

Ecole Supérieure  
d'Informatique et du Numérique  
COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING & ARCHITECTURE

ETHICAL HACKING &  
DEFENSE

PRÉPARÉ PAR:  
**SEBBAR ANASS**

Année universitaire: 2024-2025

**EC-COUNCIL | ACADEMIA**  
PARTNER

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*Lecture: Introduction aux reseaux*

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When email me, please format the subject line as follows :  
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Coordinator de la filière Cybersecurity :

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**Red Hat**

Microsoft Azure

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**Evaluation**

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- CM - Quizzes : 10%
- Lab (CR + D) : 20%
- CC : 20%
- **Final Exam : 50%**

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**LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

LO#01: Explain Information Security Concepts	LO#04: Explain Ethical Hacking Concepts and Scope
LO#02: Explain Hacking Methodologies and Frameworks	LO#05: Summarize the Techniques used in Information Security Controls
LO#03: Explain Hacking Concepts and Different Hacker Classes	LO#06: Explain the Importance of Applicable Security Laws and Standards

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**C EH**  
Certified Ethical Hacker

A **guarantee** that the sender of a message cannot later deny having sent the message and that the recipient cannot deny having received the message

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Usability  
(GUI)

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## Motives, Goals, and Objectives of Information Security Attacks



### Attacks = Motive (Goal) + Method + Vulnerability

- A motive originates out of the notion that the **target system stores or processes** something valuable, and this leads to the threat of an attack on the system
- Attackers try various tools and attack techniques to **exploit vulnerabilities** in a computer system or its security policy and controls in order to fulfil their motives

### Motives behind information security attacks

- Disrupting business continuity
- Stealing information and manipulating data
- Creating fear and chaos by disrupting critical infrastructures
- Causing financial loss to the target
- Propagating religious or political beliefs
- Achieving a state's military objectives
- Damaging the reputation of the target
- Taking revenge
- Demanding ransom

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## Classification of Attacks



### Passive Attacks

- Passive attacks do not tamper with the data and involve intercepting and **monitoring network traffic** and data flow on the target network
- Examples include sniffing and eavesdropping

### Active Attacks

- Active attacks tamper with the data in transit or **disrupt the communication** or services between the systems to bypass or break into secured systems
- Examples include DoS, Man-in-the-Middle, session hijacking, and SQL injection

### Close-in Attacks

- Close-in attacks are performed when the attacker is in close physical proximity with the target system or network in order to gather, modify, or **disrupt access** to information
- Examples include social engineering such as eavesdropping, shoulder surfing, and dumpster diving

### Insider Attacks

- Insider attacks involve using privileged access to **violate rules** or intentionally cause a threat to the organization's information or information systems
- Examples include theft of physical devices and planting keyloggers, backdoors, and malware

### Distribution Attacks

- Distribution attacks occur when attackers **tamper with hardware or software** prior to installation
- Attackers tamper with the hardware or software at its source or in transit

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## Information Warfare



- The term information warfare or InfoWar refers to the **use of information and communication technologies (ICT)** to gain competitive advantages over an opponent

### Defensive Information Warfare

Refers to all strategies and actions designed to **defend against attacks on ICT assets**

#### Defensive Warfare



Prevention  
Deterrence  
Alerts  
Detection  
Emergency Preparedness  
Response

INFORMATION SECURITY

Internet

INFORMATION SECURITY

### Offensive Information Warfare

Refers to information warfare that involves **attacks against the ICT assets** of an opponent

#### Offensive Warfare



Web Application Attacks  
Web Server Attacks  
Malware Attacks  
MITM Attacks  
System Hacking

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## CEH Hacking Methodology (CHM)



### Footprinting

### Scanning

### Enumeration

### Vulnerability Analysis

### System Hacking

#### Gaining Access

Cracking Passwords  
Vulnerability Exploitation

#### Escalating Privileges

Maintaining Access  
Executing Applications

Hiding Files

#### Clearing Logs

Covering Tracks

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## Hacking Phase: Reconnaissance

- Reconnaissance refers to the preparatory phase where an **attacker seeks to gather information** about a target prior to launching an attack

### Reconnaissance Types



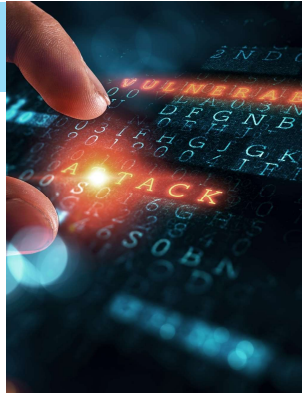
#### Passive Reconnaissance

- Involves acquiring information **without directly interacting with the target**
- For example, searching public records or news releases



#### Active Reconnaissance

- Involves **directly interacting with the target by any means**
- For example, telephone calls to the target's help desk or technical department



