

Phase 3. Identify Vulnerabilities

Goal: Identify the tools and techniques to be used to scan for vulnerabilities.

Procedure: List out the tools you plan on using to perform vulnerability scanning and how you will use them. Include both Tenable Nessus and OpenVAS. Remember to include tools designed to look for vulnerabilities within specific technologies or platforms, such as Cisco devices, remote access services, and web applications (e.g., Burp Suite). Follow the same documentation procedure you performed in the previous step. Include screenshots of such tools showing configuration options and settings. Finally, list the pros and cons of each tool.

Deliverable: Provide a minimum 2-page description of the tools you plan on using for the vulnerability scans, how you will use them, screenshots of the tools with configuration options and settings, and the pros and cons of each tool. Deliverable should cover at least 5 tools.

Time estimate: 2 hours

DELIVERABLES

In cybersecurity terms, a vulnerability is a weakness or loophole left in software code that allows attackers to infiltrate and run malicious code or install malware. Such an intrusion, when successful, can allow bad actors to steal or destroy data, take over systems and accounts, and execute unauthorized actions on behalf of the compromised user. A vulnerability scanner is an automated tool that identifies and creates an inventory of all IT assets (including servers, desktops, laptops, virtual machines, containers, firewalls, switches, and printers) connected to a network. For each asset, it also attempts to identify operational details such as the operating system it runs and the software installed on it, along with other attributes such as open ports and user accounts. A vulnerability scanner enables organizations to monitor their networks, systems, and applications for security vulnerabilities. This report will detail tools and techniques used for vulnerability scans

Nikto

Nikto is an open source web server and web application scanner. Nikto can perform comprehensive tests against web servers for multiple security threats, including over 6700 potentially dangerous files/programs. Nikto can also perform checks for outdated web servers software, and version-specific problems. Here are some of the cool things that Nikto can do:

- Find SQL injection, XSS, and other common vulnerabilities, Identify installed software (via headers, favicons, and files), Guess subdomains, Includes support for SSL (HTTPS) websites, Saves reports in plain text, XML, HTML or CSV, “Fish” for content on web servers, Report unusual headers, Check for server configuration items like multiple index files, HTTP server options, Has full HTTP proxy support, Guess credentials for authorization (including many default username/password combinations), Is configured with a template engine to easily customize reports, Exports to Metasploit.

```
nikto -h <IP or hostname>
```

```
nikto -h pbs.org -ssl
```

```
nikto -h www.afl.com.au
```

```
nikto -h <IP or hostname> -Format msf+
```

Pros:

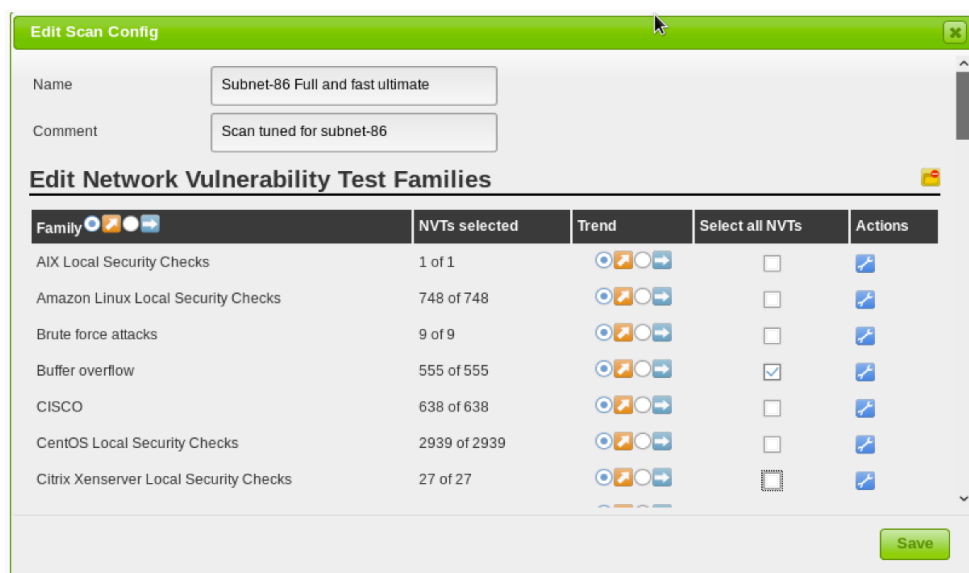
- A free base program
- Thorough checks with the number of exploits in the standard scan match that sought by paid vulnerability managers
- External checks for Web applications
- Included in Kali Linux

