

Lab 2: Perform Vulnerability Assessment using Various Vulnerability Assessment Tools

Lab Scenario

The information gathered in the previous labs might not be sufficient to reveal potential vulnerabilities of the target: there could be more information available that may help in finding loopholes. As an ethical hacker, you should look for as much information as possible using all available tools. This lab will demonstrate other information that you can extract from the target using various vulnerability assessment tools.

Lab Objectives

- Perform vulnerability analysis using OpenVAS

Overview of Vulnerability Assessment

A vulnerability assessment is an in-depth examination of the ability of a system or application, including current security procedures and controls, to withstand exploitation. It scans networks for known security weaknesses, and recognizes, measures, and classifies security vulnerabilities in computer systems, networks, and communication channels. It identifies, quantifies, and ranks possible vulnerabilities to threats in a system. Additionally, it assists security professionals in securing the network by identifying security loopholes or vulnerabilities in the current security mechanism before attackers can exploit them.

There are two approaches to network vulnerability scanning:

- Active Scanning
- Passive Scanning

Task 1: Perform Vulnerability Analysis using OpenVAS

OpenVAS is a framework of several services and tools offering a comprehensive and powerful vulnerability scanning and vulnerability management solution. Its capabilities include unauthenticated testing, authenticated testing, various high level and low-level Internet and industrial protocols, performance tuning for large-scale scans, and a powerful internal programming language to implement any vulnerability test. The actual security scanner is accompanied with a regularly updated feed of Network Vulnerability Tests (NVTs)—over 50,000 in total.

Here, we will perform a vulnerability analysis using OpenVAS.

In this task, we will use the **Parrot Security (10.10.1.13)** machine as a host machine and the **Windows Server 2022 (10.10.1.22)** machine as a target machine.

1. Click on [Parrot Security](#) to switch to the **Parrot Security** machine and login with **attacker/toor**.

If a **Parrot Updater** pop-up appears at the top-right corner of **Desktop**, ignore and close it.

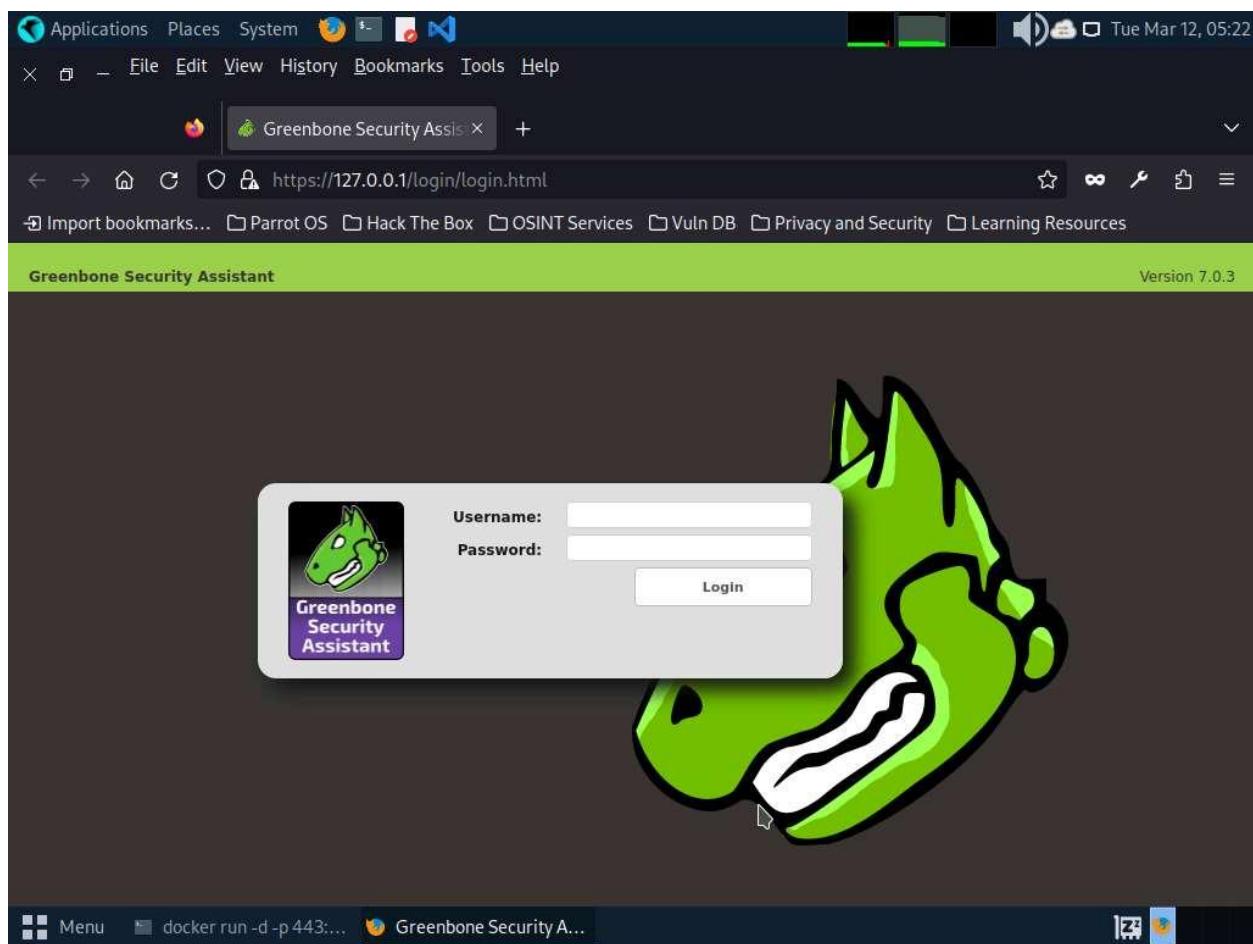
If a **Question** pop-up window appears asking you to update the machine, click **No** to close the window.

