Securing Web Application Technologies (SWAT) CHECKLIST

The SWAT Checklist provides an easy-to-reference set of best practices that raise awareness and help development teams create more secure applications. It's a first step toward building a base of security knowledge around web application security. Use this checklist to identify the minimum standard that is required to neutralize vulnerabilities in your critical applications.

ERROR HANDLING AND LOGGING BEST PRACTICE CWE ID Error messages should not reveal details about the internal state of CWE-209 Display generic the application. For example, file system path and stack information error messages should not be exposed to the user through error messages. No unhandled Given the languages and frameworks in use for web application exceptions development, never allow an unhandled exception to occur. Error handlers should be configured to handle unexpected errors and gracefully return controlled output to the user. Your development framework or platform may generate default error CWE-209 Suppress frameworkmessages. These should be suppressed or replaced with customized generated errors error messages, as framework-generated messages may reveal sensitive information to the user. Log any authentication and session management activities along with CWE-778 authentication and all input validation failures. Any security-related events should be validation activities logged. These may be used to detect past or in-progress attacks. Any activities or occasions where the user's privilege level Log all privilege changes changes should be logged. **Log administrative** Any administrative activities on the application or any of its **CWE-778** components should be logged. Any access to sensitive data should be logged. This is particularly Log access to sensitive data important for corporations that have to meet regulatory requirements like HIPAA, PCI, or SOX. While logging errors and auditing access are important, sensitive Do not log **inappropriate data** data should never be logged in an unencrypted form. For example, under HIPAA and PCI, it would be a violation to log sensitive data into the log itself unless the log is encrypted on the disk. Additionally, it can create a serious exposure point should the web application itself become compromised.



Store logs securely Logs should be stored and maintained appropriately to avoid

and incident response activities.

information loss or tampering by intruders. Log retention should

also follow the retention policy set forth by the organization to meet

regulatory requirements and provide enough information for forensic

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AND

Version 1.6

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SEC534 **Secure DevOps: A Practical Introduction** AWARENESS & TESTING

checks before sending the user to the given location.

the data to the user. Depending on where the output will end up in

For each user input field, there should be validation on the input

content. Whitelisting input is the preferred approach. Only accept

data that meet a certain criteria. For input that needs more flexibility.

blacklisting can also be applied where known bad input patterns or

variable. Queries written this way are safe against SQL injection

string concatenation. Similarly, the SQL query string used in a bound or

parameterized query should never be dynamically built from user input.

EXAMPLE: Sony SQL injection hack http://www.infosecurity-magazine.com/view/27930/

attacks. SQL queries should not be created dynamically using

Do not accept serialized objects from untrusted sources, define

known good data types when deserializing data, and implement

In order to prevent Cross-Site Request Forgery attacks, you must

embed a random value that is not known to third parties into the

request. This prevents a forged CSRF request from being submitted

headers or meta tags within HTML. This ensures that the encoding of

the page is always defined and that the browser will not have to determine

CWE-22

CWE-20

CWE ID

the encoding on its own. Setting a consistent encoding like UTF-8 for your

browsers do not try to guess the data type. Sometimes the browser can be

tricked into displaying the data type incorrectly (e.g., showing a GIF file as

application reduces the overall risk of issues like Cross-Site Scripting.

HTML form. This CSRF protection token must be unique to each

For every page in your application, set the encoding using HTTP

When accepting file uploads from the user make sure to validate

the size of the file, the file type, and the file contents, and ensure

that it is not possible to override the destination path for the file.

When hosting user uploaded content that can be viewed by other

HTML). Always let the server or application determine the data type.

noreferrer" to prevent an opened tab from tampering with the

The source of the input must be validated. For example, if input

is expected from a POST request, do not accept the input variable

header frame-ancestors directive to prevent content from being

loaded by a foreign site in a frame. This mitigates Clickjacking

method is not foolproof and can be circumvented).

https://www.owasp.org/index.php/OWASP_Secure_Headers_Project

ACCESS CONTROL

attacks. For older browsers that do not support this header add

framebusting Javascript code to mitigate Clickjacking (although this

The Content Security Policy (CSP), X-XSS-Protection, and Public-Key- CWE-79

Pins headers help defend against Cross-Site Scripting (XSS) and Man-

Always apply the principle of complete mediation, forcing all requests CWE-284

Use a Mandatory Access Control system. All access decisions will be CWE-272

based on the principle of least privilege. If not explicitly allowed then CWE-250

rights must be specifically added to that account to grant access to resources.

