

Building a Multi-Subnet Cybersecurity Training Lab on AWS

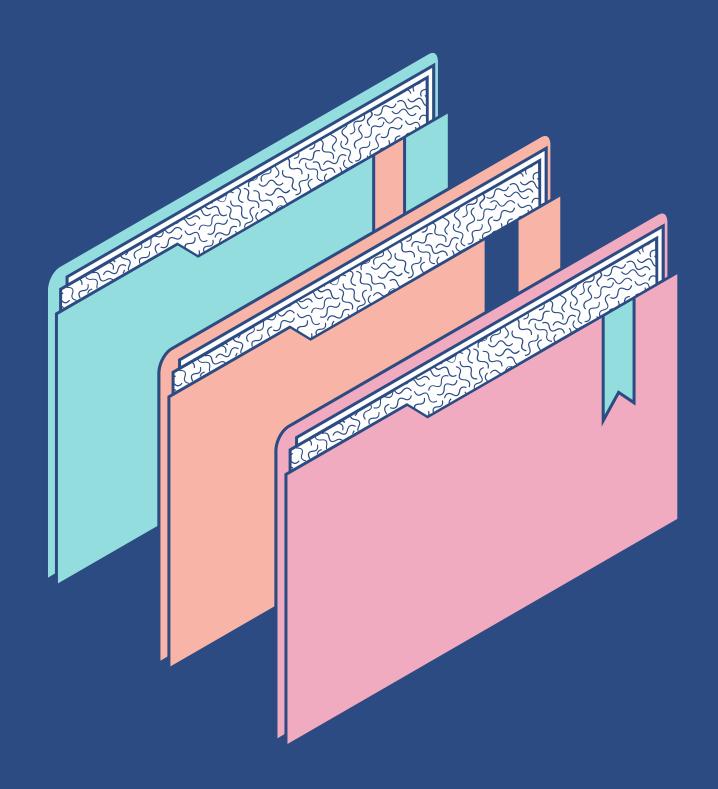
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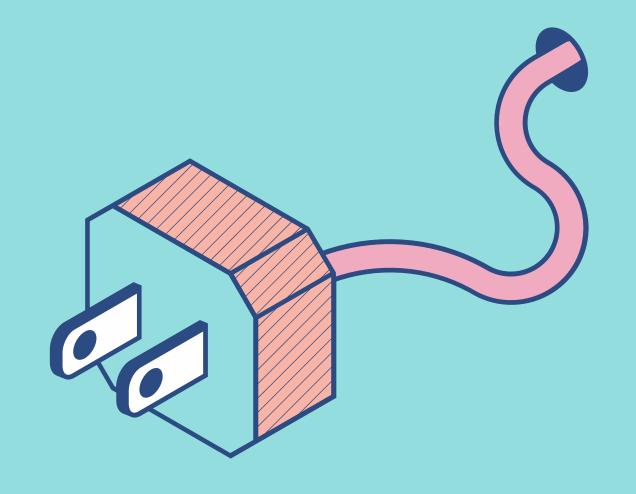
Agenda

KEY TOPICS DISCUSSED IN THIS PRESENTATION

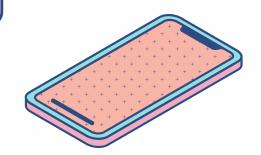
- Introduction and Purpose
- Virtual Lab vs Cloud Lab
- Tools
- Setup Steps
- Demo
- Ways to Elevate: Future Improvements
- Bastion Host Example
- Resources

Purpose/Intro to Project

Our project's aim was to construct a secure, multisubnet environment using AWS services to demonstrate advanced network segmentation and security monitoring capabilities, effectively creating a training ground for future cybersecurity professionals. This lab showcases the integration of native AWS tools, including GuardDuty, WAF, Inspector, and CloudWatch, to provide a comprehensive look at threat detection, system vulnerability assessments, and real-time security analytics.









