

# Drake Axelrod

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## Skills

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**Penetration Testing & Security Assessment:** Web Applications, APIs, Network Security, Active Directory, IoT, Cloud Security (AWS, Azure, GCP)

**Exploitation & Post-Exploitation:** Privilege Escalation, Credential Dumping, Lateral Movement, Defense Evasion, Red Teaming, Command & Control (C2)

**Operating Systems:** Linux (Arch, Kali, Parrot, NixOS, Debian, Alpine), Windows, OSX, Android, iOS

**Tools & Frameworks:** BurpSuite, Metasploit, Sliver, Nmap, Wireshark, Nessus, Impacket, BloodHound, Responder

**Scripting & Development:** ShellScript, PowerShell, Python, C, C++, Lua, Java, Rust, Go, JavaScript, TypeScript, SQL, NoSQL, Haskell, Nix, Exploit Development, Reverse Engineering, Docker, Kubernetes, CI/CD, DevOps, Git, Scrum, Agile

**Endpoint Security & Management:** Intune Company Portal, Endpoint Detection and Response (EDR), Identity and Access Management (IAM)

**Security Standards & Compliance:** OWASP, MITRE ATT&CK, NIST Cybersecurity Framework, CVSS, CVE, CWE, CAPEC

**Soft Skills & Communication:** Technical Report Writing, Stakeholder Presentations, Collaboration, Security Training

## Experience

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**Penetration Tester,** QESTIT Malmö AB – Malmö, Skåne Jul 2023 – Present

- Led security assessments for clients, identifying vulnerabilities and providing actionable remediation strategies.
- Performed assessments on multiple platforms including web applications, APIs, networks, IoT devices, Active Directory, and cloud environments.
- Identified and exploited misconfigurations, privilege escalation opportunities, and bypassed defenses to simulate real-world threats.
- Developed custom exploits and tools to enhance assessment capabilities.
- Trained and mentored junior team members in penetration testing methodologies, tools, and best practices.

**Junior Penetration Tester,** QESTIT Malmö AB – Malmö, Skåne Jan 2023 – Jul 2023

- Performed in-depth vulnerability assessments by simulating real-world attacks to identify and mitigate security risks.
- Conducted exploit development and security automation to enhance the efficiency of security assessments.
- Automated the assessment reporting process, improving efficiency and accuracy.
- Communicated findings effectively to both technical and non-technical stakeholders, supporting informed security decisions.

**Penetration Testing Intern,** ADDQ 4 AB – Malmö, Skåne Jan 2021 – Dec 2022

- Gained hands-on experience in real-world cybersecurity challenges under the guidance of industry professionals.
- Assisted with vulnerability assessments, penetration testing, and security audits.
- Collaborated with cross-functional teams to ensure security best practices were integrated into development processes.

## Certificates

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- **Multi-Cloud Red Teaming Analyst (MCRTA)** | CyberWarfare Labs | Mar 2025
- **Certified Penetration Testing Specialist (CPTS)** | Hack The Box | Jan 2025
- **CyberOps Associate** | Cisco | Aug 2021

## Publications

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K. Svensson, D. Axelrod, M. Mohamad, and R. Wohlrab, "Guidelines for Supporting Software Engineers in Developing Secure Web Applications," in Product-Focused Software Process Improvement, D. Pfahl, J. Gonzalez Huerta, J. Klünder, and H. Anwar, Eds., Cham: Springer Nature Switzerland, 2025, pp. 123-138.  
doi:10.1007/978-3-031-78386-9\_9

## Awards

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**Best Research Paper Award** | PROFES 2024 – 25th International Conference on Product-Focused Software Process Improvement | Dec 2024

## Education

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**University of Gothenburg** – BSc in Software Engineering Jun 2023

**Santa Monica College** – AA in Social and Behavioral Sciences Dec 2015