

NMAP Command Options



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1. **-ss : TCP SYN Scan** The `-ss` option initiates a TCP SYN scan, often referred to as a "stealth scan," to determine which ports on a target system are open. This scan technique can help identify potential entry points for attackers while minimizing the risk of detection.
2. **-sU : UDP Scan** UDP scans, facilitated by the `-sU` option, are used to discover open UDP ports on a target system. Since UDP is connectionless and lacks the reliability of TCP, identifying open UDP ports is essential for comprehensively assessing network security.
3. **-O : Operating System Detection** By enabling the `-O` option, Nmap can attempt to determine the operating system running on a target host based on subtle

differences in how systems respond to network probes. This information is invaluable for understanding the diversity of devices in your network and tailoring security measures accordingly.

4. **-A : Aggressive Scan** For a comprehensive assessment of a target system, the **-A** option activates aggressive scanning techniques, including OS detection, version detection, script scanning, and traceroute. While more intrusive, this approach provides a wealth of information for thorough network analysis.
5. **-p : Port Specification** The **-p** option allows you to specify which ports to scan, either individually or as port ranges. This flexibility enables targeted scans, focusing only on relevant ports and reducing scan times.
6. **-v : Verbosity Level** Increasing the verbosity level with the **-v** option provides more detailed output during the scan, allowing for better visibility into the scanning process and its results. This can be particularly useful for diagnosing complex network issues.
7. **-T : Timing Template** The **-T** option sets the timing template for the scan, ranging from "paranoid" to "insane." Choosing an appropriate timing template balances the thoroughness of the scan with its impact on network performance and potential for detection.
8. **-F : Fast Scan** When time is of the essence, the **-F** option facilitates a fast scan by only scanning the 100 most common ports. This abbreviated scan can provide quick insights into a target system's most critical services.
9. **-sn : Ping Scan** The **-sn** option conducts a ping scan to determine which hosts on the network are online, without actively scanning ports. This preliminary step helps streamline the scanning process by focusing on reachable hosts.

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