Traditional Lab Setup (Local PC VMs)

- If you computer goes down your VMs go down
- Limited by your computer resources
- You have to do all the work all the time

AWS Lab Setup

- High Availability and Reliability
- Scalability and Elasticity
- Managed Services and Advanced Features

AWS Tools





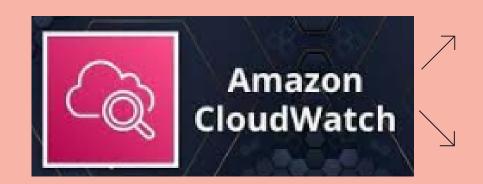




Provides on-demand, scalable virtual servers (instances) in the cloud	- Pre-configure instances with vulnerable software or misconfigurations to practice security hardening
Creates logically isolated network segments within the AWS cloud	- Enables defining subnets for different application tiers (e.g., web servers, database) to enforce network segmentation best practices
Acts as stateful firewalls attached to EC2 instances, controlling inbound and outbound traffic	- Enables implementing least privilege principles by restricting access to specific ports and IP addresses.
Stateless firewalls that define allowed inbound and outbound traffic at the subnet level	 Network equivalent of security groups. Provide rule-based tool for controlling traffic Separate rules for inbound/outbound traffic

AWS Security Tools









THREAT DETECTION SERVICE	 Analyzes logs from CloudTrail, VPC Flow Logs, and DNS logs. Uses threat intelligence to identify security issues. Continuously monitors for suspicious activity. Can trigger automated responses.
LOG AGGREGATION & ANALYSIS SERVICE	 Centralized repository for logs. Enables filtering and searching of logs. Provides visualization tools. Integrates with CloudWatch metrics & alarms.
MONITORING & ALERTING SERVICE	-Monitors metrics from AWS resources (i.e., CPU usage, networks) -Creates alarms triggered by surpassing threshold -Integrates with CloudWatch Logs -Offers different notification options (SNS, email)
VULNERABILTY SCANNING SERVICE	-Scans Amazon EC2 instances for vulnerabilities -Uses pre-defined rules to identify potential security weaknesses -Provides detailed reports on discovered vulnerabilities -Integrates with other AWS security services (i.e., GuardDuty)
PROTECTION AGAINST WEB APPLICATION ATTACKS	-Filters and monitors incoming HTTP/S traffic -Blocks malicious requests based on pre-defined rules -Protects web applications from common attacks -Integrates with CloudWatch for monitoring and logging

