40+ Vital Nmap Commands

Every Cybersecurity Analyst Should Master

Target Specification		
Switch	**Example**	**Description**
-	nmap 192.168.1.1	Scan a single IP
-	nmap 192.168.1.1 192.168.2.1	Scan specific IPs
-	nmap 192.168.1.1-254	Scan a range
-	nmap scanme.nmap.org	Scan a domain
-	nmap 192.168.1.0/24	Scan using CIDR notation
-iL	nmap -iL targets.txt	Scan targets from a file
-iR	nmap -iR 100	Scan 100 random hosts
-exclude	nmap -exclude 192.168.1.1	Exclude listed hosts
Host Discovery		
-sL	nmap 192.168.1.1-3 -sL	No Scan. List targets only
-sn	nmap 192.168.1.1/24 -sn	Disable port scanning. Host discovery only
-Pn	nmap 192.168.1.1-5 -Pn	Disable host discovery. Port scan only
-PS	nmap 192.168.1.1-5 -PS22-25,80	TCP SYN discovery on port x. Port 80 by default
-PA	nmap 192.168.1.1-5 -PA22-25,80	TCP ACK discovery on port x. Port 80 by default
-PU	nmap 192.168.1.1-5 -PU53	UDP discovery on port x. Port 40125 by default
-PR	nmap 192.168.1.1-1/24 -PR	ARP discovery on local network
-n	nmap 192.168.1.1 -n	Never do DNS resolution
Port Specification		
-p	nmap 192.168.1.1 -p 21	Port scan for port x
-p	nmap 192.168.1.1 -p 21-100	Port range
-p	nmap 192.168.1.1 -p U:53,T:21-25,80	Port scan multiple TCP and UDP ports
-p	nmap 192.168.1.1 -p-	Port scan all ports
-p	nmap 192.168.1.1 -p http,https	Port scan from service name
-F	nmap 192.168.1.1 -F	Fast port scan (100 ports)
-top-ports	nmap 192.168.1.1 -top-ports 2000	Port scan the top x ports
-p-65535	nmap 192.168.1.1 -p-65535	Leaving off initial port the scan start at port 1
-p0-	nmap 192.168.1.1 -p0-	Leaving off end port the scan go through to port 65535

OS Detection		
Switch	**Example**	**Description**
-O	nmap 192.168.1.1 -O	Remote OS detection using TCP/IP stack fingerprinting
-O --osscan-limit	nmap 192.168.1.1 -O -osscan-limit	If at least one open and one closed TCP port are not found it will not try OS detection against host
-O --osscan-guess	nmap 192.168.1.1 -O -osscan-guess	Makes Nmap guess more aggressively
-O --max-os-tries	nmap 192.168.1.1 -O -max-os-tries 1	Set the maximum number x of OS detection tries against a target
-A	nmap 192.168.1.1 -A	Enables OS detection, version detection, script scanning and traceroute (Aggresive Scan)
Service and Version Detection		
-sV	nmap 192.168.1.1 -sV	Attempts to determine the version of the service running on port
-sV --version-intensity	nmap 192.168.1.1 -sV --version-intensity 8	Intensity level 0 to 9. Higher number increases possibility of correctness
-sV --version-light	nmap 192.168.1.1 -sV --version-light	Enable light mode. Lower possibility of correctness. Faster
-sV --version-all	nmap 192.168.1.1 -sV --version-all	Enable intensity level 9. Higher possibility of correctness. Slower
-A	nmap 192.168.1.1 -A	Enables OS detection, version detection, script scanning, and traceroute
NSE Scripts		
-sC	nmap 192.168.1.1 -sC	Scan with default NSE scripts. Considered useful for discovery and safe
--script default	nmap 192.168.1.1 --script default	Scan with default NSE scripts. Considered useful for discovery and safe
--script	nmap 192.168.1.1 --script=banner	Scan with a single script. Example banner
--script	nmap 192.168.1.1 --script=http*	Scan with a wildcard. Example http
--script	nmap 192.168.1.1 --script=http,banner	Scan with two scripts. Example http and banner
--script	nmap 192.168.1.1 --script "not intrusive"	Scan default, but remove intrusive scripts
--script --script-args	nmap --script snmp-sysdescr --script-args snmpcommunity=admin 192.168.1.1	NSE script with arguments