Cons:

- No GUI interface
- No development and support team
- No community forum
- Won't work without a paid vulnerability list

OpenVAS

OpenVAS is a system vulnerability scanner that checks visible ports, services it can access for known exploits, and high level web threats (like cross-site script vulnerabilities and improper file access). The primary reason to use this scan type is to perform comprehensive security testing of an IP address. It will initially conduct a port scan of an IP address to find open services. Once listening services are discovered, they are tested for known vulnerabilities and misconfiguration using a large database (more than 53000 NVT checks). The results are compiled into a report, including detailed information regarding each vulnerability and notable issues discovered. Vulnerability scans performed from externally hosted servers give you the same perspective as an attacker. This has the advantage of understanding exactly what is exposed on external facing services.



Pros

- OpenVAS is a free open-source vulnerability assessment tool that is maintained by Greenbone Networks.
- Common vulnerabilities and exposure (CVE) coverage of around 26,000
- Popular and useful among SME's
- Built to be an all-in-one scanner
- The scan engine of OpenVAS is updated on a regular basis
- Greenbone provides thorough tutorials for the usage of this tool

Cons

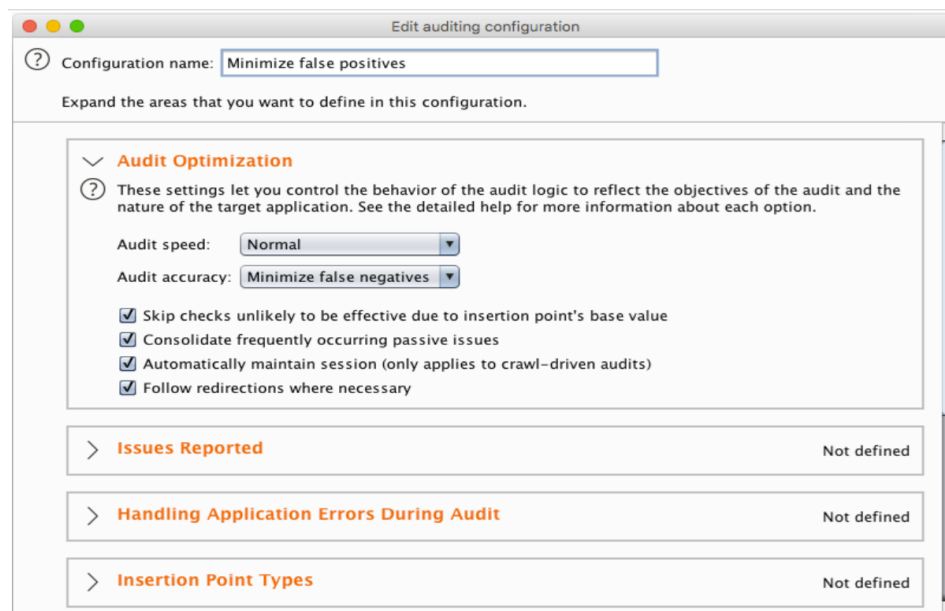
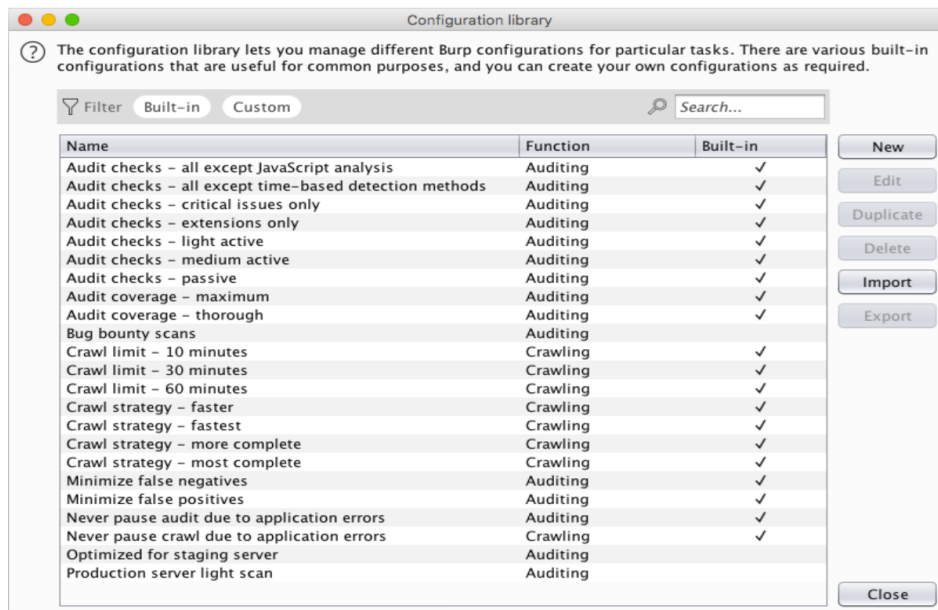
- Covers fewer CVEs as compared to Nessus
- Less operating system supportability
- Does not offer policy management