2. Open a **Terminal** window and execute **sudo su** to run the programs as a root user (When prompted, enter the password **toor**).

The password that you type will not be visible.

3. Run **docker run -d -p 443:443 --name openvas mikesplain/openvas** command to launch OpenVAS.
4. After the tool initializes, click **Firefox** icon from the top-section of the **Desktop**.
5. The **Firefox** browser appears, go to **https://127.0.0.1/**. OpenVAS login page appears, log in with **admin/admin**.

If a **Warning** page appears, click **Advanced** and select **Accept the Risk and Continue**.



6. The **OpenVAS Dashboards** appears. Navigate to **Scans --> Tasks** from the **Menu** bar.

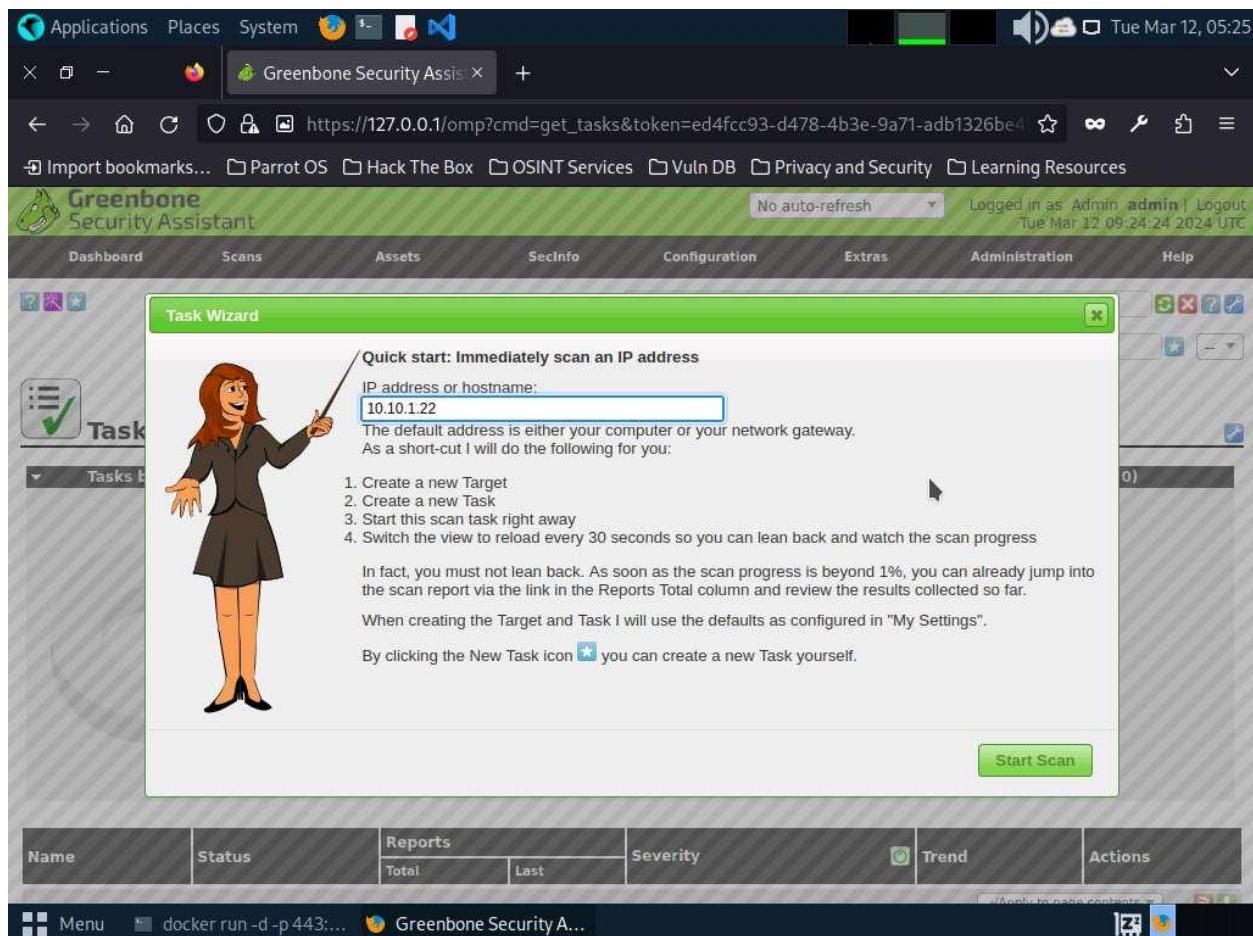
If a **Welcome to the scan task management!** pop-up appears, close it.

The screenshot shows the Greenbone Security Assistant interface running in a Firefox browser. The top navigation bar includes links for Applications, Places, System, and several icons. The title bar shows the URL <https://127.0.0.1/omp?r=1&token=ed4fcc93-d478-4b3e-9a71-adb1326be455>. The main menu bar has tabs for Dashboard, Scans, Assets, SecInfo, Configuration, Extras, Administration, and Help. A dropdown menu under the Scans tab is open, showing options: Dashboard, Tasks (which is selected and highlighted in green), Reports, Results, Notes, and Overrides. The main content area features several visualizations: a large donut chart titled "Tasks by status (Total: 0)", a bar chart titled "CVEs by creation time (Total: 120352)" showing values from 10,000 to 20,000, and a pie chart