**8 Group Policy Object (GPO) Configuration**

**🏛️ Create and Link a GPO**

New-GPO -Name "SecurityBaseline" -Comment "Hardening settings for all domain users"

New-GPLink -Name "SecurityBaseline" -Target "OU=IT,DC=vlab,DC=local"

**🔐 Common Settings**

* Enforce password complexity and length:
  + Computer Configuration > Policies > Windows Settings > Security Settings > Account Policies > Password Policy
* Disable local admin access:
  + Computer Configuration > Preferences > Control Panel Settings > Local Users and Groups

**🧹 Deploy Logon Banner**

User Configuration > Policies > Admin Templates > System > Logon > Display user message

**9️⃣ Delegation of Control**

**🔧 Delegate OU Permissions**

1. In **Active Directory Users and Computers**, right-click the OU (e.g., IT).
2. Select **Delegate Control**.
3. Choose the user/group to delegate.
4. Choose common tasks or **custom task** → allow permissions like:
   * Reset user passwords
   * Create/delete user accounts

**🛑 View Delegation**

Get-Acl "AD:\OU=IT,DC=vlab,DC=local" | Format-List

**🔗 10️⃣ Domain & Forest Trusts**

**📍 Create Trusts**

Trusts require at least 2 domains/forests. Example: vlab.local & corp.local

1. Open **Active Directory Domains and Trusts**.
2. Right-click your domain → **Properties → Trusts → New Trust**.
3. Enter the name of the other domain.
4. Choose trust type:
   * External Trust
   * Forest Trust
   * Shortcut Trust
5. Choose direction:
   * One-way: Incoming or Outgoing
   * Two-way

**🔄 Verify Trusts**

nltest /domain\_trusts

**⚙️ 11️⃣ Advanced Configurations**

**🧩 Fine-Grained Password Policies (FGPP)**

New-ADFineGrainedPasswordPolicy -Name "AdminsPolicy" \

-Precedence 1 -MinPasswordLength 12 -PasswordComplexityEnabled $true \

-LockoutThreshold 5 -LockoutDuration "00:30:00" \

-LockoutObservationWindow "00:30:00" -ReversibleEncryptionEnabled $false

Add-ADFineGrainedPasswordPolicySubject -Identity "AdminsPolicy" -Subjects "CN=Domain Admins,CN=Users,DC=vlab,DC=local"

**🔄 Replication Schedule**

Set-ADReplicationSiteLink -Identity "DEFAULTIPSITELINK" -ReplicationFrequencyInMinutes 15

**💬 Add Company Info Banner (Legal Notice)**

Computer Configuration > Policies > Windows Settings > Security Settings > Local Policies > Security Options

- Interactive logon: Message title

- Interactive logon: Message text

✅ Advanced Active Directory Configuration completed. Next: Certificate Authority, Template Publishing, Backup & Recovery, and Auditing?