through a common security "gate keeper." This ensures that access

access should be denied. Additionally, after an account is created,

Do not allow direct references to files or parameters that can be

manipulated to grant excessive access. Access control decisions

must be based on the authenticated user identity and trusted

An unvalidated forward can allow an attacker to access private

content without authentication. Unvalidated redirects allow an

attacker to lure victims into visiting malicious sites. Prevent this

from occurring by conducting the appropriate access control

control checks are triggered whether or not the user is authenticated.

calling tabs location in the browser. In JavaScript this can be

prevented by setting window.opener to null.

X-Frame-Options or Use the X-Frame-Options header or Content-Security-Policy (CSP)

in-the-Middle (MITM) attacks.

DESCRIPTION

server-side information.

from a GET request.

users, use the X-Content-Type-Options: nosniff header so that

because the attacker does not know the value of the token.

lulzsec-sony-pictures-hackers-were-school-chums

integrity checks on serialized objects.

placed in a JavaScript context within the HTML page.

EXAMPLE: Resource:

characters are blocked.

Prevent Insecure

Validate uploaded

Use the nosniff

uploaded content

header for

Validate the

Apply access

consistently

control checks

Apply the principle

for access control

checks

Don't use

unvalidated

forwards or

redirects

Deserialization

requests

the HTML page, the output must be encoded differently. For example,

data placed in the URL context must be encoded differently than data

https://www.owasp.org/index.php/XSS_(Cross_Site_Scripting)_Prevention_Cheat_Sheet

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Cloud Security Top Ten

1 Insecure use of Developer Credentials Developer credentials allow your team and

integrations access to your account. They should be stored and used securely to ensure that only authorized individuals and use-cases have access. When possible considering tracking and auto-expiring credentials after a set period of time or inactivity.

2 Publicly Accessible Storage

Cloud providers have several different methods of storing objects and data. Regularly review your configurations to ensure that only the intended components are publicly accessible.

Cloud providers pre-configure common access control policies. These can be convenient, but often introduce risk as provider's service offerings change. Pre-configured rules often change to introduce access to new services outside the context of what is actually needed or

3 Improper use of Default Configurations

systems, and the network. Regularly or automatically review this access to ensure that least privilege is being followed.

Principles of least privilege should be followed

Consider the granularity of access to services,

when architecting access to cloud services.

gured Network Constructs Most cloud providers have sophisticated methods to control network access beyond simple IP address based rules. Consider using these constructs for controlling access at a granular level. Consider using cloud provider based network components to segment traffic thoughtfully.

6 Inadequate Monitoring and Logging Turn on and regularly monitor API access logging. Consider a risk based logging strategy for services which are not logged by way of these core logging services.

Contributors: Ben Hagen Mark Hillick Will Bengston Steve Woodrow Thomas Vachon

7 Lack of Inventory Management

API based access solves a lot of inventory management problems. Consider strategies to enrich your environment with additional information around ownership, use-case, and sensitivity.

8 Domain Hijacking

Transitive-trust often exists between cloud services and DNS entries. Regularly review your DNS and cloud configurations to prevent take-

9 Lack of a Disaster Recovery Plan

Cloud environments do not automatically solve DR concerns. Consider what level of investment is appropriate for catastrophic events within your cloud environment. Design a DR program to recover from outside accounts, providers, or locales.

10 Manual Account Configuration

Manipulation of application flow may help

attackers to subvert application logic. Using

privileges or even mount a Denial of Service

attack. In a system where multiple functions

exist, and each function may invoke another

function, the order of invocation might

be critical for achieving the desired logic.

Moreover, the design might assume that

certain functions are only invoked under

specific scenarios and only by authorized

invokers. Make sure that proper access

controls and permissions are set for each

application state management facility.