titled "NVTs by Severity Class (Total: 49787)" with categories: High (3591), Medium (1858), Low (22835), and Log (0). The bottom navigation bar includes links for Menu, docker run -d -p 443:..., and Greenbone Security A... along with system status icons.

7. Hover over wand icon and click the **Task Wizard** option.

The screenshot shows the Greenbone Security Assistant interface running in a Firefox browser. The title bar indicates the URL is https://127.0.0.1/omp?cmd=get_tasks&token=ed4fcc93-d478-4b3e-9a71-adb1326be4. The top navigation bar includes links for Import bookmarks..., Parrot OS, Hack The Box, OSINT Services, Vuln DB, Privacy and Security, and Learning Resources. The main header bar shows "Greenbone Security Assistant" and the user "Logged in as Admin admin | Logout". Below the header, there are tabs for Dashboard, Scans, Assets, SecInfo, Configuration, Extras, Administration, and Help. A "Task Wizard" dropdown menu is open, listing "Task Wizard", "Advanced Task Wizard", and "Modify Task Wizard". On the right, there is a "Filter" search bar with the query "min_qod=70 apply_overrides=1 rows=10 first=1 sort=name". The main content area displays three cards: "Tasks by Severity Class (Total: 0)", "Tasks with most High results per host" (which shows "No Tasks with High severity found"), and "Tasks by status (Total: 0)". At the bottom, there is a table header for "Name", "Status", "Reports", "Severity", "Trend", and "Actions". The URL in the address bar is https://127.0.0.1/omp?cmd=wizard&name=quick_first_scan&filter=&filt_id=&token=ed4fcc93-d478-4b3e-9a71-adb1326be455.

