

# Pentesting Use Cases

**Reconnaissance:** Whois, Nslookup/Dig, theHarvester, Shodan, Recon-NG, Censys, Aircrack-NG, Kismet, WiFite2, Wireshark, Hping, SET, nmap, Metasploit framework, Maltego, WiGLE, Fierce

**Enumeration:** Nslookup/Dig, Wireshark, Hping, nmap, DirBuster, FOCA, GoBuster, Burp Suite, mitm6, CloudBrute, Cloud Custodian, Metagoofil, WitnessMe, nmap-bootstrap-xsl

**Vulnerability scanning:** Nikto, OpenVAS, SQLmap, Nessus, W3AF, OWASP ZAP, nmap, Metasploit framework, Wapiti, WPScan, Brakeman, Pacu, SearchSploit, Sharp Collection, Bloodhound

## Credential Attacks

- Offline Password Cracking: Hashcat, HateCrack, John the Ripper, Cain, Mimikatz, Aircrack-NG, CeWL, PCredz
- Brute-Forcing Services: SQLmap (for database accounts), Medusa, Hydra, Cain, Mimikatz, Patator, W3AF, Aircrack-NG, EAPHammer, mdk4, Spooftooth, Reaver, CrackMapExec, Fern, Trufflehog, Responder, Rubeus, Isassy

**Persistence:** SET, BeEF, SSH, NCAT, NETCAT, Drozer, Powersploit, Empire, Metasploit framework, Covenant, Pacu, Sharp Collection

**Configuration Compliance:** Nikto, OpenVAS, SQLmap, Nessus, nmap, Scout Suite, Impacket Tools, Online SSL checkers

**Evasion:** Proxychains, SET, Metasploit framework, Openstego, Steghide, Snow, Coagula, Sonic Visualiser, TinEye, Sharp Collection

**Decompilation:** Immunity debugger, APKX, APK studio

**Forensics:** Immunity debugger

**Debugging:** OLLYDBG, Immunity debugger, GDB, WinDBG, IDA

**Software Assurance:** Findbugs/Findsecbugs, SonarQube, YASCA, Peach, AFL, SAST, DAST

# Pentesting Tools

## OSINT

- **WHOIS** - For querying databases that store the registered users or assignees of an Internet resource, such as a domain name, an IP address block or an AS  
<https://whois.icann.org/en>
- **Nslookup / Dig** - For querying the DNS to obtain the mapping between domain name and IP address, or other DNS records
- **Fingerprinting Organization with Collected Archives (FOCA)** – Find metadata and hidden information in documents  
<https://www.elevenpaths.com/labstools/foca/>
- **theHarvester** - OSINT gathering to determine a company's external threat landscape on the internet (gathers emails, names, subdomains, IPs and URLs)  
<https://github.com/laramies/theHarvester>
- **Shodan** – Search engine for internet connected devices  
<https://www.shodan.io/>
- **Maltego** - OSINT and graphical link analysis tool for gathering and connecting information for investigative tasks for security professionals, forensic investigators, investigative journalists, and researchers  
<https://www.paterva.com/web7/buy/maltego-clients/maltego-ce.php>
- **Recon-ng** - Framework for open source web-based reconnaissance  
<https://github.com/lanmaster53/recon-ng>
- **Censys** - Finding, monitoring, and understanding a target's internet-facing assets  
<https://censys.io/>
- **Metagoofil** – Google search to identify and download documents from a target website  
<https://www.kali.org/tools/metagoofil/>

## Scanners

- **Nikto** – Web Server Scanner  
<https://github.com/sullo/nikto>

- **Open Vulnerability Assessment Scanner (OpenVAS) – Full-feature Vulnerability Scanner**  
<http://www.openvas.org/>
- **SQLmap – Automated SQL Injection**  
<https://github.com/sqlmapproject/sqlmap>
- **Nessus – Professional Vulnerability Scanner (proprietary branch-off from OpenVAS)**  
<https://www.tenable.com/products/nessus/nessus-professional>
- **Open Security Content Automation Protocol (SCAP) - format by which security content is communicated with the industry**  
<https://csrc.nist.gov/projects/security-content-automation-protocol>
- **Wapiti – Web Application Vulnerability Scanner**  
<https://wapiti-scanner.github.io/>
- **WPScan – Word Press Security Scanner**  
<https://wpscan.com/wordpress-security-scanner>
- **Brakeman – Ruby on Rails Vulnerability Scanner**  
<https://brakemanscanner.org/>
- **Nmap – Network discovery and security auditing**  
<https://nmap.org/>
- **nmap-bootstrap-xsl – Interface for checking results of nmap scans**  
<https://github.com/honze-net/nmap-bootstrap-xsl>
- **Fierce – DNS reconnaissance/zone transfer tool**  
<https://github.com/mschwager/fierce>
- **Bloodhound – analysis of AD rights and exploitable relations**  
<https://github.com/GhostPack/Rubeus>

