

Phase 3: Identify Vulnerabilities

Goal:

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

Procedure:

List the tools for use to perform vulnerability scanning and how they will be used. Include both Tenable Nessus and OpenVAS, as well as tools designed for specific technologies or platforms.

Tools and Techniques:

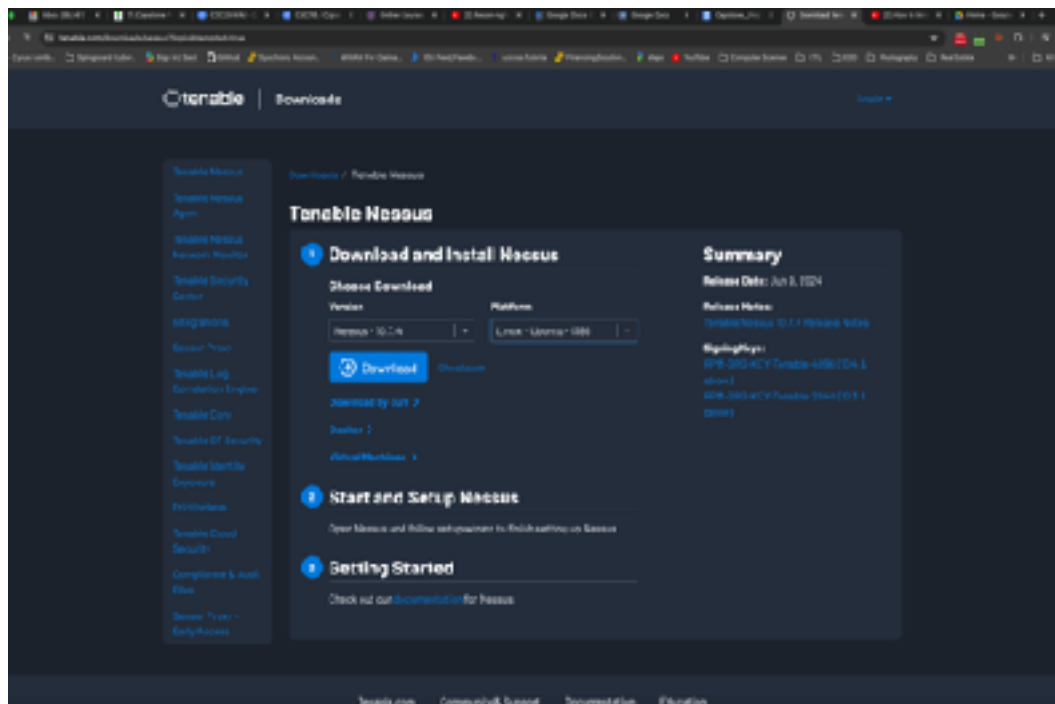
1. Tenable Nessus

Purpose:

Tenable Nessus is a widely used vulnerability scanner that can identify a broad range of vulnerabilities across different systems and applications.

How to Use:

- **Install Nessus:** Download and install Nessus on a dedicated scanning machine.



<https://www.tenable.com/downloads/nessus?loginAttempted=true>

- **Configure Scan:**

1. Launch Nessus and navigate to “New Scan”.
2. Choose the appropriate scan template (e.g., “Basic Network Scan”).
3. Enter the target IP range.
4. Configure scan settings such as credentials for authenticated scans.

