

# Metasploit

Metasploit is the most widely used framework in exploitation. It is a powerful tool that can support all phases of penetration testing engagements, from information gathering to post-exploitation.

## **2 main versions:**

**Metasploit pro:** Commercial version, facilitates automation, and management of the tasks. Also has a GUI.

**Metasploit framework:** Open source free version, works from the command line.

## **Main components:**

- **Msfconsole:** Main command line interface
- **Modules:** Supporting modules such as exploits, scanners and payloads
- **Tools:** Stand alone tools that help vulnerability research, assessment or penetration testing. Some tools for example could be pattern recognition.

## **Main Components:**

msfconsole - **command.** Will allow us to interact with the different modules of metasploit.

Modules are small components within that allow us to perform specific tasks, such as exploiting vulnerabilities, scanning a target or performing brute force attacks.

## **Auxiliary:**

Supporting module for scanners, crawlers and fuzzers.

## **Encoders:**

Allow you to encode, exploit and payload in the hope that signature antivirus solutions may miss them.

## **Evasion:**

Encoders encode the payload, they should not be considered a direct attempt to evade. The evasion tool will try that with more or less success.

## **Exploits:**

Neatly organise the target system.

## **NOPs:**

No Operation do nothing. Represent the intel x86 cpu family. Do nothing for one cycle.

## Payloads:

Codes that will run on the target system. Exploits leverage a vulnerability on a target system but to achieve the desired result we need a payload.

There are 4 different directories under payload and they are:

- **Adapters:** Wraps single payloads to convert them into different formats.
- **Singles:** Self-contained payloads (add user, launch notepad.exe etc) do not need additional components to run.
- **Stagers:** Responsible for setting up a connection channel between Metasploit and the target system. Useful with staged payloads.
- **Stages:** Downloaded by the stager, this will allow you to use larger payloads.

## Post:

Post modules will be useful on the final stage of the penetration testing process.

Answer the questions below

What is the name of the code taking advantage of a flaw on the target system?

Exploit

✓ Correct Answer

What is the name of the code that runs on the target system to achieve the attacker's goal?

Payload

✓ Correct Answer

What are self-contained payloads called?

Singles

✓ Correct Answer

Is "windows/x64/pingback\_reverse\_tcp" among singles or staged payload?

Singles

✓ Correct Answer

### **Msfconsole:**

Doing this command opens the console on the command prompt.

**ls** = Lists contents

If we ping 8.8.8.8 which is googles IP address we would do

Ping -c 8.8.8.8

Metasploit will **support most linux commands**. Including clear - which clears the terminal.

**History** = Shows history commands you have typed earlier

**Help** = Lists commands / description

### **Command:**

**use exploit/windows/smb/ms17\_10\_eternalblue** = Exploit mode

**Use** = Followed by the number at the beginning of the search result line.

**Show options** = Variety of option to choose from

Eg, Payload, Module etc.

**Show** = Variety of show options eg show payloads.

**Back** = Command that allows you to go back

**Info** = More context

**Search** = Manually search the metasploit framework



The screenshot shows a quiz interface with a dark background. At the top, it says "Answer the questions below" in green. The first question is "How would you search for a module related to Apache?" with a text input field containing "search apache" and a green button labeled "✓ Correct Answer". The second question is "Who provided the auxiliary/scanner/ssh/ssh\_login module?" with a text input field containing "toddb" and two buttons: a green one labeled "✓ Correct Answer" and an orange one labeled "💡 Hint".

Show option - Module options

Eg setting rhosts:

**Set rhosts 10.10.165.39**

**Show options** to check command was done correctly

**Rhosts** - Remote host the IP address of the target system. A single IP address or a network range can be set. Support **Classless inter domain routing**.

**Rport** - Remote port

**Payload** - Payload

**Lhost** - Local host

**Lport** - Local port

**Session** - Each connection established to the target system using metasploit

Override using

**Unset:** Clears selected parameter

**Unset all:** Clears all set parameters

**Setg:** Set values for all modules.

**Set:** Set value using for selected module.

Answer the questions below

How would you set the LPORT value to 6666?

set LPORT 6666 ✓ Correct Answer

How would you set the global value for RHOSTS to 10.10.19.23 ?

setg RHOSTS 10.10.19.23 ✓ Correct Answer

What command would you use to clear a set payload?

unset PAYLOAD ✓ Correct Answer

What command do you use to proceed with the exploitation phase?

exploit ✓ Correct Answer