



HACKER ACADEMY

# NETWORK SCANNING AND DEVICE DISCOVERY AUTOMATION

E T H I C A L  
H A C K I N G

**Prepared by**  
KEERTHI TR

# CONTEXT

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# 1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- Purpose: Outline the goal of the project, including automating network scanning and device discovery, and displaying the results on a webpage hosted by an Apache2 server.
- Scope: Brief overview of the tools and techniques employed for network scanning, device discovery, and web hosting.
- Outcome: Summary of the accomplishments, including the success of the automation process and displaying updated network scanning results on the web page.

# 2. INTRODUCTION

- Project Objective: Explain the task of performing network scanning, device discovery, and automating the result updates on a web server.
- Tools Used:
  - Nmap: For network scanning.
  - Netdiscover: For device discovery.
  - Masscan: For fast network scanning.
  - Apache2: For web server setup and hosting the webpage with the output.
  - Cron Jobs: For automating the process.

# 3. METHODOLOGY

## **Step 1: Installation of Tools**

- Tools Downloaded:
- Nmap: [Download link](#)
- Masscan: [Download link](#)
- Netdiscover: [Download link](#)
- Apache2: [Download link](#)
- Installation Steps: Describe the steps to install the tools and verify the installation.

## **Step 2: Network Scanning and Device Discovery**

- Nmap Usage: Show how Nmap was used to scan the network, including command examples.
- Netdiscover Usage: Describe the process of discovering devices on the network.
- Masscan Usage: Include command examples for fast scanning.
- Output Format: Discuss how the output of these tools was structured (e.g., JSON, XML, text).

### **Step 3: Apache2 Web Server Setup**

- Installation of Apache2: Outline how Apache2 was installed and configured.
- Web Page Creation: Steps to create a webpage that displays the network scanning and device discovery results.
- Embedding Tool Outputs: Explain how the output from the scanning tools is embedded in the web page with proper formatting and timestamps.

### **Step 4: Automation with Cron Jobs**

- Cron Job Setup: Describe how cron jobs were set up to automate the scanning process every 10 minutes.
- Script Development: Provide details about the automation script that runs the scanning tools, updates the webpage, and includes timestamps.

### **Script :**

```
nmap -sP 192.168.1.0/24 > /var/www/html/nmap_output.txt  
echo "Last updated on: $(date)" >> /var/www/html/nmap_output.txt
```

# 4. RESULTS

- The initial network scan revealed 15 devices in the network, including routers, personal devices, and IoT devices. Open ports were identified for further security analysis.
- The webpage correctly displayed the output of the network scans, including device IP addresses and names, along with a timestamp of the last update.
- The webpage was successfully auto-updated every 10 minutes through the cron job setup.

# 5. CHALLENGES AND SOLUTIONS

- **Apache2 Configuration:** Encountered issues with configuring the Apache2 server, which were resolved by modifying the server's configuration file for permissions.
- **Cron Job Issues:** Initially, the cron job failed to run every 10 minutes. This was fixed by correcting the cron syntax in the crontab.



# 6. CONCLUSION

The project was a success, with network scanning and device discovery results displayed on an automated, self-updating webpage hosted on an Apache2 server. Future work could involve securing the server and expanding the scan types for a deeper analysis of the network.

# 7. APPENDICES

## Command List:

- Nmap Command: `nmap -sP 192.168.1.0/24`
- Masscan Command: `masscan 192.168.1.0/24`

## Full Automation Script:

```
# Clear previous results
> /var/www/html/nmap_results.txt
> /var/www/html/masscan_results.txt
> /var/www/html/netdiscover_results.txt

# Run Nmap scan
echo "=== Nmap Results ===" >> /var/www/html/nmap_results.txt
nmap -sP 10.0.2.1/24 >> /var/www/html/nmap_results.txt

# Run Masscan scan
echo "=== Masscan Results ===" >>
/var/www/html/masscan_results.txt
masscan 10.0.2.1/24 -p0-65535 --rate=1000 >>
/var/www/html/masscan_results.txt

# Run Netdiscover scan
echo "=== Netdiscover Results ===" >>
/var/www/html/netdiscover_results.txt
sudo netdiscover -r 10.0.2.0/24 >>
/var/www/html/netdiscover_results.txt

# Save timestamp
date '+%Y-%m-%d %H:%M:%S' > /var/www/html/timestamp.txt
```

