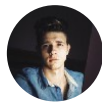# Google Hacking

Kristóf Tóth in InfoSec Adventures Follow

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Tips & tricks to master Google's search engine.

What is Google Hacking?

Google hacking is basically using operators and keywords to narrow down search results. Some of the more popular examples are finding specific versions of vulnerable Web applications or finding corporate files with sensitive information. This technique is popular among penetration testers and power users, but I think it can be useful for everybody. You can get very specific results and make your workflow more efficient.

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Advanced Search for Websites

For starters, there's a really cool page called Google Advanced Search. This solution doesn't require you to memorize search operators and keywords. You are presented with more fields rather than a single search box, where you can input your search criteria.

Advanced Search for Images

They didn't forget about people, who like to search for images. This page is called Google Advanced Image Search. The only thing I miss here is that you can't specify the exact image size. Other than that, it's a great way to search for images that match certain criteria.

Advanced Querying

The following list is not going to be complete, but it'll cover the most used search techniques.

Some facts to keep in mind:

- You can chain the operators and get more specific results.

- Google Search usually ignores punctuation that isn't part of a search operator.

- Don't put spaces between the symbol or word and your search term. A search for `site:nytimes.com` will work, but `site: nytimes.com` won't.

Include words in URL

Use the `inurl:hacking` to search for domains that include the word hacking.

Search for URL that has all specified words in it

You can do it like this: `allinurl:hacked database`

Search for titles

`intitle:matesploit` means the word "metasploit" will be included in the title.

Search the body

You can search for multiple words in the page body with `intext:"leaked database"`.

Search for files

I use this when I only need files. For example: `hacking filetype:pdf`

Search social media

Put `@` in front of a word to search social media. For example: `@twitter` .

Search for a price

Put `$` in front of a number. For example: `usb $400` .

Search hashtags

Put `#` in front of a word. For example: `#throwbackthursday`

Exclude words from your search

Put `-` in front of a word, you want to leave out. For example, `jaguar speed -car`

Search for an exact match

Put a word or phrase inside quotes. For example, `"Reverse engineering"`.

Search for wildcards or unknown words

Put a `*` in your word or phrase where you want to leave a placeholder. For example, `"largest * in the world"`.

Search within a range of numbers

Put `..` between two numbers. For example, `keyboard $50..$100`.

Combine searches

Put " `OR` " or " `AND` " between each search query. For example, `marathon OR race`.

Search for a specific site

Put " `site:` " in front of a site or domain. For example, `site:youtube.com` or `site:.gov`.

Search for related sites

Put " `related:` " in front of a web address you already know. For example, `related:time.com`.

Get details about a site

Put " `info:` " in front of the site address.

See Google's cached version of a site

Put " `cache:` " in front of the site address.

> *Source: https://support.google.com/websearch/answer/2466433*

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Google Hacking Database

The best source for penetration testers is most definitely the Google Hacking Database. You can search in different categories for vulnerable servers, error messages, secret directories, etc… It' definitely worth to check out.

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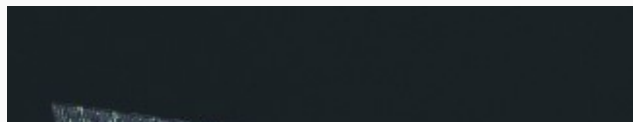Adventures in the world of IT Security.

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