How to set up an AWS lab environment

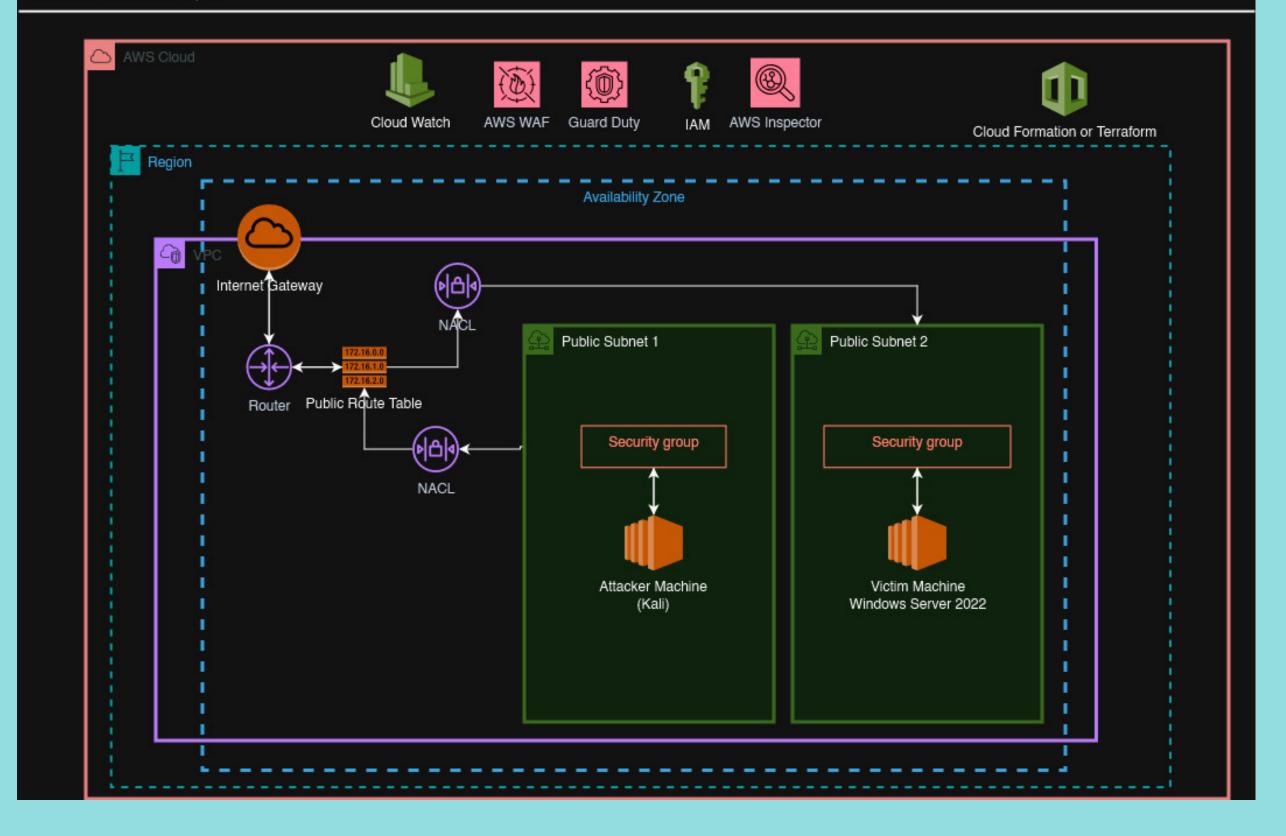


Network Diagram

This network topology outlines our AWS
Cybersecurity Lab with two public subnets containing an Kali Linux 'Attacker' machine and a 'Victim' Windows
Server. Security groups protect both, while AWS services like GuardDuty and AWS Inspector ensure continuous security monitoring.

AWS Cybersecurity Lab

TKH - Phase 2-Group 1



VPC and Subnet Creation



Virtual Private Cloud (VPC):

To create a VPC, specify a CIDR (Classless Inter-Domain Routing) block for the VPC's IP address range. You can also configure additional settings such as DNS resolution, DHCP options, and IPv6 support.

Subnet Creation

When creating subnets, specify a CIDR block within the VPC's address range. Additionally, define the availability zone in which the subnet will reside. Create subnets across multiple availability zones to ensure redundancy and fault tolerance for your applications.

Internet Gateway and Route Tables

Internet Gateway

It essentially serves as a gateway between your VPC and the public internet. Without an Internet Gateway, resources within your VPC are isolated and cannot communicate directly with the internet

Route Tables

A Route Table is a set of rules, called routes, that are used to determine where network traffic from your VPC should be directed. Each subnet in your VPC must be associated with a route table, which controls the routing for the subnet

Security Group and Network Access Control List (NACL) Creation

Security Groups

Security Groups act as a virtual firewall for your AWS instances to control inbound and outbound traffic Security Groups are stateful, meaning if you allow inbound traffic, the return traffic is automatically allowed regardless of outbound rules.

Network Access Control Lists (NACLs)

Network Access Control Lists (NACLs) are another layer of defense for controlling traffic at the subnet level within your VPC. : Unlike security groups, which are associated with individual instances, Network NACLs are associated with subnets. They control traffic entering and leaving the subnet.

Launching Instances

Function

Launching instances in AWS allows you to create virtual servers, known as EC2 instances, within your chosen region and VPC.

Process

To launch an instance, you select an Amazon Machine Image (AMI) which serves as a template for the virtual server's operating system and pre-installed software

