Android Penetration Testing Checklist

Table of Contents-

- SSL Pinning
- Root Detection
- Emulator Detection
- Sensitive Data in ADB Logcat Logs
- Sensitive Data Stored in Local Storage
- Sensitive Data in Application Memory
- Weak Signer Certificate
- Vulnerable Android Activities
- WebView Vulnerabilities
- Intent Filters
- Broadcast Receivers
- Content Providers
- Source Code Obfuscation
- Sensitive Information/Auth-Keys Hardcoded
- Insecure Coding Practices
- Insecure Deeplinks
- Missing Integrity Checks
- Insecure Android Permissions
- Background Screen Caching
- Insecure Firebase Database
- Android Lock/Biometric Authentication Bypass
- Key Checks in Dynamic Analysis
- Additional Checks

SSL Pinning

- [] Verify if SSL Pinning is implemented.
- [] Test for bypassing possibilities using tools like Frida or Objection.
- [] Check if code manipulation (e.g., bypassing the certificate checks) is feasible.

Root Detection

- [] Ensure the app implements root detection.
- [] Test bypassing with Frida or Objection.
- [] Verify if root detection logic can be modified to access restricted data or functionality.

Emulator Detection

- [] Confirm emulator detection is implemented.
- [] Test bypassing using Frida or similar tools.

Sensitive Data in ADB Logcat Logs

- [] Check Logcat logs for sensitive information (e.g., passwords).
- [] Attempt bypassing Frida or Objection.
- [] Verify that unencrypted data does not appear in Logcat.

Sensitive Data Stored in Local Storage

- [] Examine Shared Preferences for sensitive information.
- [] Review temporary files for sensitive data storage.
- [] Ensure sensitive data is encrypted if stored locally (e.g., database).
- [] Check other files for any stored sensitive data.

Sensitive Data in Application Memory

[] Inspect memory for sensitive data with tools like fridump.py.

Weak Signer Certificate

- [] Check for weak signing algorithms (e.g., SHA1withRSA).
- [] Identify vulnerabilities like Janus.
- [] Verify the app is signed with a production certificate, not a debug one.

Vulnerable Android Activities

- [] Ensure protected activities are not accessible directly via ADB.
- [] Confirm the 'exported' attribute is set to 'false' for non-public activities.
- [] Test if activities can be hijacked via ADB or other tools.
- [] Assess for denial of service (DoS) or app crash vulnerabilities in activities.

WebView Vulnerabilities

- [] Test WebView for Cross-Site Scripting (XSS) vulnerabilities.
- [] Check for Local File Inclusion (LFI) in WebView.
- [] Ensure JavaScript is only enabled when necessary and secured.

Intent Filters

- [] Inspect for intent spoofing and sniffing vulnerabilities.
- [] Confirm proper filtering of intent data to prevent Open Redirect-like issues.

Broadcast Receivers

• [] Check if receivers are set with `exported=true` and ensure additional permissions are applied if needed

Content Providers

• [] Validate content providers against SQL injection, path traversal, and unauthorized data access vulnerable

Source Code Obfuscation

- [] Ensure ProGuard or another obfuscation method is implemented.
- [] Confirm that sensitive parts of the code are fully obfuscated.

Sensitive Information/Auth-Keys Hardcoded

• [] Scan for hard coded sensitive data (e.g., API keys, tokens) using tools like MobSF.

Insecure Coding Practices

- [] Check for the use of insecure RNG functions for OTPs,etc.
- [] Inspect for unsafe functions or objects.
- [] Confirm cryptographic methods are secure (e.g., avoid MD5, Base64 for encryption).
- [] Review for other insecure coding weaknesses.

Insecure Deeplinks

- [] Test explicit deep links for potential exploitation.
- [] Review implicit deep links for unauthorized access.

Missing Integrity Checks

• [] Attempt to decompile, modify, recompile, and sign the app to see if it functions post-modification.

Insecure Android Permissions

- [] Review `AndroidManifest.xml` for cleartext traffic, debug mode, backup mode, and unnecessary perm
- [] Ensure `dataExtractionRules` are correctly defined.

Background Screen Caching

 [] Check if sensitive data is visible in screenshots when the app is minimized.

Insecure Firebase Database

- [] Append `.json` to the Firebase URL to test read permissions.
- [] Test replacing "firebaseio.com" with "appspot.com" and appending `.json` to check access permission

Android Lock/Biometric Authentication Bypass

• [] Test for bypassing lock or biometric authentication via runtime hooking or code modification.

Key Checks in Dynamic Analysis

- [] Perform API testing and fuzzing to verify access control and data exposure.
- [] Test for injection vulnerabilities and misconfigurations.

Additional Checks:

- [] Ensure the same cryptographic key is not reused across multiple contexts.
- [] Verify sensitive data isn't exposed through the UI or screenshots.
- [] Ensure keyboard caching is disabled where necessary.
- [] Prevent copy-pasting of sensitive data fields.
- [] Confirm sensitive data is masked during app switching.