Certainly! **Penetration testing**, also known as **pen testing**, is a security exercise where a cyber-security expert attempts to find and exploit vulnerabilities in a computer system. [The purpose of this simulated attack is to identify any weak spots in a system’s defenses which attackers could take advantage of1](https://www.cloudflare.com/learning/security/glossary/what-is-penetration-testing/).

Here are **five free reference links** where you can learn more about penetration testing:

1. [**OnSecurity’s Penetration Testing Hub**](https://www.onsecurity.io/learn/penetration-testing/): OnSecurity provides valuable insights into identifying vulnerabilities, preventing data breaches, and improving security posture through pen testing[2](https://www.onsecurity.io/learn/penetration-testing/).
2. [**Cloudflare’s Explanation**](https://www.cloudflare.com/learning/security/glossary/what-is-penetration-testing/): Cloudflare offers a concise overview of what penetration testing entails[1](https://www.cloudflare.com/learning/security/glossary/what-is-penetration-testing/).
3. [**Cisco’s Penetration Testing Guide**](https://www.cisco.com/c/en/us/products/security/what-is-pen-testing.html): Cisco explains how pen testing helps discover points of exploitation and assesses IT breach security[3](https://www.cisco.com/c/en/us/products/security/what-is-pen-testing.html).
4. [**CyberMaxx’s Role of Pen Testing**](https://www.cybermaxx.com/resources/what-is-penetration-testing/): CyberMaxx delves into the methodical approach of assessing security by simulating attack scenarios[4](https://www.cybermaxx.com/resources/what-is-penetration-testing/).
5. [**Horangi’s Pentesting Tools & Resources**](https://www.horangi.com/blog/pentesting-tools-and-resources-to-get-you-started): Horangi provides a list of tools and practice grounds to kickstart your penetration testing journey[5](https://www.horangi.com/blog/pentesting-tools-and-resources-to-get-you-started).

Feel free to explore these resources and enhance your understanding of penetration testing! 🛡️🔍