Access

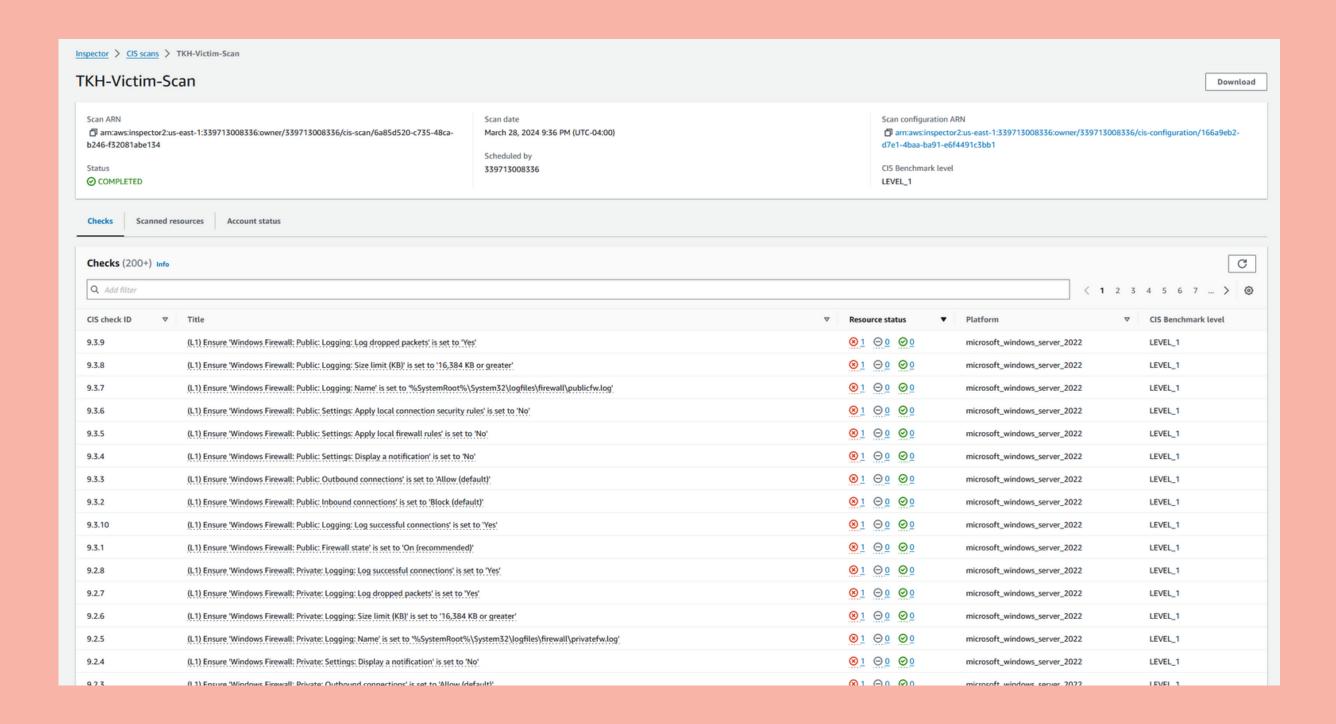
Once launched, you can access your instances remotely using SSH (for Linux-based instances) or Remote Desktop Protocol (RDP) for Windows instances.