- **Run Scan:**

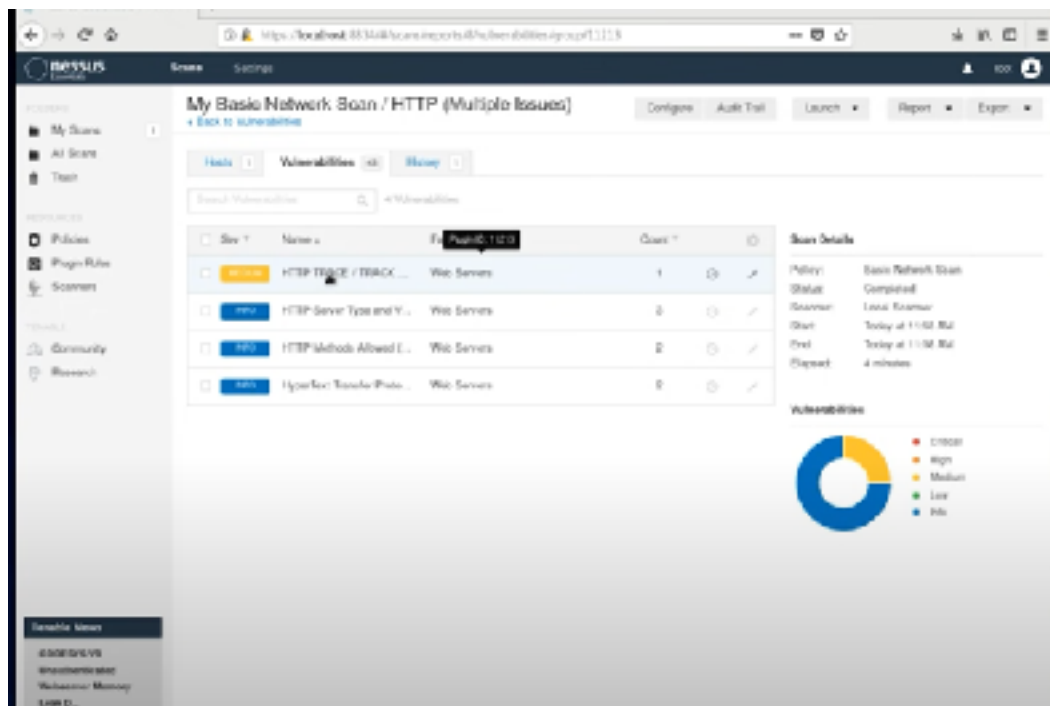
5. Start the scan and monitor its progress.
6. Review the scan results, focusing on critical and high-severity vulnerabilities.

Pros:

- Comprehensive vulnerability coverage.
- Regular updates with new vulnerability checks.
- User-friendly interface with detailed reporting.

Cons:

- Can be resource-intensive.
- Requires a license for full functionality.



Nessus Basic Scan - Vulnerabilities

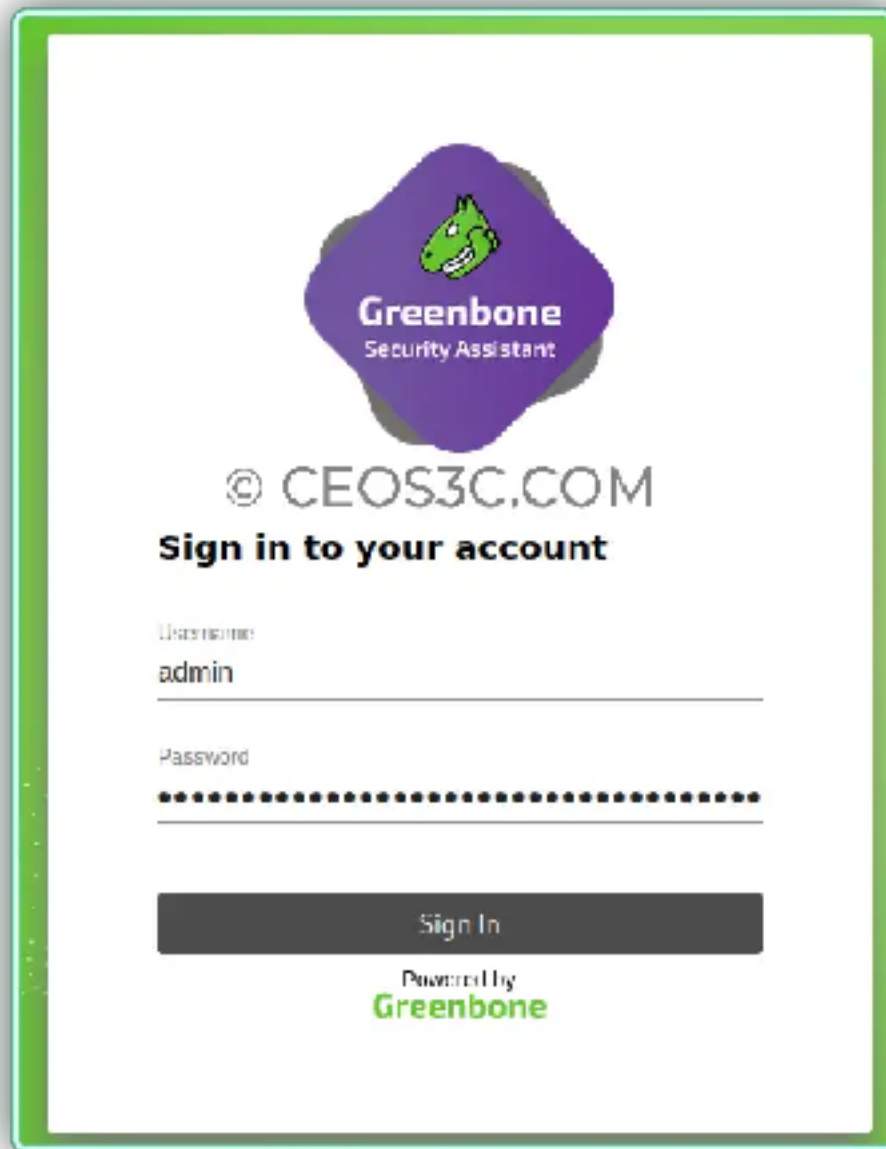
2. OpenVAS (Open Vulnerability Assessment Scanner)