10 Improper Exception Handling

Options for performing line-by-line

is rather limited and more complex

that are available when developing

error messages, enable debugging

compared to the debugging capabilities

standard applications. This forces some

developers to adopt the use of verbose

environment variables and eventually

forget to clean the code when moving it to the production environment. Verbose

error messages such as stack traces or

logic of the serverless function, and in

environment supports defining custom

by API gateways, create simple error

error responses, such as those provided

syntax errors, which are exposed to end

users, may reveal details about the internal

turn reveal potential weaknesses, flaws or

even leak sensitive data. If your serverless

Contributed by Ory Segal and PureSec

function, and where applicable, use a robust

debugging of serverless based applications

this technique, an attacker may sometimes

bypass access controls, elevate user

Doing things by hand limits your ability to scale and leverage cloud-native security tools and controls. Consider "security-as-code" and automation as your best friends within cloud environments.

Secure Practices

Learn to build, deliver, and deploy modern applications using secure DevOps and cloud principles, practices, and tools.

SEC540: Cloud and DevOps Security Automation

www.sans.org/SEC540



Serverless Security Top Ten

1 Function Event Data Injection

Serverless architectures provide a multitude of event sources, which can trigger the execution of a serverless function. These functions can consume input from each type of event source, and such event input might include different message formats, depending on the type of event and its source. The various parts of these event messages can contain attacker-controlled or otherwise dangerous inputs.

Serverless architectures promote a microservicesoriented system design and are composed of functions that are weaved together and orchestrated to form the overall system logic. Some serverless functions may expose public web APIs, while others may consume events of different source types, such as cloud storage events, NoSQL database events, IoT device telemetry signals or even SMS message notifications. Apply robust authentication schemes, which provide access control and protection, to all relevant functions, event types and triggers.

Insecure Serverless Deployment

Cloud services in general, and serverless architectures in particular offer many order to adapt them for each specific need, task or surrounding environment. Some of these configuration settings have critical implications on the overall security posture of the application and should be given attention. Do not rely on the default settings provided by serverless architecture vendors.

Over-Privileged Function Permissions and Roles

Serverless applications should always follow the principle of "least privilege" . This means that a serverless function should be given only those privileges, which are essential in order to perform its intended logic. In a system where all functions share the same set of over-privileged permissions, a vulnerability in a single function can eventually escalate into a system-wide security catastrophe.

Building a DevSecOps Program (CALMS)

Embed self-service automated security scanning and testing in

Value stream analysis on security and compliance processes to

Share threats, risks, and vulnerabilities by adding them to

Break down barriers between Development, Security, and

Operations through education and outreach

Use metrics to shape design and drive decisions

continuous delivery

Measurement

engineering backlogs

Lean

optimize flow

Sharing

5 Inadequate Function Monitoring and

Augment basic or out-of-the-box logging configurations to provide a full security event audit trail. This should includes items such as successful/failed API access key use, attempts to invoke serverless functions with inadequate permissions, successful/failed deployment of new serverless functions or configurations, changes to function permissions or execution roles, anomalous interaction or irregular flow between serverless functions, outbound connections initiated by serverless functions, and execution of serverless functions or access to data from an external third-party account not related to the main account.

6 Insecure Third-Party Dependencies

Define a process for maintaining an inventory list of software packages and other dependencies and their versions, scanning software for known vulnerable dependencies, removing unnecessary dependencies, and upgrading deprecated package versions to the latest versions and applying all relevant software patches.

Insecure Application Secrets Storage

Store all application secrets in secure encrypted storage and ensure that encryption keys are maintained via a centralized encryption Such services are offered by most serverless architecture and cloud vendors, who also provide developers with secure APIs that can easily and seamlessly integrate into serverless

8 Denial of Service and Financial **Resource Exhaustion**

limits on the execution of serverless functions. Depending on the type of limit and activity, poorly designed or configured applications may be abused in such a way that will eventually cause latency to become unacceptable or even render it unusable for other users. Additionally, an attacker may push the serverless application to "overexecute" for long periods of time, essentially inflating the monthly bill and inflicting a financial loss for the target organization.

Serverless architecture vendors define default

messages that do not reveal any details about the internal implementation or any environment variables.