Configuring AWS Security Services



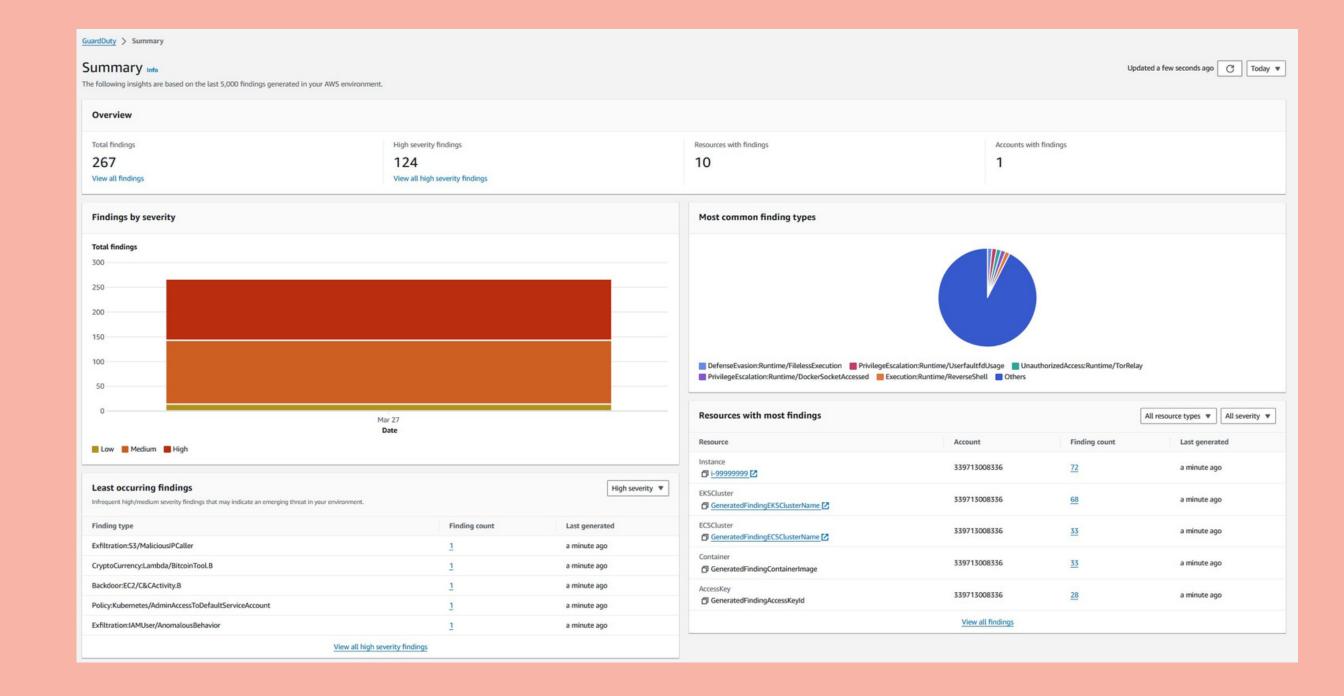
AWS Inspector

Our initial scan resulted in 200+ vulnerabilities discovered on out Windows Server 2022 system.



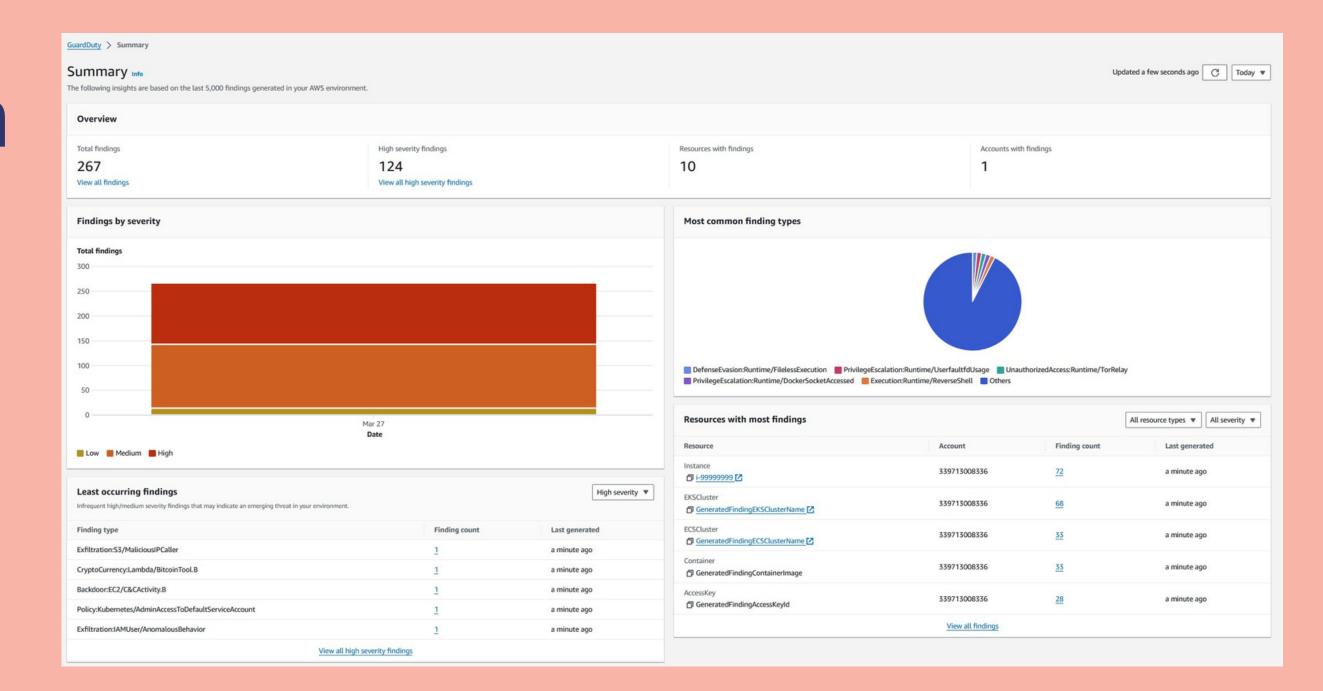
AWS GuardDuty

GuardDuty is a threat detection service that continuously monitors for malicious activity and unauthorized behavior