## **Cloud Tools/Scanners**

- **Scout Suite - Security posture assessment of cloud environments**  
<https://github.com/nccgroup/ScoutSuite>

- **CloudBrute** – finds infrastructure, files, and apps on the top cloud providers (Amazon, Google, Microsoft, DigitalOcean, Alibaba, Vultr, Linode)  
<https://github.com/0xsha/CloudBrute>
- **Pacu** – AWS Exploitation Framework  
<https://rhinosecuritylabs.com/aws/pacu-open-source-aws-exploitation-framework/>
- **Cloud Custodian** – AWS Cloud Security, Governance, and Management  
<https://cloudcustodian.io/>

## **Credential Testing Tools**

- **Hashcat** – Advanced Password Recovery  
<https://hashcat.net/hashcat/>
- **Hatecrack** – Automating cracking methodologies through Hashcat  
[https://github.com/trustedsec/hate\\_crack](https://github.com/trustedsec/hate_crack)
- **Medusa** – Login Brute Forcer  
<http://foofus.net/goons/jmk/medusa/medusa.html>
- **Hydra** - Brute force crack a remote authentication service  
<http://sectools.org/tool/hydra/>
- **CeWL** - Returns a list of words which can then be used for password crackers  
<https://digi.ninja/projects/cewl.php>
- **John the Ripper** - Password security auditing and password recovery tool  
<http://www.openwall.com/john/>
- **Cain** – Windows password recovery tool  
<http://www.oxid.it/cain.html>  
<https://github.com/xchwarze/Cain>
- **Mimikatz** - Extract plaintext passwords, hash, PIN code and kerberos tickets, perform pass-the-hash, pass-the-ticket or build Golden tickets  
<https://github.com/gentilkiwi/mimikatz>
- **Patator** – Multi-purpose brute forcer  
<https://github.com/lanjelot/patator>  
<https://www.kali.org/tools/patator/>

- **DirBuster - Brute force directories and file names on web/application servers**  
<https://www.kali.org/tools/dirbuster/>
- **w3af – Web Application Attack and Audit Framework**  
<http://w3af.org/>
- **Rubeus - C# toolset for raw Kerberos interaction and abuses**  
<https://github.com/GhostPack/Rubeus>
- **Isassy - Python tool to remotely extract credentials on a set of host**  
<https://github.com/Hackndo/Isassy>

## **Wireless**

- **Aircrack-ng suite – Tools to assess WiFi network security**  
<https://www.aircrack-ng.org/>
- **Kismet - Wireless network and device detector, sniffer, wardriving tool, and WIDS (wireless intrusion detection) framework**  
<https://www.kismetwireless.net/>
- **WiFite2 – WAP password recovery tool**  
<https://github.com/derv82/wifite2>
- **Rogue access point – AP installed on a network without the network owner's permission**
- **EAPHammer - Toolkit for performing targeted evil twin attacks against WPA2-Enterprise networks**  
<https://github.com/s0lst1c3/eaphammer>
- **mdk4 - tool to exploit common IEEE 802.11 protocol weaknesses**  
<https://github.com/aircrack-ng/mdk4>
- **SpoofTooph - automate spoofing or cloning Bluetooth device Name, Class, and Address**  
<https://www.kali.org/tools/spooftooth/>
- **Reaver - Brute force attack against WiFi Protected Setup to get WPA PSK**  
<https://www.kali.org/tools/reaver/>
- **Wireless Geographic Logging Engine (WiGLE) – All Networks. Found by everyone**  
<https://www.wigle.net/>

- **Fern – WiFi cracker**  
<https://www.kali.org/tools/fern-wifi-cracker/>

## **Networking Tools**

- **Wireshark – Network protocol analyzer**  
<https://www.wireshark.org/>
- **Hping – CLI oriented TCP/IP packet assembler/analyzer**  
<http://www.hping.org/>
- **PCredz - extracts Credit card numbers, NTLM(DCE-RPC, HTTP, SQL, LDAP, etc), Kerberos (AS-REQ Pre-Auth etype 23), HTTP Basic, SNMP, POP, SMTP, FTP, IMAP, etc from a pcap file or from a live interface**  
<https://github.com/Igandx/PCredz>
- **WitnessMe – Skim targets for web interfaces on popular ports**  
<https://github.com/byt3bl33d3r/WitnessMe>

## **Mobile Tools**

- **Drozer – Deprecated rouge application simulator**  
<https://github.com/mwrlabs/drozer>
- **APKX – Android APK Decompilation**  
<https://github.com/b-mueller/apkx>
- **APK studio – Reverse engineering Android application packages**  
<http://vaibhavpandey.com/apkstudio/>