Start Your DevOps Metrics Program

- Number of high-severity vulnerabilities and how long they are open
- Build and deployment cycle time
- Automated test frequency and coverage
- Scanning frequency and coverage
- Number of attacks (and attackers) hitting your application

First Steps in Automation

- Build a security smoke test (e.g., ZAP Baseline Scan)
- Conduct negative unit testing to get off of the happy path
- Attack your system before somebody else does (e.g., Gauntlt)
- Add hardening steps into configuration recipes (e.g., dev-sec.io)
- Harden and test your CI/CD pipelines and do not rely on developer-friendly defaults

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Secure DevOps Toolchain

Pre-Commit

(SCA):

Phan

JUnit

Mocha

Docker

rkt

Brakeman

Security activities before code is checked in to version control

Threat Modeling/Attack Security and Privacy **Mapping: Stories:** Attacker personas OWASP ASVS

Evil user stories SAFECode Security Stories Raindance Mozilla Rapid Risk Assessment

OWASP ThreatDragon git-hound SAFECode Tactical Threat Modeling

Slack goSDL ThreatPlaybook

Pre-Commit Security

git-secrets Repo-supervisor **■** ThoughtWorks Talisman

IDE Security Plugins: DevSkim

FindSecurityBugs Puma Scan

SonarLint

Manual and Peer Reviews: Gerrit

Dependency

Bundler-Audit

Retire.JS

Terrascan

Management:

Github security alerts

Node Security Platform

PHP Security Checker

OWASP Dependency Check

GitLab merge request

GitHub pull request

OWASP Proactive Controls SAFECode Fundamental Practices for Secure Software

Development

Container Security:

Actuary

Anchore

Clair

Dagda

Docker Bench

kube-bench

kube-hunter

Secure Coding Standards:

■ CERT Secure Coding Standards

Review Board

Commit (Continuous Integration)

Fast, automated security checks during the build and Continuous Integration steps

Static Code Analysis Infrastructure as Code **Analysis:** ansible-lint cfn_nag FindSecurityBugs cookstyle NodeJsScan Foodcritic puppet-lint **Security Unit Tests: Container Hardening:**

> Bane CIS Benchmarks grsecurity

Acceptance (Continuous Delivery)

Automated security acceptance, functional testing, and deep out-of-band scanning during **Continuous Delivery**

Security Scanning: Infrastructure as Code: **Cloud Configuration Management:** Arachni AWS CloudFormation Chef nmap Puppet sqlmap Azure Resource Manager SaltStack Google Cloud Deployment ssh_scan Manager Terraform sslyze ZAP Vagrant **Security Acceptance**

Testing: **BDD-Security** Gauntlt

Infrastructure Tests:

CIS Serverspec Test Kitchen

> **Infrastructure Compliance** Checks:

Server Hardening:

HubbleStack InSpec

CIS

SIMP

dev-sec.io

Security checks before, during, and after code is deployed to production

Security Smoke Tests: Configuration Safety Checks: ZAP Baseline Scan nmap ssllabs-scan **Cloud Secrets Management:** OSQuery AWS KMS AWS Secrets Manager

Immutable Infrastructure:

AWS Config **AWS Trusted Advisor** Microsoft Azure Advisor Security Monkey **Cloud Security Testing:**

CloudSploit Nimbostratus

Secrets Management: Ansible Vault Blackbox Chef Vault CyberArk Conjur

Host Intrusion Detection Docker Secrets System (HIDS): Hashicorp Vault fail2ban **■ Pinterest Knox** OSSEC

Serverless Protection: Samhain FunctionShield Wazuh

Operations Continuous security monitoring, testing, audit, and compliance checks

Fault Injection: Chaos Kong Chaos Monkey Infection Monkey pumba

Cyber Simulations: Game day exercises Tabletop scenarios

Continuous Scanning: Netflix Aardvark OpenSCAP

Azure Key Vault

Google Cloud KMS

OpenVAS Prowler Scout2 CIS AWS Benchmark CIS Azure Benchmark vuls

Blameless Postmortems: Penetration Testing: Etsy Morgue

Attack-driven defense Bug Bounties Red team exercises

Threat Intelligence: Diamond Model

Kill Chain STIX TAXII

Cloud Compliance: Cloud Custodian Forseti Security

Netflix Repokid

prometheus seyren sof-elk statsd

Azure Security Center

Continuous Monitoring:

411 **Cloud Monitoring:**

CloudWatch CloudTrail Reddalert

ElastAlert

grafana

graphite

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