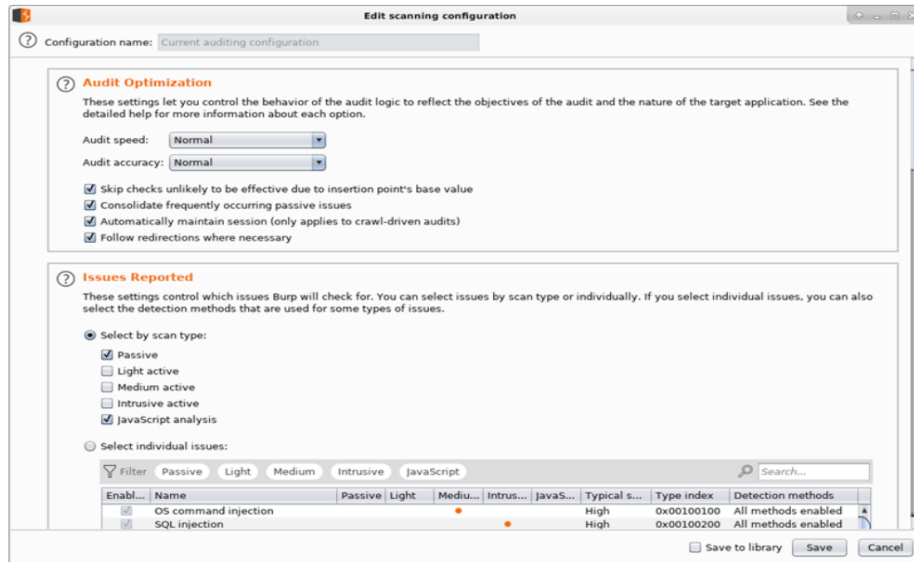
Burp Suite

Burp Suite software is the best toolbox for web security testing. In web security testing, the incursion also protects engineer grace. Used to find and exploit search flaws. Burp Suite is therefore designed to be used by point-and-click. Understanding how systems are attacked is essential for everyone working in security, whether they are developers or security professionals. Burp Suite is an integrated platform/graphical tool for performing security testing of web applications. Its various tools work seamlessly together to support the entire testing process, from initial mapping and analysis of an application's attack surface, through to finding and exploiting security vulnerabilities.