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## Hacking Phase: Scanning



Scanning refers to the pre-attack phase when the attacker **scans the network** for specific information based on information gathered during reconnaissance

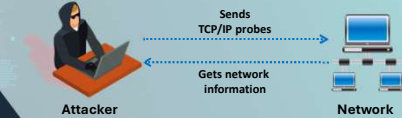


Scanning can include the use of dialers, **port scanners**, network mappers, ping tools, and vulnerability scanners



Attackers extract information such as **live machines**, port, port status, OS details, device type, and **system uptime** to launch attack

### Network Scanning Process



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## Hacking Phase: Gaining Access

**01**  
Gaining access refers to the point where the attacker obtains access to the **operating system or applications** on the target computer or network

**02**  
The attacker can gain access at the **operating system, application, or network levels**



**03**  
The attacker can **escalate privileges** to obtain complete control of the system

**04**  
Examples include **password cracking**, buffer overflows, denial of service, and **session hijacking**

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## Hacking Phase: Maintaining Access



Maintaining access refers to the phase when the attacker tries to retain their **ownership of the system**



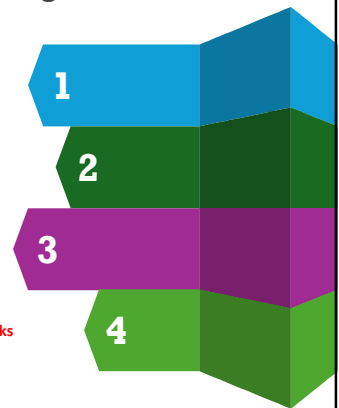
Attackers may prevent the system from being owned by other attackers by securing their exclusive access with **backdoors, rootkits, or Trojans**



Attackers can upload, download, or **manipulate data**, applications, and configurations on the **owned system**



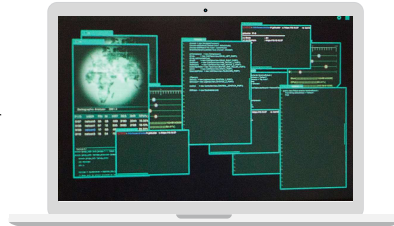
Attackers use the compromised system to **launch further attacks**



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## Hacking Phase: Clearing Tracks

- 01** Clearing tracks refers to the activities carried out by an attacker to **hide malicious acts**
- 02** The attacker's intentions include obtaining **continuing access** to the victim's system, remaining **unnoticed and uncaught**, and deleting evidence that might lead to their prosecution
- 03** The attacker overwrites the server, system, and application logs to **avoid suspicion**



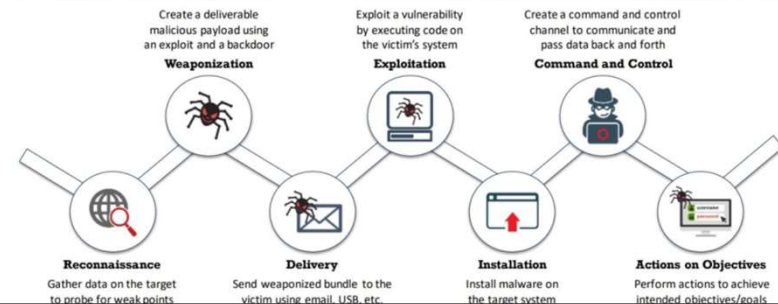
Attackers always cover their tracks to hide their identity

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## Cyber Kill Chain Methodology



- The cyber kill chain methodology is a component of intelligence-driven defense for the identification and **prevention of malicious intrusion activities**
- It provides greater insight into attack phases, which helps security professionals to understand the **adversary's tactics, techniques, and procedures beforehand**



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## Indicators of Compromise (IoCs)

Indicators of Compromise (IoCs) are the **clues, artifacts, and pieces of forensic data** found on the network or operating system of an organization that indicate a potential intrusion or malicious activity in the organization's infrastructure

01

02

03

IoCs **act as a good source of information** regarding the threats that serve as data points in the intelligence process

Security professionals need to **perform continuous monitoring** of IoCs to effectively and efficiently detect and **respond to evolving cyber threats**



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## Categories of Indicators of Compromise

Understanding IoCs helps security professionals to **quickly detect the threats** against the organization and protect the organization from evolving threats

For this purpose, IoCs are divided into four categories:



### Email Indicators

- Used to send malicious data to the target organization or individual
- Examples include the sender's email address, email subject, and attachments or links



### Network Indicators

- Useful for command and control, malware delivery, identifying the operating system, and other tasks
- Examples include URLs, domain names, and IP addresses



### Host-Based Indicators

- Found by performing an analysis of the infected system within the organizational network
- Examples include filenames, file hashes, registry keys, DLLs, and mutex



### Behavioral Indicators

- Used to identify specific behavior related to malicious activities
- Examples include document executing PowerShell script, and remote command execution

