

# SecureOps Internship – Task 4: Network Intrusion Detection System (NIDS)

**Tool Used:** Snort

**Date:** 30-Aug-2025

**Intern Name:** [Danyal Aziz]

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## 1. Objective

The objective of this task was to implement a network-based intrusion detection system (NIDS) to monitor network traffic and detect suspicious or malicious activities in real time.

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## 2. Tool Selection

**Snort** was selected due to its wide usage, open-source nature, and strong support for custom rule creation. It is capable of performing real-time traffic analysis and packet logging.

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## 3. Installation & Configuration

- Installed Snort using `sudo apt install snort`
- Configured Snort to listen on the active network interface (e.g., `wlan0` or `eth0`)

wlan0 or eth0)

- Used the default configuration file: `/etc/snort/snort.conf`

#### 4. Rule Creation

Custom Snort rules were written to detect specific threats:

- **Example Rule – Detect HTTP Traffic:**

```
alert tcp any any -> any 80
(msg:"HTTP access detected";
sid:1000001;)
```

- Additional rules included detection of:
  - ICMP ping sweeps
  - Port scanning attempts
  - SQL injection patterns

#### 5. Traffic Monitoring

- Ran Snort in live mode:

```
snort -i wlan0 -A console
-c /etc/snort/snort.conf
```

- Snort displayed alerts on terminal whenever matching traffic was detected.
- Used `.pcap` files to simulate



attacks and test rule effectiveness.

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## 6. Response Mechanism

- Monitored alerts and identified malicious IPs manually.
- Suggested integration with firewalls or scripting for automated blocking (for advanced use cases).

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## 7. Visualization (Optional Enhancement)

- Proposed use of **Kibana** or **Grafana** for visual dashboards by parsing Snort logs using **Logstash**.
- This helps in analyzing trends and attack types visually.

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## 8. Conclusion

This task successfully demonstrated the ability to deploy and configure a network intrusion detection system using Snort. Custom rules were created, tested, and alerts were generated based on simulated malicious traffic. Future improvements include automated response integration and visual analytics.

**Secure Coding Review Report**  
**Application:** Flask-Based Login System  
**Language:** Python  
**Review Date:** 20-Aug-2025  
**Reviewer:** [Danyal aziz]

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## 1. Overview

The reviewed application is a basic Flask login system. The goal is to identify security flaws and recommend secure coding practices.

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## 2. Tools Used

- Manual Code Inspection
  - Bandit (Static Code Analyzer for Python)
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## 3. Findings and Vulnerabilities

#	Vulnerability	Description
Risk	Recommendation	
1	Hardcoded Credentials	Admin credentials are hardcoded in source



code. | High | Use environment variables or secure vault storage. |

| 2 | Lack of Input Validation | Login form does not sanitize inputs. Risk of injection attacks. | High | Use Flask-WTF or input validation libraries. |

| 3 | No Rate Limiting | No limit on login attempts – vulnerable to brute-force attacks. | Medium | Implement rate limiting using Flask-Limiter. |

| 4 | Plaintext Passwords | Passwords are stored in plain text in the database. | High | Use bcrypt or Argon2 to hash passwords. |

| 5 | Debug Mode Enabled | App is running in debug mode. | Medium | Disable debug in production (`debug=False`). |

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#### 4. Best Practices for Secure Coding

- Always **hash passwords** before storing.
- Avoid **printing sensitive data** to logs.
- Use **parameterized queries** to prevent SQL injection.
- Sanitize all user inputs.
- Use **HTTPS** in production environments.

- Regularly update dependencies using `pip-audit`.

## 5. Remediation Steps

- Remove hardcoded secrets; shift to `.env` files + `python-dotenv`.
- Integrate input validation libraries (e.g., WTForms).
- Set up Flask security headers using `Flask-Talisman`.
- Apply rate limiting and logging for suspicious activity.

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## Title Slide:

### Phishing Awareness Training

Protect Yourself from Online Scams

**Subtitle:** submitted for codeAlpha Internship

**Danyal Aziz** 7/10/ 2025

## Slide 1: Introduction to Phishing

- Phishing is a cyber attack to steal personal data.
- Attackers pretend to be trusted sources (banks, companies, etc.).
- Goal: steal passwords, credit card



info, etc.

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## **Slide 2: Common Forms of Phishing**

- **Email Phishing** – fake emails asking for info.
  - **Spear Phishing** – targeted attacks on individuals.
  - **Smishing** – phishing via SMS.
  - **Vishing** – voice call scams.
  - **Fake Websites** – look like real sites but steal data.
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## **Slide 3: How to Recognize Phishing Emails**

- Suspicious sender addresses.
  - Generic greetings (e.g., "Dear user").
  - Urgent or threatening language.
  - Fake links (hover to check URL).
  - Poor grammar/spelling.
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## **Slide 4: Fake Website Warning Signs**

- Unusual domain (e.g., [www.paypal-login-security.com](http://www.paypal-login-security.com)).
- No HTTPS or invalid certificate.
- Request for sensitive info quickly.
- Looks similar but small logo/text changes.

### **Slide 5: Social Engineering Tactics**

- **Fear** – "Your account will be locked!"
  - **Greed** – "You've won a prize!"
  - **Urgency** – "Act now or lose access!"
  - **Trust** – Impersonating bosses, banks, or government.
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### **Slide 6: How to Protect Yourself**

- Never click unknown links.
  - Verify sender's identity.
  - Use 2-factor authentication.
  - Report suspicious messages.
  - Use up-to-date antivirus and browser protection.
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### **Slide 7: Real-World Example**

A user received an email from "Google Support" asking to reset password. When clicked, it redirected to a fake page.  
Result: Gmail hacked, data stolen.

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### **Slide 8: Quiz (Interactive)**

Q1: What is a sign of phishing email?

- A. Correct logo
- B. Urgent language



C. No links

**Answer: B**

Q2: What should you do with suspicious email?

A. Reply to ask

B. Forward to friends

C. Report it

**Answer: C**

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## **Slide 9: Conclusion**

- Stay alert and aware.
- Phishing attacks are increasing.
- Protect yourself and your organization.

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## **Slide 10: Thank You**

**Stay Safe. Think Before You Click!**

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