8. The **Task Wizard** window appears; enter the target IP address in the **IP address or hostname** field (here, the target system is **Windows Server 2022 [10.10.1.22]**) and click the **Start Scan** button.



9. The task appears under the **Tasks** section; OpenVAS starts scanning the target IP address.
10. Wait for the **Status** to change from **Requested** to **Done**. Once it is completed, click the **Done** button under the **Status** column to view the vulnerabilities found in the target system.

It takes approximately 20 minutes for the scan to complete.

If you are logged out of the session then login again using credentials **admin/admin**.

The screenshot shows the GSA interface with the following details:

- Top Bar:** Applications, Places, System, Firefox, File, Help. Date: Tue Mar 12, 06:19.
- Title Bar:** Greenbone Security Assis... (highlighted in blue).
- Toolbar:** Import bookmarks..., Parrot OS, Hack The Box, OSINT Services, Vuln DB, Privacy and Security, Learning Resources.
- Navigation:** Dashboard, Scans, Assets, SecInfo, Configuration, Extras, Administration, Help.
- Section Header:** Tasks (1 of 1)
- Three donut charts:**
 - Tasks by Severity Class (Total: 1): Medium (orange), value 1.
 - Tasks with most High results per host: No Tasks with High severity found.
 - Tasks by status (Total: 1): Done (blue), value 1.
- Table:** Shows the results for the immediate scan of IP 10.10.1.22.

Name	Status	Reports	Severity	Trend	Actions
Immediate scan of IP 10.10.1.22	Done	Total 1 (1) Last Mar 12 2024	5.0 (Medium)		
- Page Footer:** Backend operation: 0.01s, Greenbone Security Assistant (GSA) Copyright 2009 - 2018 by Greenbone Networks GmbH, www.greenbone.net, Applied filter: min_qod=70 apply_overrides=1 rows=10 first=1 sort=name.

11. **Report: Results** appear, displaying the discovered vulnerabilities along with their severity and port numbers on which they are running.

The results might differ when you perform this task.

The screenshot shows the Greenbone Security Assistant web application running in a Firefox browser. The title bar indicates the URL is https://127.0.0.1/omp?cmd=get_report&report_id=cd423c0b-daa4-4885-b01c-e30452f579de. The top navigation bar includes links for Import bookmarks..., Parrot OS, Hack The Box, OSINT Services, Vuln DB, Privacy and Security, and Learning Resources. The main header shows "Logged in as Admin admin | Logout 09:51:48 2024 UTC". Below the header, there's a navigation menu with Dashboard, Scans, Assets, SecInfo, Configuration, Extras, Administration, and Help. A "Report: Results (2 of 61)" section is displayed, showing two vulnerabilities: "DCE/RPC and MSRPC Services Enumeration Reporting" (Severity: 5.0 Medium) and "TCP timestamps" (Severity: 2.6 Low). The bottom status bar shows "Backend operation: 0.40s" and "Greenbone Security Assistant (GSA) Copyright 2009 - 2018 by Greenbone Networks GmbH, www.greenbone.net".

12. Click on any vulnerability under the **Vulnerability** column to view its detailed information.

13. Detailed information regarding selected vulnerability appears, as shown in the screenshot.

The screenshot shows the Greenbone Security Assistant interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with links like Applications, Places, System, and a Firefox icon. Below that is a toolbar with icons for Import bookmarks, Parrot OS, Hack The Box, OSINT Services, Vuln DB, Privacy and Security, and Learning Resources. The main title is "Greenbone Security Assistant". A sub-header says "Logged in as Admin admin | Logout". Below the header is a menu bar with Dashboard, Scans, Assets, SecInfo, Configuration, Extras, Administration, and Help.