## **Web Application Tools**

- **OWASP ZAP – Web App scanner and proxy**  
<https://www.zaproxy.org/>
- **Burp Suite – Vulnerability finder and intercepting proxy**  
<https://portswigger.net/burp>
- **Gobuster – Enumerate hidden directories and files by brute-force attack**  
<https://www.kali.org/tools/gobuster/>

## **Social Engineering Tools**

- **Social Engineering Toolkit (SET)** – Testing framework for social engineering  
<https://github.com/trustedsec/social-engineer-toolkit>
- **BeEF** – Web browser testing tool  
<https://github.com/beefproject/beef>

## **Remote Access Tools**

- **Secure Shell (SSH)**
- **Netcat** – Reads and writes data across TCP or UDP connections  
<https://sectools.org/tool/netcat/>
- **Ncat** – CLI tool, written by nmap team to update/replace Netcat  
<https://nmap.org/ncat/>
- **ProxyChains** - Hooks network-related libc functions in dynamically linked programs via a preloaded DLL and redirects connections through SOCKS4a/5 or HTTP proxies  
<https://github.com/haad/proxychains>

## **Software Assurance**

- **Findbugs/findsecbugs** – Security audits of Java web applications  
<https://find-sec-bugs.github.io/>
- **Peach** – Fuzzing framework  
<https://gitlab.com/gitlab-org/security-products/protocol-fuzzer-ce>
- **AFL (American Fuzzy Lop)** – Software brute-force fuzzer  
<http://lcamtuf.coredump.cx/afl/>
- **SonarQube** – Static code analysis  
<https://www.sonarqube.org/>
- **YASCA (Yet Another Source Code Analyzer)** – Deprecated  
<https://github.com/scovetta/yasca>

- **SAST (Static Application Security Testing)** – Examine code to find software flaws, white box
- **DAST (Dynamic Application Security Testing)** – Find vulnerabilities in a running application, black box

## **Debuggers**

- **OllyDbg** – Windows assembler level analyzing debugger  
<http://www.ollydbg.de/>
- **Immunity Debugger** - Write exploits, analyze malware, and reverse engineer binary files  
<https://www.immunityinc.com/products/debugger/>
- **GNU Debugger (GDB)** – Source level debugging package  
<https://www.gnu.org/software/gdb/>
- **WinDbg** - Debug kernel-mode and user-mode code, analyze crash dumps, and examine the CPU registers while the code executes  
<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/windows-hardware/drivers/debugger/debugger-download-tools>
- **Interactive Disassembler (IDA)** – Disassembler and debugger  
<https://www.hex-rays.com/products/ida/debugger/index.shtml>
- **Covenant** - .NET C2 framework that highlights the attack surface of .NET  
<https://github.com/cobbr/Covenant/blob/master/README.md>

## **Steganography Tools**

- **Openstego** – Data hiding and Watermarking  
<https://www.openstego.com/>
- **Steghide** – hide data in image and audio files  
<http://steghide.sourceforge.net/>
- **Snow** – Text-based steganography that uses whitespace to hide information  
<https://github.com/mattkwan-zz/snow>
- **Coagula** – Turns images into sound  
<https://www.abc.se/~re/Coagula/Coagula.html>



- **Sonic Visualiser – Viewing and analyzing music audio files**  
<https://www.sonicvisualiser.org/>
- **TinEye – Image recognition and reverse image search product**  
<https://tineye.com/>

## **Misc.**

- **SearchSploit – CLI search tool for Exploit-DB**  
<https://www.exploit-db.com/searchsploit/>
- **Responder – LLMNR, NBT-NS and MDNS poisoner**  
<https://github.com/SpiderLabs/Responder>
- **Impacket tools – Python3 classes for crafting/decoding network packets**  
<https://github.com/CoreSecurity/impacket>  
<https://www.kali.org/tools/impacket/>
- **Empire - PowerShell2.0 Windows agent, and a pure Python 2.6/2.7 Linux/OS X agent for post-exploitation modules**  
<https://github.com/EmpireProject/Empire>
- **Metasploit Framework – Penetration testing framework**  
<https://www.metasploit.com/>
- **Sharp Collection - common C# offensive tools, fresh from their respective master branches built and released in a CDI fashion using Azure DevOps release pipelines**  
<https://github.com/Flangvik/SharpCollection>
- **mitm6 - Exploits the default configuration of Windows to take over the default DNS server**  
<https://github.com/dirkjanm/mitm6>
- **CrackMapExec – Pentesting Windows/Active Directory environments**  
<https://www.kali.org/tools/crackmapexec/>
- **TruffleHog - Searches through git repositories for secrets, digging deep into commit history and branches**  
<https://github.com/trufflesecurity/truffleHog>
- **Powersploit – Penetration testing PowerShell modules**  
<https://github.com/PowerShellMafia/PowerSploit>
- **Online SSL checkers – diagnose problems with an SSL certificate**