Purpose:


OpenVAS is an open-source vulnerability scanner that provides comprehensive scans for known vulnerabilities.

How to Use:

- **Install OpenVAS:** Install on a dedicated server.



The image shows the OpenVAS login interface. At the top is the Greenbone Security Assistant logo, which features a green cartoon dog head inside a purple diamond shape. Below the logo is the text "© CEOS3C.COM". The main heading is "Sign in to your account". There are two input fields: "Username" with the text "admin" entered, and "Password" which is masked with dots. Below the password field is a dark grey "Sign In" button. At the bottom, it says "Powered by Greenbone" with the Greenbone logo.


© CEOS3C.COM
Sign in to your account

Username
admin

Password
.....

Sign In

Powered by
Greenbone

- **Configure Scan:**

7. Access the OpenVAS web interface.
8. Create a new scan task and configure the target IP range.
9. Set up scan configurations, including timing and performance options.

- **Run Scan:**

10. Start the scan and monitor its progress.
11. Analyze the scan results in the OpenVAS dashboard.

Pros:

- Free and open source.
- Regular updates and a large database of vulnerability checks.

Cons:

- Can produce false positives.
- Less user-friendly compared to commercial tools.

▼ Report: Results 1 - 102 of 102 (total: 213) PDF

Filter: severity=severely result_hosts_only=1 min_scan_base= min_cpu

Vulnerability	Severity	QoD	Host	Location	Actions
X Server	10.0 (High)	90%	192.168.56.101	8000tcp	
PostgreSQL weak password	9.0 (High)	99%	192.168.56.101	5432tcp	
PostgreSQL Multiple Security Vulnerabilities	8.0 (High)	90%	192.168.56.101	5432tcp	
TRIWiki Versions Prior to 4.2 Multiple Unspecified Vulnerabilities	7.5 (High)	80%	192.168.56.101	8080rs	
phpinfo() output accessible	7.5 (High)	90%	192.168.56.101	80tcp	
ProFTPD Long Command Handling Security Vulnerability	6.5 (Medium)	90%	192.168.56.101	2121tcp	
PostgreSQL Multiple Security Vulnerabilities	6.5 (Medium)	90%	192.168.56.101	5432tcp	
gitMyAdmin Bookmark Security Bypass Vulnerability	6.5 (Medium)	90%	192.168.56.101	8080cp	
PostgreSQL 'initdb()' Buffer Overflow Vulnerability	6.5 (Medium)	90%	192.168.56.101	5432rs	
PostgreSQL 'intarray' Module 'gettoken()' Buffer Overflow Vulnerability	6.5 (Medium)	90%	192.168.56.101	5432tcp	
PostgreSQL RI (Refer) and P (PI) Local Privilege Escalation Vulnerability	6.0 (Medium)	90%	192.168.56.101	5432tcp	
HTTP TRACE: XSS ATTACK	5.5 (Medium)	99%	192.168.56.101	80tcp	
PostgreSQL 'RESET ALL' Unauthorized Access Vulnerability	5.5 (Medium)	90%	192.168.56.101	5432tcp	
Check if Mailserver answer to VRFY and EXPN requests	5.0 (Medium)	90%	192.168.56.101	25tcp	
Idoc directory browsable ?	5.0 (Medium)	80%	192.168.56.101	8080rs	
TRIWiki CMS Groupware Input Sanitation Weakness Vulnerability	5.0 (Medium)	90%	192.168.56.101	8080rs	
PHP Mail Function: Mailbox Enumeration	4.5 (Medium)	95%	192.168.56.101	5780rs	