Result: DCE/RPC and MSRPC Services Enumeration Reporting

Vulnerability	Severity	QoD	Host	Location	Actions
DCE/RPC and MSRPC Services Enumeration Reporting	5.0 (Medium)	80%	10.10.1.22	135/tcp	

Summary
Distributed Computing Environment / Remote Procedure Calls (DCE/RPC) or MSRPC services running on the remote host can be enumerated by connecting on port 135 and doing the appropriate queries.

Vulnerability Detection Result
Here is the list of DCE/RPC or MSRPC services running on this host via the TCP protocol:

Port: 2103/tcp

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UUID: 1088a980-eae5-11d0-8d9b-00a02453c337, version 1
Endpoint: ncacn_ip_tcp:10.10.1.22[2103]
Annotation: Message Queuing - QM2QM V1

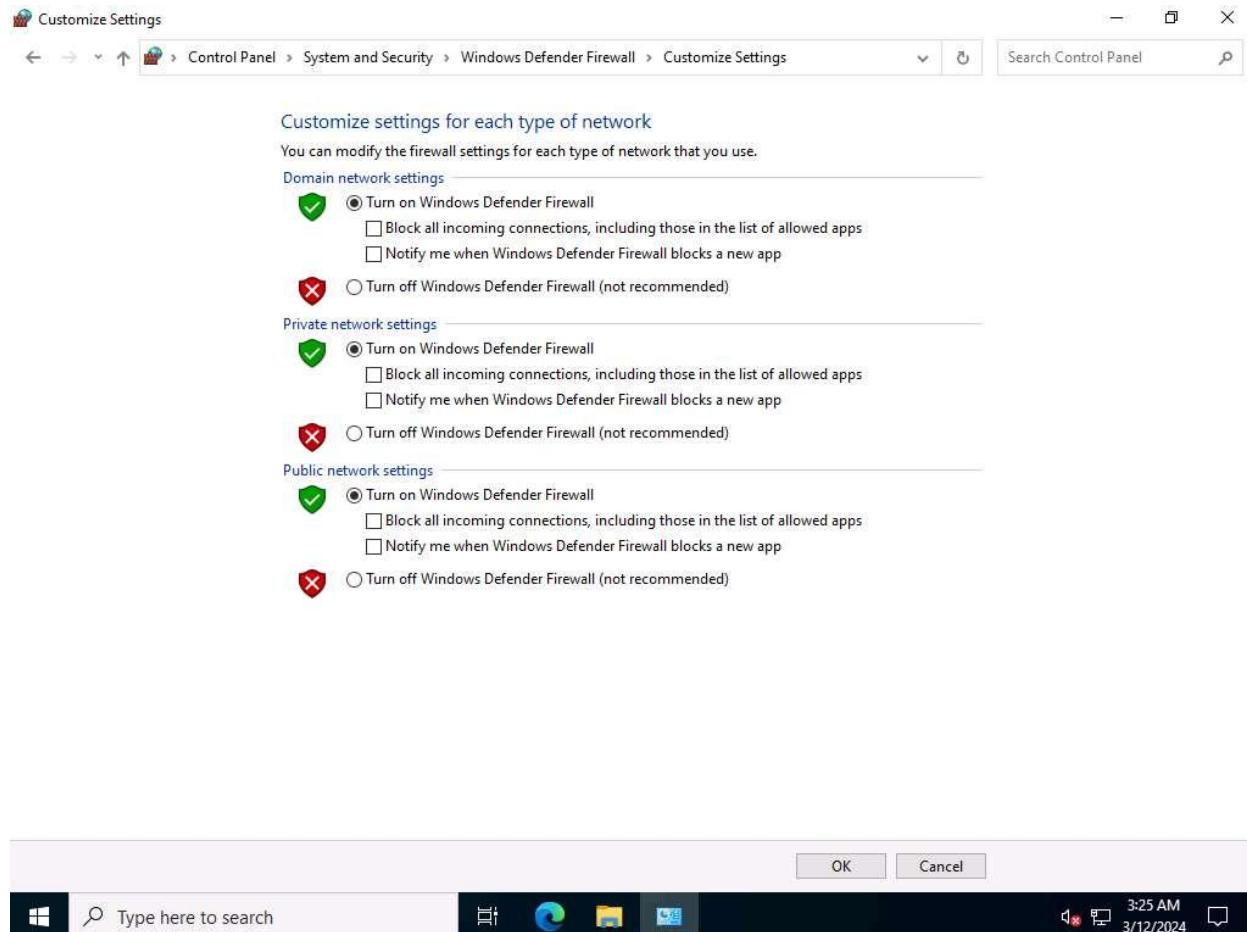
UUID: 1a9134dd-7b39-45ba-ad88-44d01ca47f28, version 1
Endpoint: ncacn_ip_tcp:10.10.1.22[2103]
Annotation: Message Queuing - RemoteRead V1

