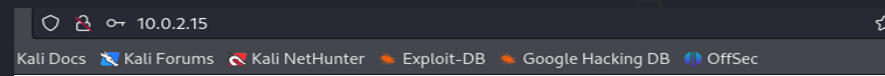
OK

Send





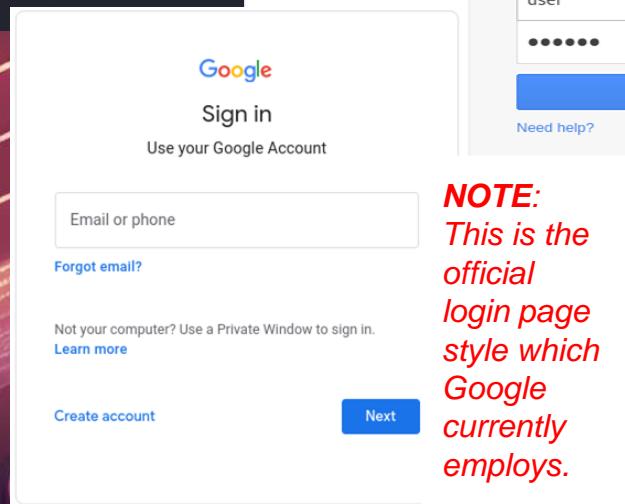
```
10.0.2.15 - - [15/Oct/2023 17:47:21] "POST /ServiceLoginAuth HTTP/1.1" 302 -
10.0.2.15 - - [15/Oct/2023 17:57:44] "GET / HTTP/1.1" 200 -
10.0.2.15 - - [15/Oct/2023 17:57:46] "GET /favicon.ico HTTP/1.1" 404 -
[*] WE GOT A HIT! Printing the output:
PARAM: GALX=SJLCKfgaqoM
PARAM: continue=https://accounts.google.com/o/oauth2/auth?zt=ChRsWFBwd2JmV1hIcDhtUFdlldzBENhIfVWsxSTdNLW9MdThibW1TMFQzVUZFc1BBaURuWmlRSQ%E2%88%99APsBz4gAAAAUy4_qD7Hbfz38w8kxnaNouLcRiD3YTjX
PARAM: service=lso
PARAM: dsh=-7381887106725792428
PARAM: _utf8=a
PARAM: bgresponse=js_disabled
PARAM: pstMsg=1
PARAM: dnConn=
PARAM: checkConnection=
PARAM: checkedDomains=youtu
POSSIBLE USERNAME FIELD FOUND: Email=user
POSSIBLE PASSWORD FIELD FOUND: Passwd=victim
PARAM: signIn=Sign+in
PARAM: PersistentCookie=yes
[*] WHEN YOU'RE FINISHED, HIT CONTROL-C TO GENERATE A REPORT.
```



**NOTE:**  
*This is an invalid login page.*

*Google currently utilizes multiple pages for Sign in.*

**Credential Harvesting** using the Google cloning website template.



**NOTE:**  
*This is the official login page style which Google currently employs.*

[Create an account](#)



# Mitigation Strategies

Social engineering stands as a multifaceted challenge, encompassing various techniques & attack vectors that adversaries employ to manipulate human behavior for their advantage.

A comprehensive defense against this involves a combination of the following mitigation strategies:

- Use Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA).
- Verify the Sender's Email.
- Check SSL certificates.
- Foster Positive Security-aware Culture.
- Employee Training & Awareness.
- Strict Access Control.
- Email Filtering & Spam Detection.
- Regular Security Audits.
- Network Segmentation.
- Regular Software Updates & Patches



# QR Code Attack

- Why use QR code attacks?
  - Common practice in modern society, appearing on:
    - Product labels,
    - Advertisements,
    - Tickets,
  - Offers a convenient & rapid way to access information, websites, or apps by simply scanning the code with a smartphone.
  - Many users may not be aware of the potential risks associated with QR codes.
  - Attacks can bypass email filters presenting the code as a pdf
- Common use cases:
  - Website links, Contact info, Wifi configs, App downloads, tickets/boarding passes, payments/transactions, geolocation data, & product information.

- What could be done:
  - Make a QR code of a cloned website targeting mobile users.
- What can you lose
  - Logins and Passwords
  - Credit Card information
  - Social Security
- What can you see
  - New Contact / "Friend"
  - Composed Email
  - Opens malicious website
  - Malicious downloads

The QRCode Attack Vector will create a QRCode for you with whatever URL you want.

When you have the QRCode Generated, select an additional attack vector within SET and deploy the QRCode to your victim. For example, generate a QRCode of the SET Java Applet and send the QRCode via a mailer.

```
Enter the URL you want the QRCode to go to (99 to exit): https://zoom.us/signin#/login
[*] QRCode has been generated under /root/.set/reports/qrcode_attack.png
```

# Malicious QR Code Mitigations

- Refrain from scanning QR codes from unverified or unfamiliar sources.
- Before scanning, verify the source.
  - Ensure the code is from a legitimate entity.
    - Check URL Previews.
- Exercise user education & awareness.
- Implement URL filtering & scanning solutions to detect & block malicious websites linked.
- Keep all software up-to-date to benefit from security enhancements.
- Check for tampering on physical objects.

**SCAN ME!**





# Resources Referenced



- GitHub: Social Engineering Toolkit
  - [Click Link Here](#)
- Red Team Notes
  - [Click Link Here](#)
- Google for Developers: Social Engineering
  - [Click Link Here](#)
- CSO Online: QR Code Exploits
  - [Click Link Here](#)
- Darknet Diaries: Mad Dog (EP 116)
  - [Click Link Here](#)
- European Union Agency for Cybersecurity (ENISA)
  - [Click Link Here](#)
- CISCO: What is Social Engineering?
  - [Click Link Here](#)
- Fortinet: Social Engineering in Cybersecurity
  - [Click Link Here](#)