OpenVAS scan

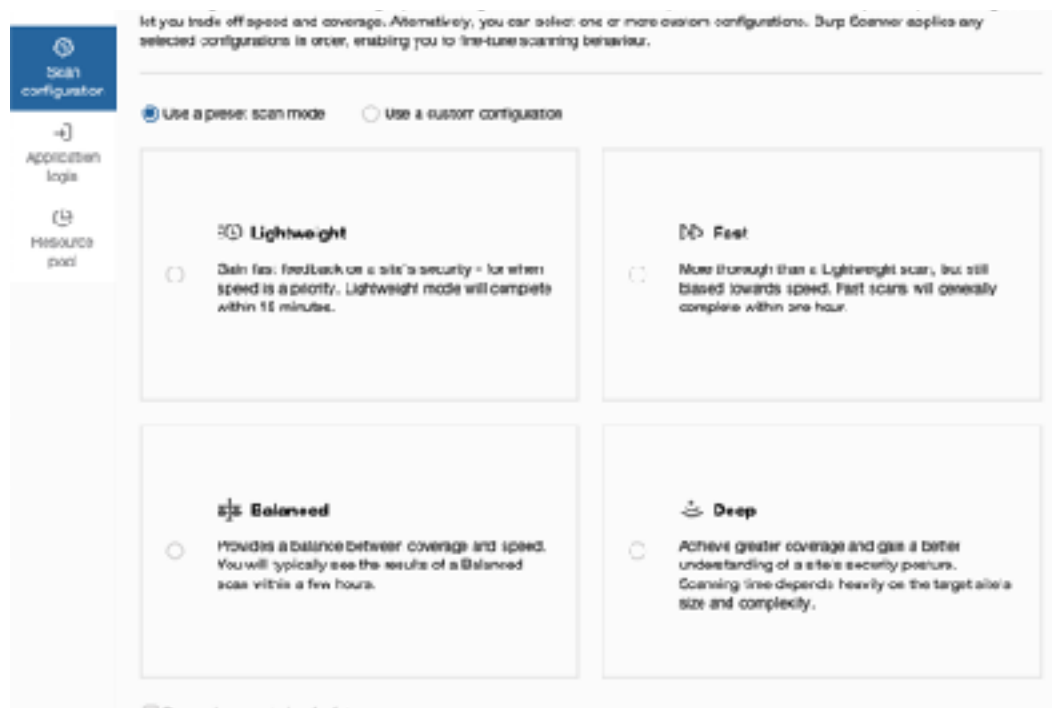
3. Burp Suite

Purpose:

Burp Suite is a powerful web application security testing tool that can identify vulnerabilities in web applications.

How to Use:

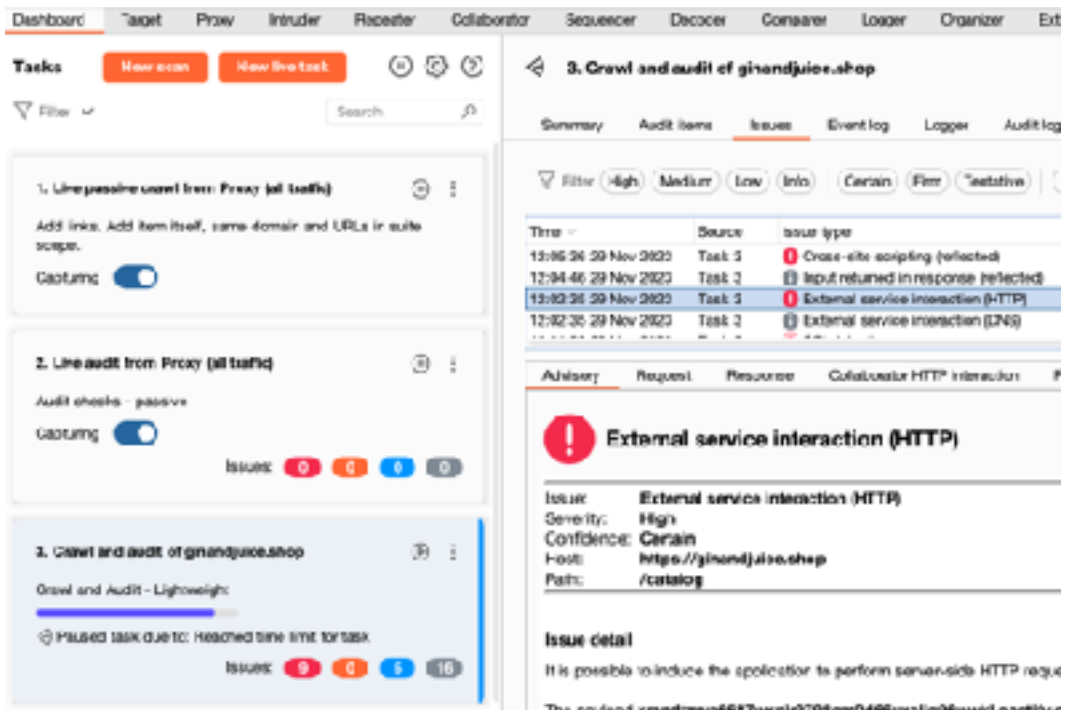
- **Install Burp Suite:** Install on a dedicated testing machine.
- **Configure Scan:**
 - Launch Burp Suite and set up a new project.
 - Configure the target web application URL.
 - Set up scan configurations, such as scope and scan speed:
 1. Select **Scan Configuration**. From here, you can fine-tune Burp's scanner to suit different use cases and target sites.
 2. Select **Use a preset scan mode** or **Use a custom configuration**. The **Lightweight** scan mode is intended to give a high-level overview of a target as quickly as possible. Scans using this mode run for a maximum of 15 minutes.



Burp Suite- Scan Configuration

- **Run Scan:**

1. Start the scan and monitor its progress in the dashboard.
2. Review the results, focusing on critical web application vulnerabilities.



Burp Suite- Viewing Identified Issues

Pros:

Comprehensive web application testing capabilities.
Includes manual testing tools alongside automated scanning.
Regular updates and extensive support.

Cons:

Steeper Learning curve.
Can be expensive for the professional edition.

4. Nikto

Purpose:

Nikto is an open-source web server scanner designed to identify vulnerabilities, outdated software, and configuration issues on web servers.

How to Use:

- **Install Nikto:** Install on dedicated testing VMs using Kali Linux Terminal using the command:

```
-$ sudo apt install nikto
```

- Basic usage:

```
$ nikto -h

Options:
  -ask+                Whether to ask about submitting updates
                        yes   Ask about each (default)
                        no    Don't ask, don't send
                        auto  Don't ask, just send
  -Cgidirs+            Scan these CGI dirs: "none", "all", or values like "/cgi/ /
cgi-a/"
  -config+             Use this config file
  -Display+            Turn on/off display outputs:
                        1     Show redirects
                        2     Show cookies received
                        3     Show all 200/OK responses
                        4     Show URLs which require authentication
                        D     Debug output
                        E     Display all HTTP errors
                        P     Print progress to STDOUT
                        S     Scrub output of IPs and hostnames
                        V     Verbose output
  -dbcheck             Check database and other key files for syntax errors
  -followredirects     Follow 3xx redirects to new location
  -evasion+            Encoding technique:
                        1     Random URI encoding (non-UTF8)
                        2     Directory self-reference (../)
                        3     Premature URL ending
                        4     Prepend long random string
                        5     Fake parameter
                        6     TAB as request spacer
                        7     Change the case of the URL
                        8     Use Windows directory separator (\)
                        A     Use a carriage return (0x0d) as a request spacer
                        B     Use binary value 0x0b as a request spacer
  -Format+            Save file (-o) format:
                        csv   Comma-separated-value
                        htm   HTML Format
                        msf+  Log to Metasploit
                        nbe   Nessus NBE format
                        txt   Plain text
                        xml   XML Format
                        (if not specified the format will be taken from the
file extension passed to -output)
  -Help               Extended help information
  -host+             Target host
  -IgnoreCode         Ignore Codes--treat as negative responses
```