Burp Suite is a proxy program that enables us to track, examine, and alter requests made by our browsers before they are forwarded to a distant server.

Burp Suite is a prominent web application security solution. It gives us the ability to manually test for vulnerabilities, intercepts HTTP messages, and change a message's body and header.





Pros

There are various advantages of using the this tool. Some of the most prominent advantages of using this tool are:

- The burp suite comprises a set of tools that ensure thorough security testing.
- The tool allows users to perform fully customized scans per their requirements.
- By using the this tool, users can prevent a lot of cyber attacks, such as phishing, malware, etc.
- The tool helps you maintain the users' trust by protecting their sensitive information.
- This tool also allows its users to perform active scans, which involves sending more data to the server; hence, vulnerability to DoS attacks can be checked.

Cons

Being one of the most popular penetration testing tools, there are only a few disadvantages to using this tool, such as:

- The graphical interface of this tool is not user-friendly.
- The free version of this tool lacks a lot of features that are present in the pro version.

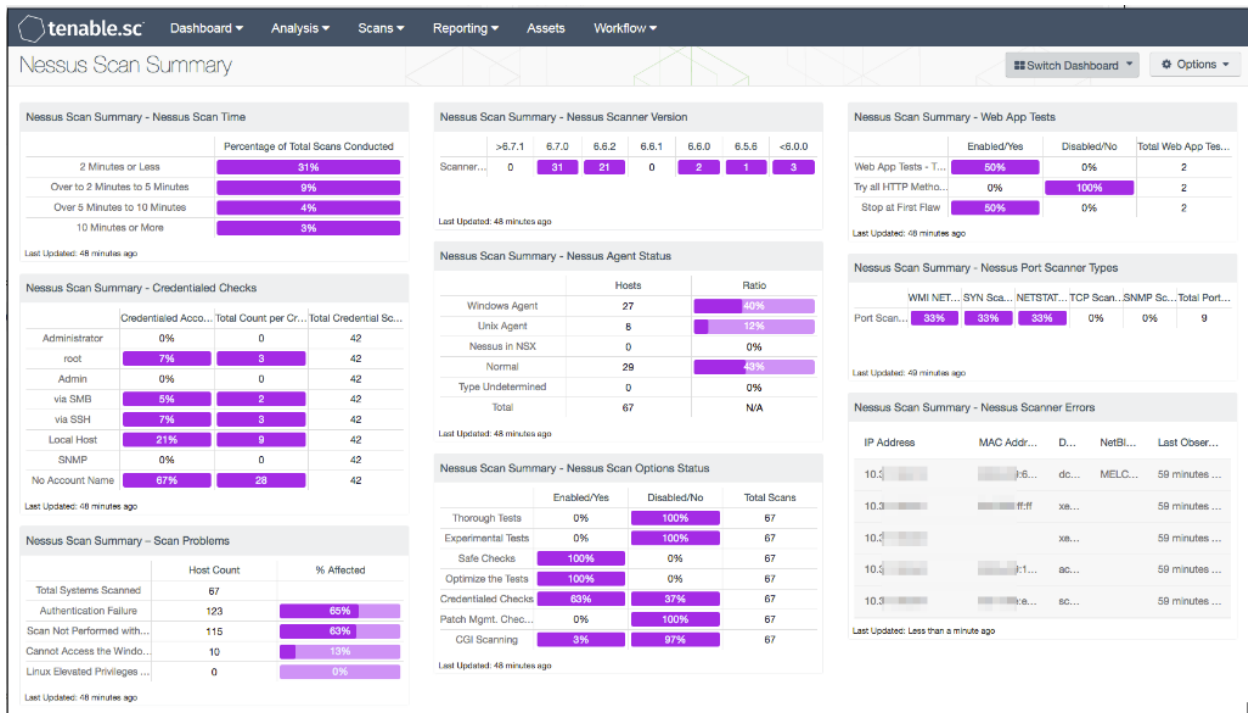
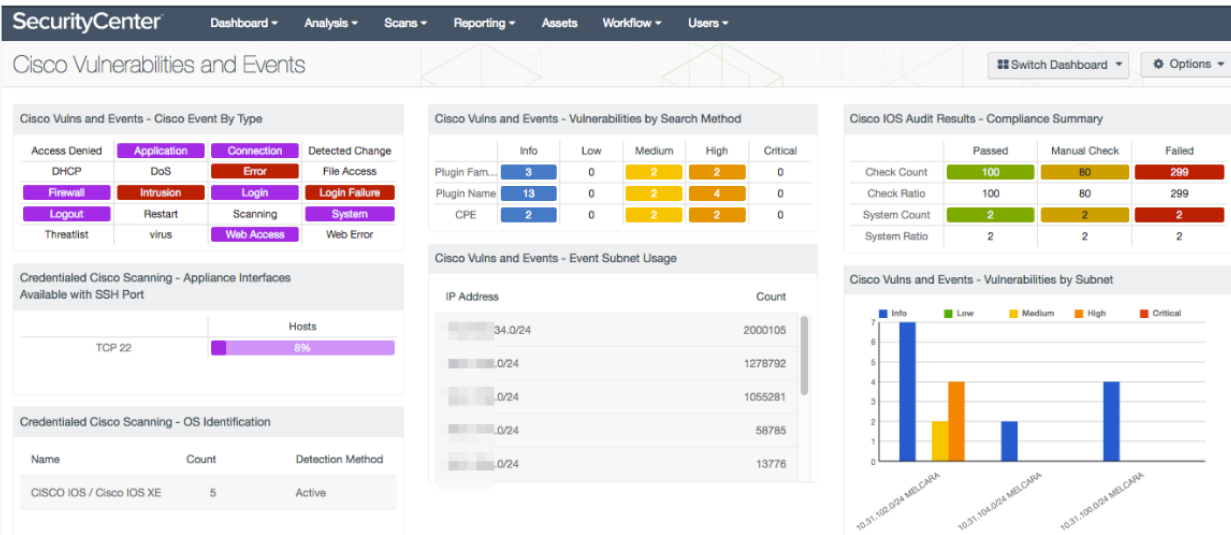
- As the tool consists of various other tools, it is difficult to use for first-time or new users with little information.