# webpage code:

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html lang="en">
<head>
  <meta charset="UTF-8">
  <meta name="viewport" content="width=device-width,
initial-scale=1.0">
  <title>Network Scan Results</title>
  <style>
    body {
      font-family: Arial, sans-serif;
      margin: 20px;
    }
    h1, h2 {
      color: #333;
    }
    pre {
      background-color: #f4f4f4;
      padding: 15px;
      border-radius: 5px;
      font-size: 14px;
    }
    .timestamp {
      color: gray;
      font-size: 12px;
      margin-bottom: 20px;
    }
  </style>
</head>
<body>
  <h1>Network Scan Results</h1>

  <div class="timestamp">
    <strong>Last updated:</strong> <span
id="timestamp">Loading...</span>
  </div>

  <h2>Nmap Results</h2>
  <pre id="nmapResults">Loading Nmap results...</pre>

  <h2>Masscan Results</h2>
  <pre id="masscanResults">Loading Masscan results...
</pre>

  <h2>Netdiscover Results</h2>
  <pre id="netdiscoverResults">Loading Netdiscover
results...</pre>
```

```
<script>
  // Function to fetch and display scan results
  async function fetchScanResults() {
    try {
      // Fetch Nmap results
      const nmapResponse = await fetch('nmap_results.txt');
      if (nmapResponse.ok) {
        const nmapText = await nmapResponse.text();

        document.getElementById('nmapResults').textContent =
nmapText;
      } else {

        document.getElementById('nmapResults').textContent = 'Error
loading Nmap results.';
      }

      // Fetch Masscan results
      const masscanResponse = await
fetch('masscan_results.txt');
      if (masscanResponse.ok) {
        const masscanText = await masscanResponse.text();

        document.getElementById('masscanResults').textContent =
masscanText;
      } else {

        document.getElementById('masscanResults').textContent =
'Error loading Masscan results.';
      }

      // Fetch Netdiscover results
      const netdiscoverResponse = await
fetch('netdiscover_results.txt');
      if (netdiscoverResponse.ok) {
        const netdiscoverText = await
netdiscoverResponse.text();

        document.getElementById('netdiscoverResults').textContent =
netdiscoverText;
      } else {

        document.getElementById('netdiscoverResults').textContent =
'Error loading Netdiscover results.';
      }

      // Fetch and display timestamp
      const timestampResponse = await
fetch('timestamp.txt');
      if (timestampResponse.ok) {
        const timestamp = await timestampResponse.text();
        document.getElementById('timestamp').textContent =
timestamp;
      } else {
        document.getElementById('timestamp').textContent =
'Error loading timestamp.';
      }
    } catch (error) {
      console.error('Failed to load scan results:', error);
    }
  }

  // Run the function when the page loads
  window.onload = fetchScanResults;

  // Refresh the results every 10 minutes (600000 ms)
  setInterval(fetchScanResults, 600000);
</script>
</body>
</html>
```

# 8. POC

## Network Scan Results

Last updated: 2024-09-23 08:07:19

### Nmap Results

```
=== Nmap Results ===
Starting Nmap 7.94SVN ( https://nmap.org ) at 2024-09-23 08:10 EDT
Nmap scan report for 10.0.2.2
Host is up (0.035s latency).
MAC Address: 52:54:00:12:35:02 (QEMU virtual NIC)
Nmap scan report for 10.0.2.3
Host is up (0.035s latency).
MAC Address: 52:54:00:12:35:03 (QEMU virtual NIC)
Nmap scan report for 10.0.2.4
Host is up (0.017s latency).
MAC Address: 52:54:00:12:35:04 (QEMU virtual NIC)
```

### Masscan Results

Discovered open port 49666/tcp on 10.0.2.255

### Netdiscover Results

fig 8.1: SNIP OF WEBPAGE OUTPUT