

0 - Pre-Game

- Confirm all team roles and communication channels
- Identify scored services and assign watchers (scoring engine may appear as an unknown user)
- Define credential change plan and change order
- Prepare inject submission templates and documentation format

Startup (First 15 Minutes)

- Change all default and weak passwords, preserving scored connectivity
- Enable host firewalls to allow only scored ports and management access
- Disable all non-scored and unnecessary services
- Enable system logging and auditing on every host
- Terminate suspicious or unnecessary sessions without impacting scoring
- Record initial host state: hostname, IPs, services, and abnormalities

1 – Assessment

- Inventory all systems and running services
- Map network connectivity (no VLAN segmentation)
- Capture configs, startup tasks, and scheduled jobs
- Restrict management access paths and enforce access control

2 – Access Control

- Audit all user accounts, groups, and privileges
- Treat unknown accounts as potentially scored; avoid deletions without validation
- Apply strong password and lockout policies
- Review administrative access (sudo, Administrators, SSH keys, tokens)

3 - Services & Persistence

- Disable all non-essential or redundant services
- Review configurations for all scored services
- Locate and remove persistence mechanisms (cron, systemd, WMI, startup tasks)

4 - Network

Verify open ports align with the scoreboard

Configure firewalls for default-deny inbound; allow only scored and management traffic Inspect routing tables, ARP cache, and gateways for anomalies Secure network shares and restrict anonymous access 5 – File System Identify dangerous permissions, SUID/SGID files, and recent unauthorized changes Clean webroots of shells, backdoors, or unsafe upload handlers Verify file permissions across critical directories 6 - Logging & Monitoring Enable and centralize logs Configure log rotation and retention Monitor authentication and service activity continuously Track configuration and service changes

7 – System Hardening

- Apply patches to critical and remotely exploitable services
- Enforce secure OS and service defaults
- Disable insecure protocols and legacy features (e.g., SMBv1, Telnet)

8 – Application Security

- Harden web and database configurations
- Enforce strong credentials and principle of least privilege
- Rotate all application and database secrets
- Disable dangerous functions, directory listings, and sample apps

9 - Backup & Recovery

- Create live backups of configurations and critical data
- Verify backup integrity and storage location security
- Maintain a quick-restore process for scored systems

10 – Continuous Operations

- Continuously verify all scored services remain operational
- ☐ Monitor for new IOCs and block malicious IPs
- Maintain real-time change and incident logs
- Communicate status updates and submit inject reports promptly

Incident Response

- Maintain service availability while responding to incidents
- Capture volatile data and logs before remediation
- Identify IOCs, remove persistence, rotate credentials
- Restore affected services and verify scoring functionality
- Document all findings and report to the white team

Every 15 Minutes

- Confirm all scored services are green
- Review logs and detect new IOCs
- Check inject assignments and progress
- Update team log with current system changes and handoffs