Nessus

Nessus is a platform developed by Tenable that scans for security vulnerabilities in devices, applications, operating systems, cloud services and other network resources. Nessus identifies software flaws, missing patches, malware, denial-of-service vulnerabilities, default passwords and misconfiguration errors, among other potential flaws. When Nessus discovers vulnerabilities, it issues an alert that IT teams can then investigate and determine what, if any, further action is required.

Nessus contains a feature called Predictive Prioritization, which uses algorithms to categorize vulnerabilities by their severity to aid IT teams in determining which threats are most urgent to address. Each vulnerability is assigned a Vulnerability Priority Rating (VPR), which uses a scale from 0 to 10, with 10 being the highest risk, to rate its severity: critical, high, medium or low. IT teams can also use pre-built policies and templates to quickly find vulnerabilities and understand the threat situation.

Vulnerability scores and categories	
SCORE RANGE	SEVERITY CATEGORY
0.0	None
0.1–3.9	Low
4.0–6.9	Medium
7.0–8.9	High
9.0–10.0	Critical



PROS

- Highly accurate scanning with low false +ves (Per 1 million tests, the device has just .32 errors)
- Compressive and deep scanning capabilities
- Highly scalable to 100 to 1000 of systems
- Ease of deployment and maintenance
- Low cost to administer and operations
- Common vulnerabilities and exposure coverage of around 47,000
- Facilitates group testing

