

# THE BATTLE CARD

## 1. DETECTION (The "Smoke Test")

You suspect SSTI when user input is reflected on the page. You confirm it by injecting math.

- **The Polyglot Fuzzer:** `{{<%' '}}%\`
  - *Why:* Triggers syntax errors in almost every engine, often revealing the engine name in the stack trace.
- **The Math Test:**
  - Input: `{{7*7}}` or  `${7*7}`
  - Reflected Output: `49` -> **VULNERABLE**
  - Reflected Output: `{{7*7}}` -> **Safe** (Treated as text)

## 2. CONTEXT & ENGINES (The "Adversaries")

Engine	Language	Signature / Indicator	Key Constraint	The Exploit / Bypass
<b>Tornado</b>	Python	<code>{{7*7}}</code> works. Tracebacks show <code>tornado</code> .	No <code>import</code> statements allowed.	<b>Dynamic Import:</b> <code>__import__('os').system('cmd')</code>
<b>FreeMarker</b>	Java	<code> \${7*7}</code> works. Errors mention <code>freemarker</code> .	Sandbox blocks <code>new()</code> on dangerous classes.	<b>Gadget Chain:</b> Access <code>product.class</code> , <code>protectionDomain</code> , <code>classLoader</code> to load <code>Execute</code> manually.
<b>Handlebars</b>	Node.js	<code>{{7*7}}</code> works. Errors mention <code>handlebars.js</code> .	"Logic-less" templates (no direct code).	<b>Helper Abuse:</b> Use <code>{{#with}}</code> blocks to walk the prototype chain and access <code>require('child_process')</code> .
<b>Django</b>	Python	<code>{{7*7}}</code> usually fails. <code>{% debug %}</code> works.	Tight sandbox. RCE is rare.	<b>Info Disclosure:</b> Use <code>{% debug %}</code> to find exposed objects (like <code>settings</code> ) and read <code>SECRET_KEY</code> .

Engine	Language	Signature / Indicator	Key Constraint	The Exploit / Bypass
Twig / PHP	PHP	<code>{{7*7}}</code> works.	Hardened PHP environments block <code>system()</code> .	<b>Custom Gadgets:</b> Chain application logic (e.g., <code>user.setAvatar</code> + <code>user.delete</code> ) to achieve file deletion.

### 3. THE KILL CHAIN (The Workflow)

1. **DETECT:** Fuzz inputs with math ( `{{7*7}}` ) to distinguish Text Injection from Template Injection.
2. **IDENTIFY:** Analyze error messages (stack traces) to pinpoint the Engine (Java/Python/Node) and Version.
3. **RESEARCH:**
  - **RTFM:** Read the docs for "Utility" classes or "Debug" tags.
  - **Context:** Are you in a text block ( `<p>Here</p>` ) or a code block ( `render("User: " + input)` )?
4. **ESCAPE:**
  - **Syntax Escape:** `}}` to close existing tags.
  - **Sandbox Escape:** Use Reflection (Java), `__import__` (Python), or Prototype Pollution (Node) to break limits.
5. **EXECUTE:**
  - **Blind:** Use `sleep` or `ping` to verify execution.
  - **Visible:** Use `ls` or `cat` to retrieve flags.
  - **Destructive:** `rm` (Only as a last resort).