

# What You Need To Know About Bug Bounties

BY UNCLE RAT



# Agenda

- ▶ Bug bounties is not hunting bugs
- ▶ Bug bounties is not the same is hacking or pentesting
- ▶ Bug Bounties are not a reliable way of getting money
- ▶ Bug Bounties is NOT exploitative of researchers



Bug bounties is  
not hunting bugs



# Bug bounties is not hunting bugs

- ▶ Bug bounty hunting is the wrong name
- ▶ More relevant: Testing a target against an advanced hunters skill
- ▶ What we don't do
  - ▶ Hunt for bugs
  - ▶ Hunt for money
- ▶ What we do
  - ▶ Test a target
  - ▶ That has already been tested before
  - ▶ Against our skill level and methods



Bug bounties is  
not the same is  
hacking  
or pentesting



# Bug bounties is not the same is hacking or pentesting

- ▶ Pentesters are the first to test a target
- ▶ Bug bounty hunters come last in line
  - ▶ Sometimes very late if a program has existed for a long time
- ▶ We can't think the same way as a pentester
  - ▶ Pentesters CAN use a set methodology
  - ▶ We can not
  - ▶ We need to adept and overcome
- ▶ Our hacking skills WILL fill in the gaps where other hackers failed



Bug Bounties are  
not a reliable  
way of getting  
money



# Bug Bounties are not a reliable way of getting money

- ▶ Even if you are the best hunter ever
  - ▶ Even if you are finding consistent bugs
  - ▶ Even if you are finding consistent non duplicates
  - ▶ Even then, the company can take a while to pay out
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- ▶ If you want to go full time
    - ▶ First test your skill
    - ▶ Think in bigger timeframes, monthly wages are no more
    - ▶ Be prepared to make less than when you were full time employed





Bug Bounties is  
NOT exploitative  
of researchers



# Bug Bounties is NOT exploitative of researchers

- ▶ You don't have a contract with the company to pay you
- ▶ You don't have to test your target
- ▶ You are not hunting for bugs
  
- ▶ You are hacking a live target, this is a privilege
- ▶ You are testing your skills against a real product
- ▶ You are getting rewarded for securing your target

