Report on FOOT PRINTING WITH NMAP



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INTRODUCTION:

In the realm of cybersecurity, foot printing is a critical process that involves gathering information about a target system to identify potential vulnerabilities. One of the most effective tools for foot printing is NMAP (Network Mapper). This report provides a comprehensive overview of foot printing with NMAP, illustrating its significance, usage, and benefits.

NMAP:

NMAP, abbreviated from Network Mapper, is a robust and freely available tool used for exploring networks and conducting security assessments. Created by Gordon Lyon, it enables users to examine networks, find open ports, identify operating systems, and collect diverse information about network devices.

Important features of NMAP include:

- **Host Discovery**: Identifying active devices on a network.
- Port Scanning: Checking for open ports on a target.
- **Service Detection**: Determining the services and applications running on open ports.
- Operating System Detection: Recognizing the operating system of a target device.
- Nmap Scripting Engine (NSE): Allowing customized scripts to perform a variety of network tasks and vulnerability detection.

FOOT PRINTING WITH NMAP:

Foot printing is the first step in the ethical hacking process. It involves gathering as much information as possible about the target network. NMAP is particularly useful for this purpose due to its ability to perform detailed scans and provide comprehensive data about network topology and device configurations.

Some of the NMAP commands for footprinting include:

- Scan a list of targets \rightarrow nmap -iL [list.txt]
- Excluding targets using a list → nmap [targets] -excludefile[list.txt]
- Perform an aggressive scan → nmap -A [target]
- Perform a ping scan only → nmap -sp [target]
- Full TCP connect \rightarrow sudo nmap -sT -p 80,443 10.7.1.0/24

- Operating System detection → nmap -O [target]
- Service version detection → nmap -sV [target]
- Save output to a text file \rightarrow nmap -oN [scan.txt] [target]
- Save output to an xml file \rightarrow nmap -oX [scan.xml] [target]
- Grepable output \rightarrow nmap -oG [scan.txt] [target]
- Scan a range of hosts \rightarrow nmap [range of IP addresses]
- Scan an IPv6 address \rightarrow nmap -6 [target]

EXAMPLES:

> Case Study-1:

```
(root@kali)-[~]

"nmap -oG - 192.168.5.0-255 -p 22 -vv >/home/scan
```

The command nmap -oG - 192.168.5.0-255 -p 22 -vv >/home/scan performs a network scan using Nmap and outputs the results in a specific format to a file.

The command scans the IP range 192.168.5.0 to 192.168.5.255 for open port 22 (SSH), providing detailed output in a grepable format, and saves the results to the file /home/scan.

Case Study-2:

```
(root@kali)-[~]
# nmap 192.168.5.0-255 -excludefile hostup.txt -vv
Starting Nmap 7.94SVN ( https://nmap.org ) at 2024-07-17 00:50 IST
```

The command nmap 192.168.5.0-255 --excludefile hostup.txt -vv scans the IP range 192.168.5.0 to 192.168.5.255 with verbose output (-vv), excluding the hosts listed in the file hostup.txt from the scan.

> Case Study-3:

```
(root@kali)=[~]
# nmap -sP Google.com
Starting Nmap 7.94SVN ( https://nmap.org ) at 2024-07-17 00:55 IST
Nmap scan report for Google.com (142.250.192.206)
Host is up (0.0014s latency).
Other addresses for Google.com (not scanned): 2404:6800:4002:817::200e
rDNS record for 142.250.192.206: del11s12-in-f14.1e100.net
Nmap done: 1 IP address (1 host up) scanned in 0.12 seconds
```

The command nmap -sP Google.com performs a ping scan (-sP) on the domain Google.com. This type of scan is used to determine which hosts are up and running by sending ICMP echo requests to the target. It's essentially a way to check the availability of the target without performing a full port scan or gathering detailed information.

> Case Study-4:

The command nmap -sT -p 88,443 scanme.nmap.org -vv performs a TCP connect scan (-sT) on the host scanme.nmap.org, specifically targeting ports 88 and 443. The -vv flag enables very verbose output, providing detailed information about the scan process. This scan method establishes a full TCP connection to the specified ports to determine their status (open, closed, or filtered).

CONCLUSION:

Foot printing is a foundational step in cybersecurity, providing critical information about target systems. NMAP is a powerful tool that enhances the foot printing process through its robust scanning and detection capabilities. It has some limitations like it may trigger security alerts and can be detected by intrusion detection system. Despite its limitations, NMAP remains an invaluable asset for cybersecurity professionals.