- Built in scan templates

CONS

- Highly priced for commercial use not viable for smaller organizations
- Does not allow to check local security policies of remote systems
- Network overload could be a potential drawback
- Does not offer asset tagging and risk management

Nmap

Nmap (network mapper) can be used for vulnerability scanning to identify known vulnerabilities. While Nmap is not primarily a vulnerability scanner, Nmap's scripts can help cybersecurity experts perform scans for safety. Three of the most popular scripts for Nmap vulnerability scanning are vuln, vulscan, and nmap-vulners. Nmap scripts contain well over [100 specific scans](#) for vulnerabilities that can be run against domains or against IP addresses

Ms17-010 Vulnerability

```
root@kali:~# nmap --script smb-vuln-ms17-010.nse 192.168.1.16
Starting Nmap 7.91 ( https://nmap.org ) at 2020-11-20 12:49 EST
Nmap scan report for 192.168.1.16
Host is up (0.00068s latency).
Not shown: 990 closed ports
PORT      STATE SERVICE
135/tcp    open  msrpc
139/tcp    open  netbios-ssn
445/tcp    open  microsoft-ds
3389/tcp   open  ms-wbt-server
49152/tcp  open  unknown
49153/tcp  open  unknown
49154/tcp  open  unknown
49155/tcp  open  unknown
49156/tcp  open  unknown
49157/tcp  open  unknown
MAC Address: 00:0C:29:5C:69:16 (VMware)

Host script results:
smb-vuln-ms17-010:
VULNERABLE:
Remote Code Execution vulnerability in Microsoft SMBv1 servers (ms17-010)
State: VULNERABLE
IDs: CVE:CVE-2017-0143
Risk factor: HIGH
A critical remote code execution vulnerability exists in Microsoft SMBv1
servers (ms17-010).

Disclosure date: 2017-03-14
References:
https://cve.mitre.org/cgi-bin/cvename.cgi?name=CVE-2017-0143
https://technet.microsoft.com/en-us/library/security/ms17-010.aspx
https://blogs.technet.microsoft.com/msrc/2017/05/12/customer-guidance-for-
```

Vsftpd backdoor

```
root@kali:~# nmap --script ftp-vsftpd-backdoor -p21 192.168.1.12
Starting Nmap 7.91 ( https://nmap.org ) at 2020-11-20 13:15 EST
Nmap scan report for 192.168.1.12
Host is up (0.00026s latency).

PORT      STATE SERVICE
21/tcp    open  ftp
ftp-vsftpd-backdoor:
VULNERABLE:
vsFTPD version 2.3.4 backdoor
State: VULNERABLE (Exploitable)
IDs: CVE:CVE-2011-2523 BID:48539
vsFTPD version 2.3.4 backdoor, this was reported on 2011-07-04.
Disclosure date: 2011-07-03
Exploit results:
Shell command: id
Results: uid=0(root) gid=0(root)
References:
http://scarybeastsecurity.blogspot.com/2011/07/alert-vsftpd-download-backdoored.html
https://github.com/rapid7/metasploit-framework/blob/master/modules/exploits/unix/ftp/
https://cve.mitre.org/cgi-bin/cvename.cgi?name=CVE-2011-2523
https://www.securityfocus.com/bid/48539
MAC Address: 00:0C:29:78:20:90 (VMware)
```

Pros

- Open source and free so great for hackers, students, and all organizations
- Quick scans provide a fast look at potential vulnerabilities
- Lightweight TCP scans do not consume enormous network bandwidth and can escape some network security tools
- A hacker preview for organizations checking their internal systems
- Scriptable scans enable an organization to create repeatable vulnerability scans usable by non-technical users and for hackers to embed Nmap commands and scans into malware

Cons

- Easy to make mistakes with command line entries
- Lack of programmers in an organization's IT staff to create custom scripts or understand Nmap scripts
- Less formal support than commercial tools
- Limited vulnerability scans through the basic vuln command

REFERENCES

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