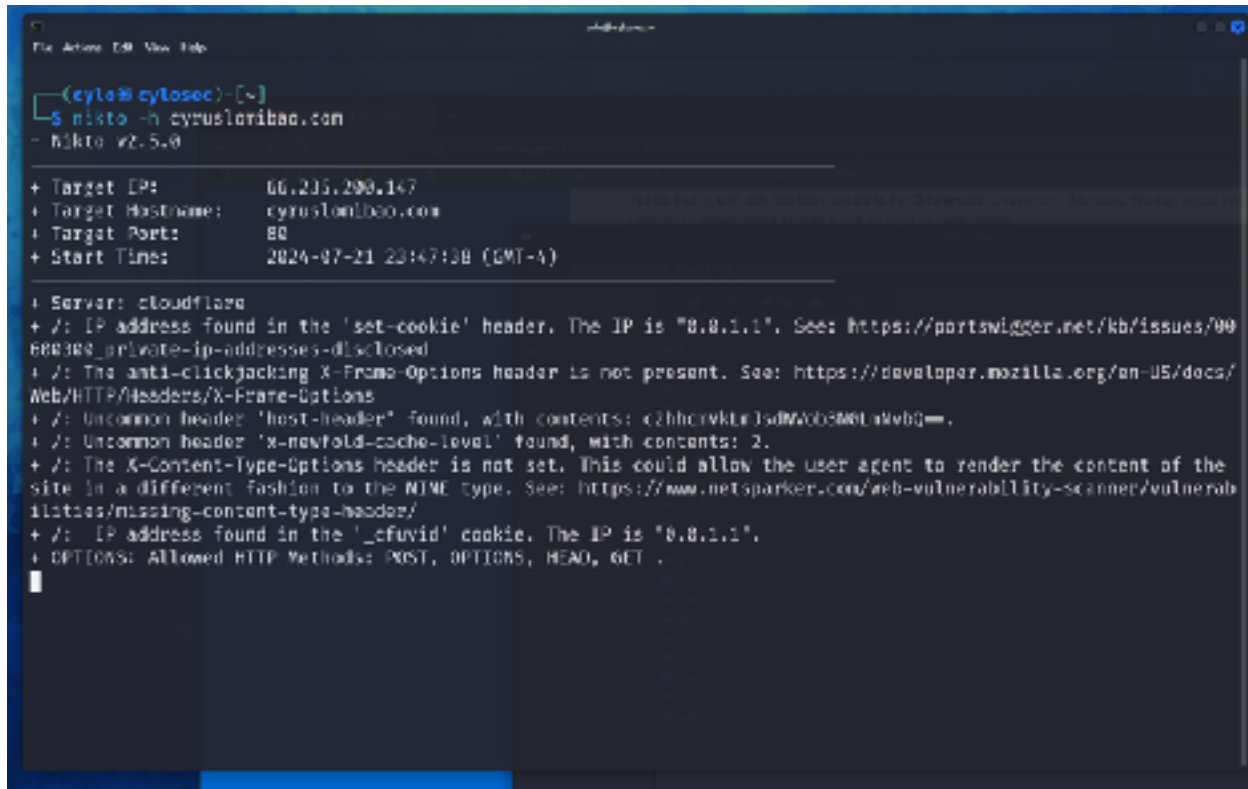
```

-id+                Host authentication to use, format is id:pass or
id:pass:realm
-key+               Client certificate key file
-list-plugins       List all available plugins, perform no testing
-maxtime+           Maximum testing time per host
-mutate+            Guess additional file names:
                    1      Test all files with all root directories
                    2      Guess for password file names
                    3      Enumerate user names via Apache (/~user type
requests)
                    4      Enumerate user names via cgiwrap (/cgi-bin/
cgiwrap/~user type requests)
                    5      Attempt to brute force sub-domain names, assume
that the host name is the parent domain
                    6      Attempt to guess directory names from the
supplied dictionary file
-mutate-options     Provide information for mutates
-nointeractive       Disables interactive features
-nolookup           Disables DNS lookups
-noslash            Strip trailing slash from URL (e.g., '/admin/' to '/admin')
-nossl              Disables the use of SSL
-no404              Disables nikto attempting to guess a 404 page
-output+            Write output to this file ( '.' for auto-name)
-Pause+             Pause between tests (seconds, integer or float)
-Plugins+           List of plugins to run (default: ALL)
-port+              Port to use (default 80)
-RSAcert+           Client certificate file
-root+              Prepend root value to all requests, format is /directory
-Save               Save positive responses to this directory ( '.' for auto-
name)
-ssl                Force ssl mode on port
-Tuning+            Scan tuning:
                    1      Interesting File / Seen in logs
                    2      Misconfiguration / Default File
                    3      Information Disclosure
                    4      Injection (XSS/Script/HTML)
                    5      Remote File Retrieval - Inside Web Root
                    6      Denial of Service
                    7      Remote File Retrieval - Server Wide
                    8      Command Execution / Remote Shell
                    9      SQL Injection
                    0      File Upload
                    a      Authentication Bypass
                    b      Software Identification
                    c      Remote Source Inclusion
                    x      Reverse Tuning Options (i.e., include all except
specified)
-timeout+           Timeout for requests (default 10 seconds)
-Userdbs            Load only user databases, not the standard databases
                    all   Disable standard dbs and load only user dbs
                    tests Disable only db_tests and load udb_tests
-until              Run until the specified time or duration
-update             Update databases and plugins from CIRT.net
-useproxy           Use the proxy defined in nikto.conf
-usecookies         Use cookies from responses in future requests
-Version            Print plugin and database versions
-vhost+            Virtual host (for Host header)
                    + requires a value