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Menu docker run -d -p 443:... Greenbone Security A...

14. Similarly, you can check other Reports by hovering over the **Report: Results** section to view other Reports regarding the vulnerabilities in the target system.
15. Next, go through the findings, including all high or critical vulnerabilities. Manually use your skills to verify the vulnerability. The challenge with vulnerability scanners is that they are quite limited; they work well for an internal or white box test only if the credentials are known. We will explore that now: return to your OpenVAS tool, and set up for the same scan again; but this time, turn your **firewall ON** in the **Windows Server 2022** machine.
16. Now, we will enable **Windows Firewall** in the target system and scan it for vulnerabilities.
17. Click on [Windows Server 2022](#) to switch to the **Windows Server 2022** machine and click [Ctrl+Alt+Delete](#) and login with **CEH\Administrator / Pa\$\$w0rd**.
18. Navigate to **Control Panel --> System and Security --> Windows Defender Firewall --> Turn Windows Defender Firewall on or off**, enable **Windows Firewall**, and click **OK**.

By turning the Firewall ON, you are making it more difficult for the scanning tool to scan for vulnerabilities in the target system.



19. Click on [Parrot Security](#) to switch to **Parrot Security** machine and perform **Steps# 7-9** to create another task for scanning the target system.
20. A newly created task appears under the **Tasks** section and starts scanning the target system for vulnerabilities.
21. After the completion of the scan, click the **Done** button under the **Status** column.

It takes approximately 15-20 minutes for the scan to complete.

22. **Report: Results** appears, displaying the discovered vulnerabilities along with their severity and port numbers on which they are running.

The results might differ when you perform this task.

The screenshot shows the Greenbone Security Assistant interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with links like Applications, Places, System, and a Firefox icon. Below that is a toolbar with various icons. The main title is "Greenbone Security Assistant". A sub-header says "Logged in as Admin admin | Logout 10:10:07 2024 UTC". The main content area has tabs for Dashboard, Scans, Assets, SecInfo, Configuration, Extras, Administration, and Help. The "SecInfo" tab is active. A "Report: Results (2 of 43)" section is shown, with a table of vulnerabilities:

Vulnerability	Severity	QoD	Host	Location	Actions
DCE/RPC and MSRPC Services Enumeration Reporting	5.0 (Medium)	80%	10.10.1.22	135/tcp	
TCP timestamps	2.6 (Low)	80%	10.10.1.22	general/tcp	

At the bottom, it says "Backend operation: 0.40s" and "Greenbone Security Assistant (GSA) Copyright 2009 - 2018 by Greenbone Networks GmbH, www.greenbone.net".

23. The scan results for the target machine before and after the Windows Firewall was enabled are the same, thereby indicating that the target system is vulnerable to attack even if the Firewall is enabled.
24. This concludes the demonstration performing vulnerabilities analysis using OpenVAS.
25. Close all open windows and document all the acquired information.
26. Click on [Windows Server 2022](#) to switch to the **Windows Server 2022** machine and click [Ctrl+Alt+Delete](#) login with **Administrator/Pa\$\$w0rd**.
27. Navigate to **Control Panel --> System and Security --> Windows Defender Firewall --> Turn Windows Defender Firewall on or off**, disable Windows Firewall, and click **OK**.

Question 5.2.1.1

Perform vulnerability analysis for the target machine (10.10.1.22) using OpenVAS and find the number of vulnerabilities in the system. Enter the Severity level of the DCE/RPC and MSRPC Services Enumeration Reporting vulnerability.