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## Tactics, Techniques, and Procedures (TTPs)

The term Tactics, Techniques, and Procedures (TTPs) refers to the **patterns of activities and methods** associated with specific threat actors or groups of threat actors

### Tactics

- "Tactics" are the guidelines that describe the **way an attacker performs the attack** from beginning to the end
- This guideline consists of the various **tactics for information gathering** to perform initial exploitation, privilege escalation, and lateral movement, and to deploy measures for persistent access to the system and other purposes

### Techniques

- "Techniques" are the **technical methods used by an attacker** to achieve intermediate results during the attack
- These techniques include **initial exploitation**, setting up and maintaining **command and control channels**, accessing the target infrastructure, covering the tracks of data exfiltration, and others

### Procedures

- "Procedures" are **organizational approaches that threat actors follow** to launch an attack
- The number of **actions usually differs** depending on the objectives of the procedure and threat actor group

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## MITRE ATT&CK Framework

- MITRE ATT&CK is a globally accessible knowledge base of **adversary tactics and techniques** based on real-world observations
- The ATT&CK knowledge base is used as a foundation for the development of specific **threat models** and methodologies in the private sector, **government**, and the **cybersecurity product** and service community
- The 14 tactic categories within ATT&CK for Enterprise are derived from the later stages (exploit, control, maintain, and execute) of the seven stages of the **Cyber Kill Chain**

Recon    Weaponize    Deliver    Exploit    Control    Execute    Maintain

PRE-ATT&CK                      Enterprise ATT&CK

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## Diamond Model of Intrusion Analysis

- The Diamond Model offers a framework for **identifying the clusters of events** that are correlated on any of the systems in an organization
- It can control the **vital atomic element** occurring in any intrusion activity, which is referred to as the Diamond event
- Using this model, **efficient mitigation approaches** can be developed, and analytic efficiency can be increased

**Adversary** | An opponent "**who**" was behind the attack

**Victim** | The target that has been exploited or "**where**" the attack was performed

**Capability** | The attack strategies or "**how**" the attack was performed

**Infrastructure** | "**what**" the adversary used to reach the victim

**Meta Features of Diamond Model**

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## Information Security Attack Vectors

**Cloud Computing Threats**

Cloud computing is an **on-demand delivery of IT capabilities** where sensitive data of organizations, and their clients is stored. Flaw in one client's application cloud allow attackers to access other client's data

**Advanced Persistent Threats (APT)**

An attack that is focused on **stealing information from the victim machine** without the user being aware of it

**Viruses and Worms**

The most prevalent networking threat that are **capable of infecting a network within seconds**

**Ransomware**

**Restricts access** to the computer system's files and folders and **demand an online ransom payment** to the malware creator(s) in order to remove the restrictions

**Mobile Threats**

Focus of attackers has shifted to **mobile devices** due to increased adoption of mobile devices for business and personal purposes and comparatively **lesser security controls**

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## Information Security Attack Vectors (Cont'd)

### Botnet

A huge **network of the compromised systems** used by an intruder to perform various network attacks



### Insider Attack

An **attack performed on a corporate network** or on a single computer by an **entrusted person (insider)** who has authorized access to the network

### Phishing

The practice of **sending an illegitimate email** falsely claiming to be from a **legitimate site** in an attempt to **acquire a user's personal or account information**

### Web Application Threats

Attackers target web applications to steal credentials, set up phishing site, or **acquire private information** to threaten the performance of the website and hamper its security

### IoT Threats

- IoT devices include many software applications that are used to **access the device remotely**
- Flaws in the IoT devices allows attackers access into the device remotely and perform various attacks

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## LO#03: Explain Hacking Concepts and Different Hacker Classes

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## What is Hacking?

- Hacking refers to **exploiting system vulnerabilities and compromising security controls** to gain unauthorized or inappropriate access to a system's resources



- It involves **modifying system or application features** to achieve a goal outside of the creator's original purpose



- Hacking can be used to steal and redistribute intellectual property, leading to **business loss**



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## Who is a Hacker?

### 01

An intelligent individual with **excellent computer skills** who can create and explore computer software and hardware



### 02

For some hackers, **hacking is a hobby** to see how many computers or networks they can compromise



### 03

Some hackers' intentions can either be to gain knowledge or to **probe and do illegal things**



Some hack with **malicious intent** such as to steal business data, credit card information, social security numbers, email passwords, and other sensitive data

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## Hacker Classes



01

### Black Hats

Individuals with extraordinary computing skills; they resort to malicious or destructive activities and are also known as crackers

02

### White Hats

Individuals who use their professed hacking skills for defensive purposes and are also known as security analysts. They have permission from the system owner

03

### Gray Hats

Individuals who work both offensively and defensively at various times

04

### Suicide Hackers

Individuals who aim to bring down the critical infrastructure for a "cause" and are not worried about facing jail terms or any other kind of punishment