```


- **Configure Scan:**

1. Launch Nikto and input the target web server URL.



```
(cylar@cylosec)-[~]
$ nikto -h cyruslariba.com
- Nikto v2.5.0

+ Target IP: 66.235.200.147
+ Target Hostname: cyruslariba.com
+ Target Port: 80
+ Start Time: 2024-07-21 23:47:38 (GMT-4)

+ Server: cloudflare
+ /: IP address found in the 'set-cookie' header. The IP is "8.8.1.1". See: https://portswigger.net/kb/issues/00600300_private-ip-addresses-disclosed
+ /: The anti-clickjacking X-Frame-Options header is not present. See: https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/HTTP/Headers/X-Frame-Options
+ /: Uncommon header 'host-header' found, with contents: c2hhcnvktE1sdWob3M0LkxvbG==.
+ /: Uncommon header 'x-newfold-cache-level' found, with contents: 2.
+ /: The X-Content-Type-Options header is not set. This could allow the user agent to render the content of the site in a different fashion to the MIME type. See: https://www.netsparker.com/web-vulnerability-scanner/vulnerabilities/missing-content-type-header/
+ /: IP address found in the '_cfuvid' cookie. The IP is "8.8.1.1".
+ OPTIONS: Allowed HTTP Methods: POST, OPTIONS, HEAD, GET .
```

2. Configure additional options, such as output format and scan depth.
You can create a text file and list multiple domains for nikto to scan:

```
$ nano domain_list.txt // create a list of domains for nikto to scan
$ nikto -h domain_list.txt // runs a scan on all domains listed
$ nikto -h domain_list.txt -o domain_scan.csv -Format csv // outputs the
information into a csv file for later parsing and analysis
```

- **Run Scan:**

1. Run scans using multiple options and monitor its progress.
2. Output scans and document results.
3. Analyze the results, focusing on vulnerabilities and misconfigurations, and research vulnerabilities with resources given by nikto.

Pros:

Free and open source.
Quick and easy to use.

Provides detailed information on web server vulnerabilities.

Cons:

- Limited to web servers.
- Can be noisy and easily detectable by web application firewalls.

Selection Reasoning:

- **Tenable Nessus:** Selected for its comprehensive vulnerability coverage and detailed reporting.
- **OpenVAS:** Chosen for its open-source nature and extensive vulnerability database.
- **Burp Suite:** Included for its powerful web application testing capabilities.
- **Cisco Security Scanner:** Essential for identifying vulnerabilities specific to Cisco devices during the transition to Fortinet.
- **Nikto:** Useful for quick identification of web server vulnerabilities and misconfigurations.

Potential Drawbacks and Limitations:

- **Resource Intensive:** Comprehensive scans can be time-consuming and require significant resources.
- **False Positives:** Tools like OpenVAS and Nikto may produce false positives, requiring additional validation.
- **Detection:** Some tools, particularly Nikto, can be easily detected by security systems, potentially alerting the target.

By carefully selecting and utilizing these tools, you can effectively identify vulnerabilities across different systems and applications, providing valuable insights for the subsequent phases of the penetration test.