

# OSINT Basics

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# Agenda

- Whoami
- What is Open Source Intelligence (OSINT)?
- What is OSINT used for?
- OSINT: Good vs Bad
- People OSINT
- Business OSINT
- Protect Your Privacy
- Sock Puppet
- VPN
- TOR
- TOR over VPN
- Pictures
- OSINT Tools
- Resources
- Education/Training
- Final Words

# Whoami

- Jonathan Klein
- San Jose, CA native
- Network Engineer in IT for 10+ years
- US Army Officer for 7 years
- Looking to grow in a Blue Team role
- Enjoy Travel, Hiking, Reading, Football (American and European), podcasts, and true crime
- Never Stop Learning!

# What is Open Source Intelligence (OSINT)?

- The process of gathering, collecting, and analyzing information which is acquired from public and open sources.



# What is OSINT used for?

- Individual People
  - Finding a home
  - Job Search
  - Social Activities
- Businesses
  - Researching competitors
  - Market Trends
  - Prospective Employees
- Journalism
  - Investigating stories
- Law Enforcement
- Military
- Intelligence Agencies

# OSINT: Good vs Bad

## Good

- Business OPSEC
- House Hunting
- Job Hunting
- Working with vendors

## Bad

- Business OPSEC
- Stalking
- Doxing

# People OSINT

- People/public records search sites (ie <https://www.familytreenow.com/>)
- Social Media profiles (Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Instagram, etc)
- Data Breach Dumps
- Friends/Family/professional connections (social media)
- Dating Apps (Match, Plenty of Fish, OKCupid, etc)
- Spider out from family, friends, hobbies and place of work
- Image search
  - Google Reverse Image Search: <https://images.google.com/>
  - Yandex: <https://yandex.com/images/>

# Business OSINT

- Business Website
  - Leadership
  - Partners
  - Office Locations
- Company Reviews (ie Glassdoor)
- Company profiles/insights (ie LinkedIn)
- Job postings (ie. LinkedIn, Indeed, Monster, etc)
- Social Media
  - Especially employee pictures
    - Possible ID badges
    - Employee faces
  - Company news
- Email addresses (<https://hunter.io/>)
- Google Maps