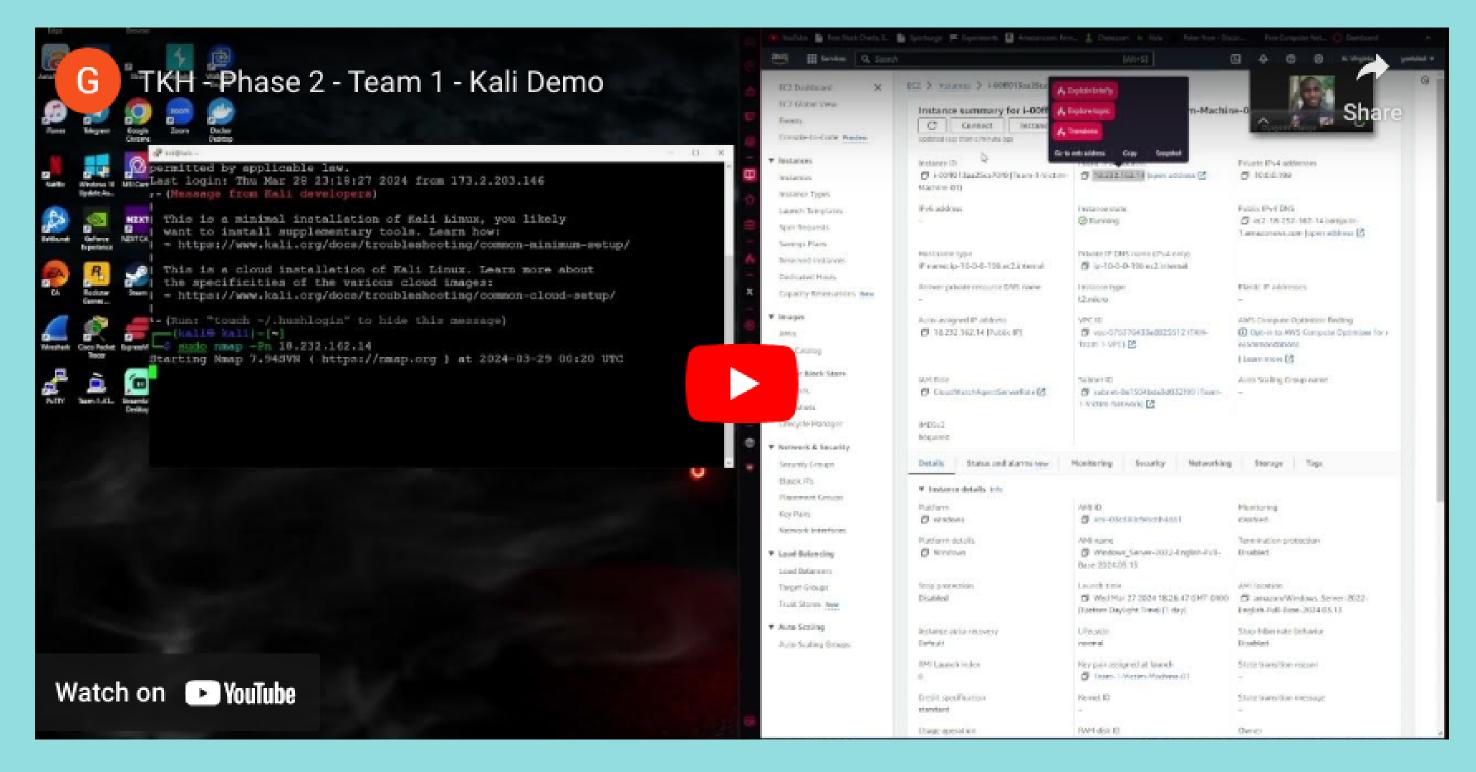


AWS CloudWatch

CloudWatch is a centralized repository for logs that enables filtering and searching of logs and provides visualization tools.



