

# Intro to OpSec

---

Ethan House (ehouse@csh.rit.edu)

Aug 29, 2016

Computer Science House

# What is Computer OpSec?

---

# What is Computer OpSec?

## Barriers

- Security is about creating barriers
- Put up enough to keep the bad people out

# What is Computer OpSec?

## A State of Mind

- For security to work it must always be your first thought
- This is rarely the case so it's up to standards to keep us there

# What is Computer OpSec?

## What we're going to discuss

- Theory of Security
- Apply this to Linux
- Gearing this towards users new to Linux

# What is Computer OpSec?

## My Credentials

- Spent 8 months securing servers on a classified network
- 5 Years dealing with CSH'ers

# Proper Head Space

---

# Proper Head Space

## Be in Control

- If it's your machine, know what's happening on it
  - Be SURE there are no keys, hidden accounts, unused services still running
- Don't assume internet code is safe
- `curl -s https://files.ehouse.io/ehouse/install.sh | sh`
  - Don't... Ever... Do... This



# Proper Head Space

## Trust but Verify

- Ensure that what you're doing makes sense
- Verify that the person is who they say they are

# Proper Head Space

## Minimize Access

- Don't hand out access unless there is a need
- Remove that access once the need is gone

# Proper Head Space

## Physical Access

- All security fails when the hacker has physical access
- Takes seconds to pop the hard drives out of a server or place a MitM network device

# Proper Head Space

## Separate Dissimilar Traffic/Access

- Keep dissimilar information separate
- Don't share machines, databases, or network segments
  - Drink Machines shouldn't see Database Traffic
- Proper network segments and VLAN's solve this

## Secured at Rest, Encrypted in Motion

- Nothing of importance should be left around in cleartext
  - Never leave passwords laying around on disk
- Everything in travel should be password/key protected
  - That email you just sent? Protected with SSL

# Theories Applied

---

# Theories Applied

## Strong Passwords

- None of this matters if your password is `tits123`
- Strong Passwords
  - `np07nT^Ixz&j*XxaYb`
    - 94 Bits
  - `worldexactthreadsomehow`
    - 91 Bits
- Terrible Passwords
  - `hunter2`
    - 24 Bits

## Password Generators!

- Both of these sites generate STRONG passwords
  - [XKCD Password Generator](#)
  - [CSH Written Password Generator](#)



## Storing Passwords

- Password stores discourage password reuse
- Common options to store passwords and accounts
  - Lastpass
  - Keepass
  - Pass

## No Passwords

- Use SSH keys as much as possible
- Disable accounts like root

## Two Factor Auth

- Linux/PAM supports it

## **Adaptive Filter**

- You have log's, use them
- Tools like Denyhost and fail2ban create filters from failed login attempt

## PATCH YOUR SHIT

- Software security updates should be applied weekly
- daily as Zero Days are announced
- Everything we've learned is useless without this

# Finally

---

## In Summary

- Proper Headspace
- Strong and unique passwords are a must
- Always stay on top of updates
- On > Off > In the hands of the Chinese

## My Other Work

- [This Presentations](#)
- [Other Work](#)



# Sources

- Entropy Calculator
- XKCD Password Generator
- CSH Written Password Generator