



## GitHub Security + .NET

Application Security for .NET repos stored on GitHub



## **About Me**

- GitHub
- .NET Developer
- Security Advocate
- Open Source Contributor



# Why Security Matters for .NET

- Security is often an afterthought
- Open source vulnerabilities are increasing
- Growing attack surface in modern .NET apps
- NuGet ecosystem brings both power and risk
- Build security into your workflow, not on top

# Agenda

- 1. GitHub Security Tools for .NET
- 2. Code Scanning with CodeQL
- 3. Dependency Management & SCA
- 4. Secret Protection
- 5. Copilot for Security
- 6. Demos



## Real-World Example

Throughout this talk, we'll reference:

https://github.com/dotnet-felickz/monorepo

- Contains .NET projects using:
  - MAUI
  - Blazor/MVC with ASP.NET Core
  - Shared libraries
  - GitHub Actions workflows

## GitHub's Security Toolbox

- Dependency Graph/Review
- Dependabot Alerts & Updates
- CodeQL
- Secret Scanning
- GitHub Actions Security
- Copilot Security Assistance

All FREE for open source projects!



## Code Scanning with CodeQL

#### What is it?

- Static Application Security Testing (SAST)
- Queries your code as data
- Finds security vulnerabilities
- Integrates with PR workflow

#### **Key Benefits**

- No false positives philosophy
- Deep understanding of .NET frameworks
- Fully supports C# 13 / .NET 9

@felickz

• Can analyze without building (NEWI)

## **CodeQL Setup Options**

#### **Default Setup (Recommended)**

```
# Simple setup in just a few clicks
     name: "CodeQL"
     on:
       push:
         branches: [ "main" ]
       pull request:
         branches: [ "main" ]
       schedule:
          - cron: '17 0 * * 0'
     jobs:
       analyze:
          name: Analyze
          runs-on: ubuntu-latest
          permissions:
            security-events: write
@felickz
          steps:
```

## Advanced CodeQL for .NET Monorepo

```
# From our monorepo sample
steps:
  # ...setup steps...
  - name: Initialize CodeQL
    uses: github/codeql-action/init@v3
    with:
      languages: csharp
      queries: security-extended, security-and-quality
  name: Autobuild
    uses: github/codeql-action/autobuild@v3
  # Or use custom build commands:
  # - run:
        dotnet restore ./src/MyApp.sln
        dotnet build ./src/MyApp.sln --configuration Release
```

# CodeQL Tools for .NET Developers

- VSCode Extension
  - Write & test custom queries
  - Explore code databases
- CodeQL CLI
  - Multi-repo variant analysis
  - Vulnerability hunting at scale
- Query Libraries
  - Standard & extended security
  - .NET framework-specific queries



## What CodeQL Finds in .NET

- SQL Injection
- CSRF vulnerabilities
- XSS in Razor views
- Insecure deserialization
- Hard-coded credentials
- Improper authentication
- Weak crypto implementations
- Potential DoS vectors
- And many more...



# Software Composition Analysis (SCA)

#### **Dependency Graph & Review**

- Maps all NuGet packages
- Direct & transitive dependencies
- Review changes in PRs
- Integration with .NET SDK

#### **Component Detection**

- name: Component Detection
 uses: microsoft/component-detection-dependency-submission-action@v1.1.0
 with:
 detection-level: Direct



## **Dependabot: Automated Security**

## **Security Updates**

- Automatic PR for vulnerabilities
- Contextual security info
- Customizable via dependabot.yml

## **Version Updates**

- Keep dependencies fresh
- .NET SDK updates (NEW!)
- 65% faster with native .NET

@felickz
updates:

#### **Secret Protection**

#### **Push Protection**

- Prevents secrets from being committed
- Scans commits in real-time
- Blocks pushes with secrets

#### **Secret Scanning**

- Detects leaked secrets
- NuGet API keys
- Azure connection strings
- AWS & other cloud credentials



## **Latest .NET Security Features**

#### NuGetAudit 2.0

- Enhanced security validation
- Trust and integrity checks
- Package signing verification

#### Immutable Releases

- Signed binaries with SBOM
- Software Bill of Materials
- Supply chain transparency

## @felick Agent Mode in Visual Studio

# **Copilot for Security**

### **Copilot Autofix**

- Automatically suggests fixes
- Contextual understanding of code
- One-click remediation

## **Copilot Chat**

- Security-focused explanations
- "What does this code do?"
- "Is this code secure?"
- Remediation recommendations



## MCP for Security Analysis

#get\_code\_scanning\_alert

- Get vulnerability details
- Understand impact and context
- Security-aware code generation
- Explanation of complex issues



#### Demo Time!

#### What We'll See

- 1. Blocking PR with SCA vulnerability using Dependency Review
- 2. CodeQL alert in a PR with push protection
- 3. Al Autofix for simple vulnerabilities
- 4. MCP for complex security fixes

# **Key Takeaways**

- 1. Security tools are **free** for open source
- 2. Integrate security early in development
- 3. Leverage AI for faster remediation
- 4. Stay updated with .NET security news
- 5. Community-driven security benefits everyone



#### Resources

- 📋 Slides: github.com/felickz/talks
- Demo repo: github.com/dotnet-felickz/monorepo
- E CodeQL docs: codeql.github.com
- Advisory DB: github.com/advisories
- Security Lab: securitylab.github.com

## Thank You!

#### **Questions?**

- GitHub: @felickz
- Demo: github.com/dotnet-felickz/monorepo

"Secure code is quality code, and the open source community deserves both."