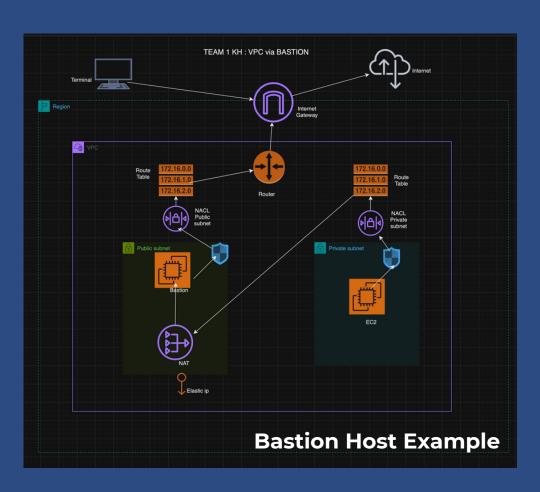
ATTACK DEMO



Running nmap from Attack (Kali) to Victim (Windows Server)

Ways to Elevate

Some things that could be done to improve the lab.



Adding a Private Subnet

Enhances network segmentation and provides a controlled environment for sensitive operations away from public access.

Adding a Bastion Host

Enhances network segmentation and provides a controlled environment for sensitive operations away from public access.

Using additional Managed Tools

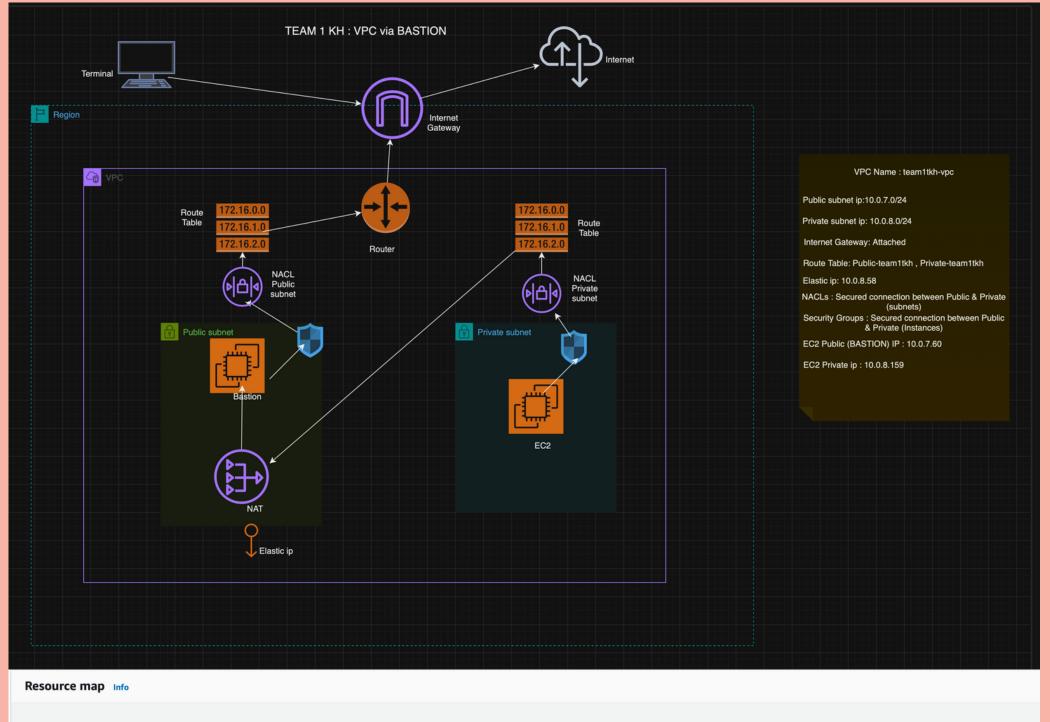
Incorporate advanced AWS services such as AWS Systems Manager for streamlined management and automation.

Integrating Advanced Security Features

Utilize services like AWS Shield for DDoS protection and AWS Key Management Service for secure key storage.