05

### Script Kiddies

An unskilled hacker who compromises a system by running scripts, tools, and software that were developed by real hackers

06

### Cyber Terrorists

Individuals with wide range of skills who are motivated by religious or political beliefs to create fear through the large-scale disruption of computer networks

07

### State-Sponsored Hackers

Individuals employed by the government to penetrate and gain top-secret information from and do damage to the information systems of other governments

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### Hacktivist

Individuals who promote a political agenda by hacking, especially by using hacking to deface or disable website

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## Hacker Classes (Cont'd)



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### Hacker Teams

A consortium of skilled hackers having their own resources and funding. They work together in synergy for researching the state-of-the-art technologies

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### Industrial Spies

Individuals who perform corporate espionage by illegally spying on competitor organizations and focus on stealing information such as blueprints and formulas

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### Insider

Any trusted person who has access to critical assets of an organization. They use privileged access to violate rules or intentionally cause harm to the organization's information system

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### Criminal Syndicates

Groups of individuals that are involved in organized, planned, and prolonged criminal activities. They illegally embezzle money by performing sophisticated cyber-attacks

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### Organized Hackers

Miscreants or hardened criminals who use rented devices or botnets to perform various cyber-attacks to pilfer money from victims

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



LO#04: Explain Ethical Hacking Concepts and Scope

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## What is Ethical Hacking?



- Ethical hacking involves the use of hacking tools, tricks, and techniques to **identify vulnerabilities** and ensure system security 
- It focuses on simulating the techniques used by attackers to **verify the existence of exploitable vulnerabilities** in a system's security 
- Ethical hackers perform security assessments for an organization **with the permission of concerned authorities** 

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## Why Ethical Hacking is Necessary



### To beat a hacker, you need to think like one!

Ethical hacking is necessary as it **allows for counter attacks against malicious hackers** through anticipating the methods used to break into the system

### Reasons why organizations recruit ethical hackers

To **prevent hackers** from gaining access to the organization's information systems

To **uncover vulnerabilities** in systems and explore their potential as a security risk

To analyze and **strengthen an organization's security posture**, including policies, network protection infrastructure, and end-user practices

To provide adequate preventive measures in order to **avoid security breaches**

To help **safeguard customer data**

To **enhance security awareness** at all levels in a business

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## Why Ethical Hacking is Necessary (Cont'd)



### Ethical Hackers Try to Answer the Following Questions

- 1 What can an intruder see on the **target system**? (Reconnaissance and Scanning phases)
- 2 What can an **intruder do** with that information? (Gaining Access and Maintaining Access phases)
- 3 Does anyone at the target organization **notice the intruders' attempts** or successes? (Reconnaissance and Covering Tracks phases)
- 4 Are all **components of the information system** adequately protected, updated, and patched?
- 5 How much time, effort, and money are required to obtain **adequate protection**?
- 6 Are the **information security measures** in compliance with legal and industry standards?

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## Scope and Limitations of Ethical Hacking



### Scope

- Ethical hacking is a crucial component of **risk assessment, auditing, counter fraud, and information systems security best practices**
- It is used to **identify risks** and highlight **remedial actions**. It also reduces ICT costs by resolving vulnerabilities



### Limitations

- Unless the businesses already know what they are looking for and why they are **hiring an outside vendor to hack systems** in the first place, chances are there would not be much to gain from the experience
- An ethical hacker can only help the organization to better **understand its security system**; it is up to the organization to **place the right safeguards** on the network



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## Skills of an Ethical Hacker



### 1

#### Technical Skills

- In-depth **knowledge of major operating environments** such as Windows, Unix, Linux, and Macintosh
- In-depth **knowledge of networking** concepts, technologies, and related hardware and software
- A **computer expert** adept at technical domains
- **Knowledgeable about security areas** and related issues
- **"High technical" knowledge** for launching sophisticated attacks

### 2

#### Non-Technical Skills

- The **ability to learn** and adopt new technologies quickly
- **Strong work ethics** and good problem solving and communication skills
- Committed to the **organization's security policies**
- An awareness of **local standards and laws**



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### LO#05: Summarize the Techniques used in Information Security Controls

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## Information Assurance (IA)

- IA refers to the assurance that the **integrity, availability, confidentiality, and authenticity** of information and information systems is protected during the usage, processing, storage, and transmission of information
- Some of the processes that help in achieving information assurance include:

- |                                                        |                                                       |
|--------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 Developing local policy, process, and guidance       | 5 Creating plans for identified resource requirements |
| 2 Designing network and user authentication strategies | 6 Applying appropriate information assurance controls |
| 3 Identifying network vulnerabilities and threats      | 7 Performing certification and accreditation          |
| 4 Identifying problem and resource requirements        | 8 Providing information assurance training            |

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