Bastion Host Exmaple Steps

- 1. Create a VPC
- 2. Create Public and Private subnets
- 3. Create Route Table
- 4. Create NAT Gateway
- 5. Create Internet Gateway
- 6. Launch 2 EC2 Instances, one in Public and another in Private subnets
- 7. Commands to proceed:
- 8.cd Downloads, Is, chmod 400 team1tkhkp.pem, ssh -i team1tkhkp ec2-user@<public ip> Now for private keypair, cat team1tkhkp.pem, create a nano file.
- 9. Consider public machine as Bastion host and log into Private instance
- 10. Test by SSH from public into Private instance by using keypair (public) use NANO to transcript Private keypair, then SSH from Private instance to Public instance. Ping to confirm connection.
- 11. Set Security Groups

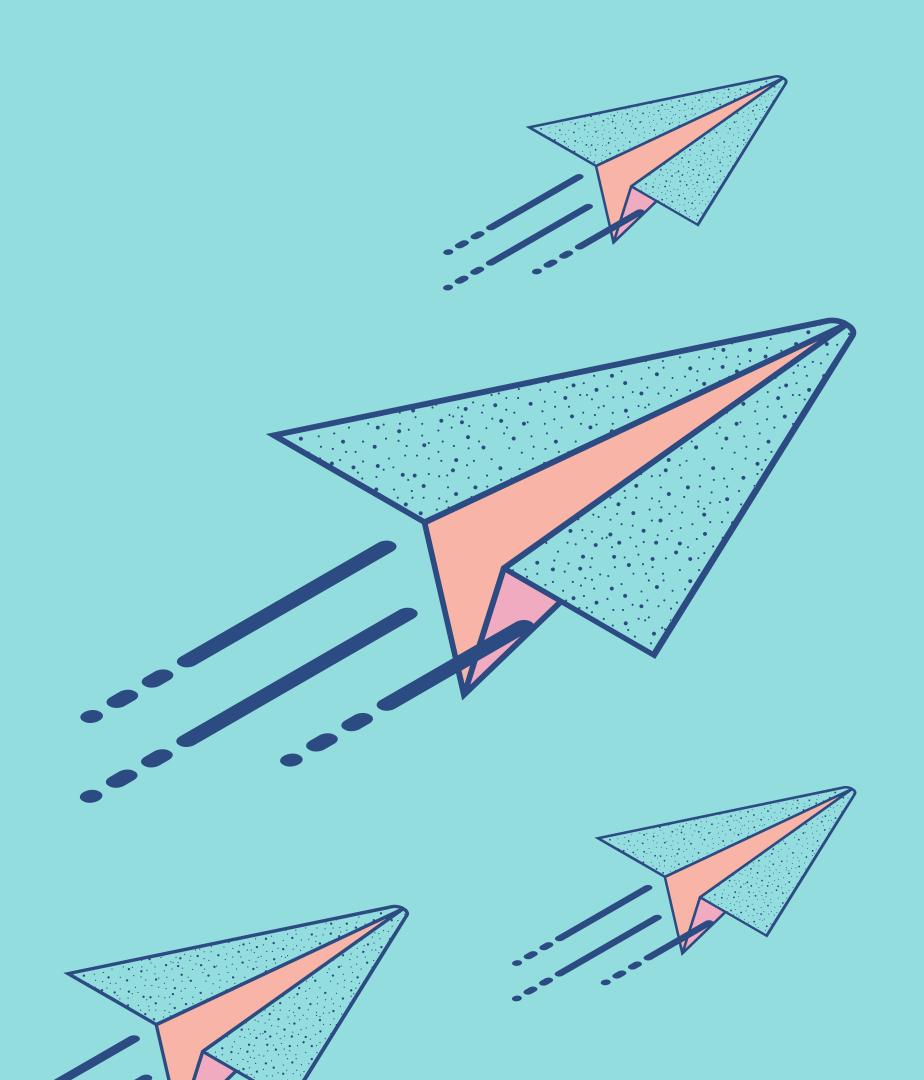




THANK YOU

Are there any questions? Send them our way.

Team GitHub Repo



Resource Page

Our complete list of resources can be found on our <u>GitHub</u>

Configuring your Subnet

How to Install Metaploit on Kali Linux

AWS EC2 IP Addressing

<u>Introducing Amazon CloudWatch Internet Monitor (AWS Documentation)</u>

Quicker CloudWatch Logs for EC2 Tutorial Setup

How to Enable AWS GuardDuty

Resource Page

Our complete list of resources can be found on our <u>GitHub</u>

<u>Linux Bastion Hosts on AWS Partner Solution Deployment Guide</u>

VPC log Endpoints

Getting Started with Guard Duty

EC2 SSH Error

Team Repo