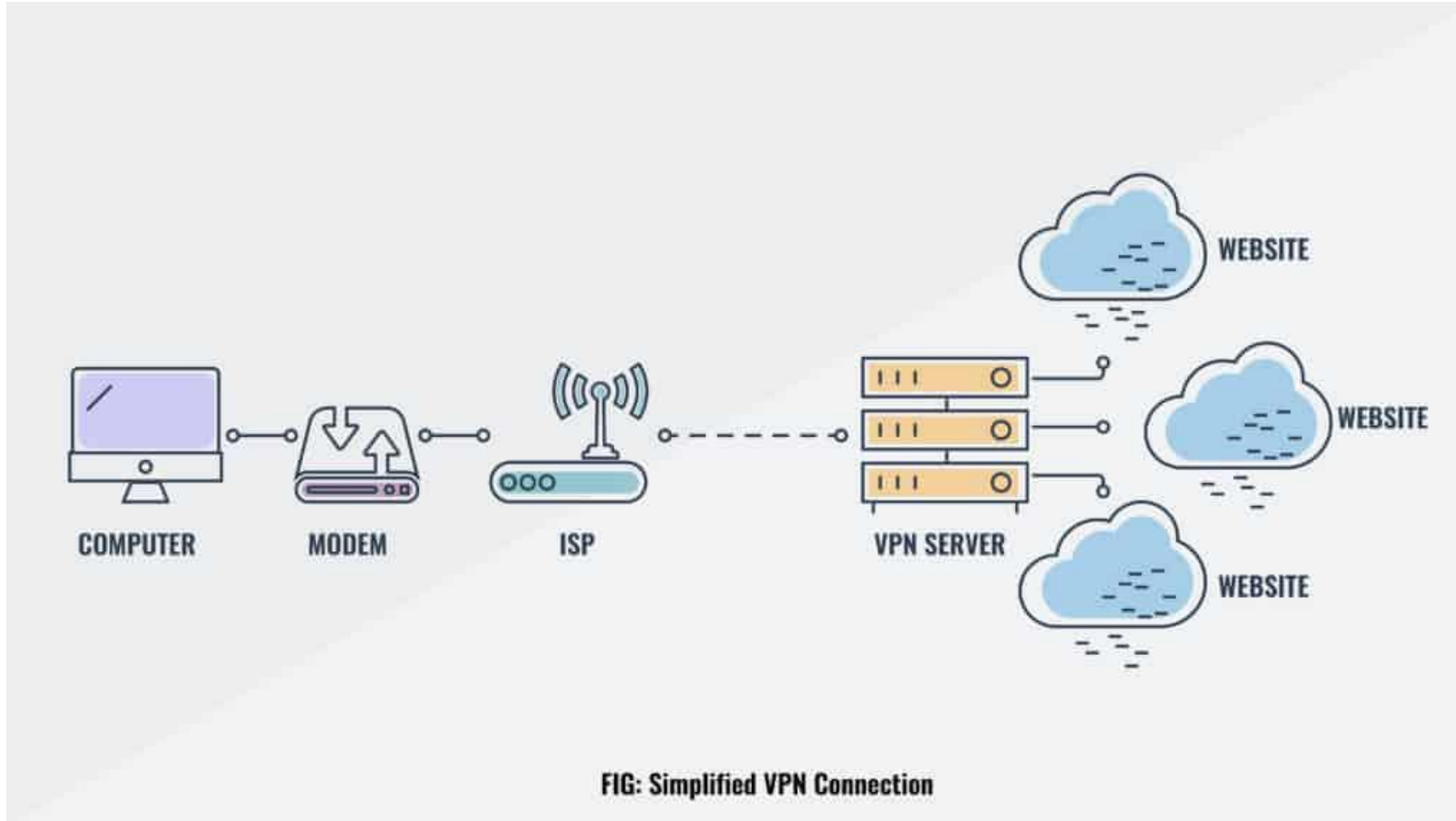
# Protect Your Privacy

- Turn off Location/GPS Services
  - Example: Fitness app Strava lights up staff at military bases  
<https://www.bbc.com/news/technology-42853072>
  - Building the Global Heatmap: <https://medium.com/strava-engineering/the-global-heatmap-now-6x-hotter-23fc01d301de>
- Use a VPN service (ie. NordVPN, CyberGhost, ProtonVPN)
- Use TOR (The Onion Router)
- Show less detail in your pictures
- Sock puppet

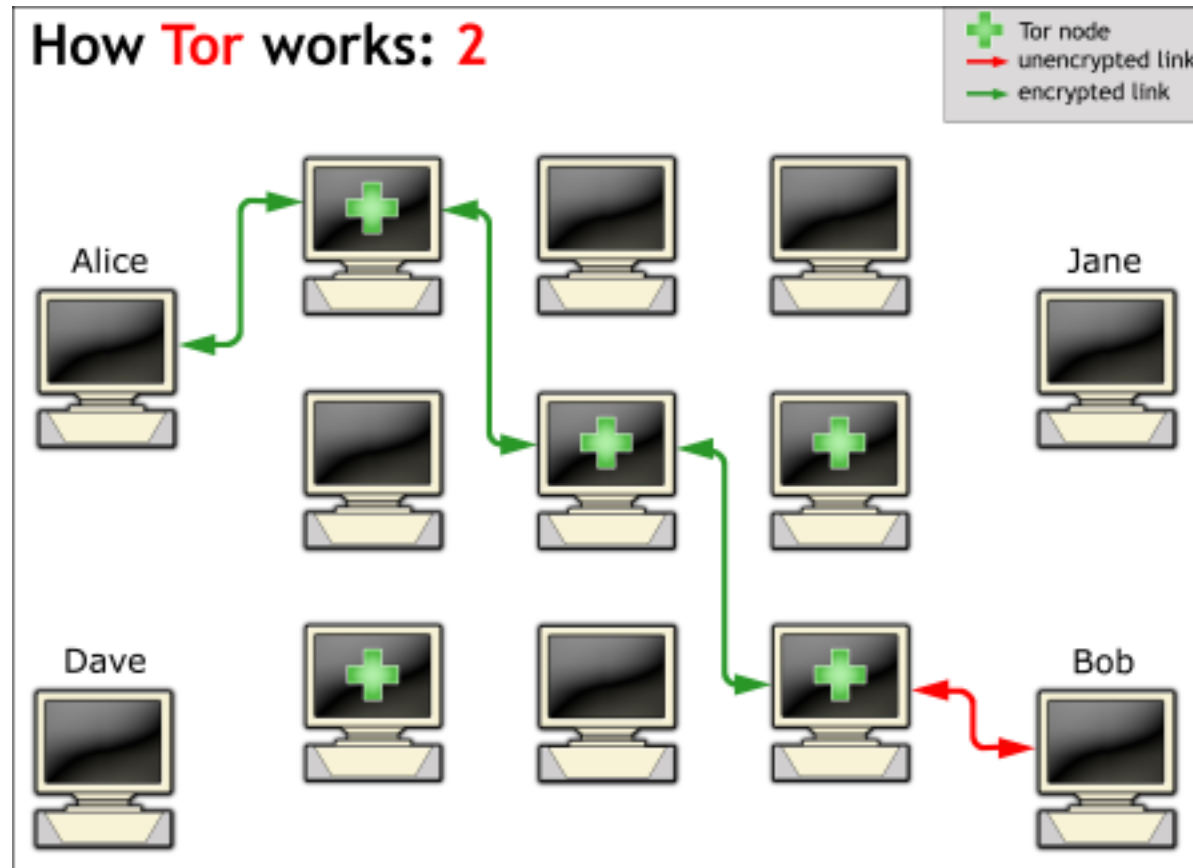
# Sock Puppet

- Creating a Sock Puppet
  - Creating account on Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, etc
  - Encrypted email: ie ProtonMail
  - Burner Phone for each account
    - Purchase cheap on at Target, WalMart, BestBuy
    - Sim Card through Mintmobile.com
  - Profile picture: <https://thispersondoesnotexist.com/>
  - Profile information: <https://www.fakenamegenerator.com/>
- Use VPN or TOR
- Be realistic with target demographic

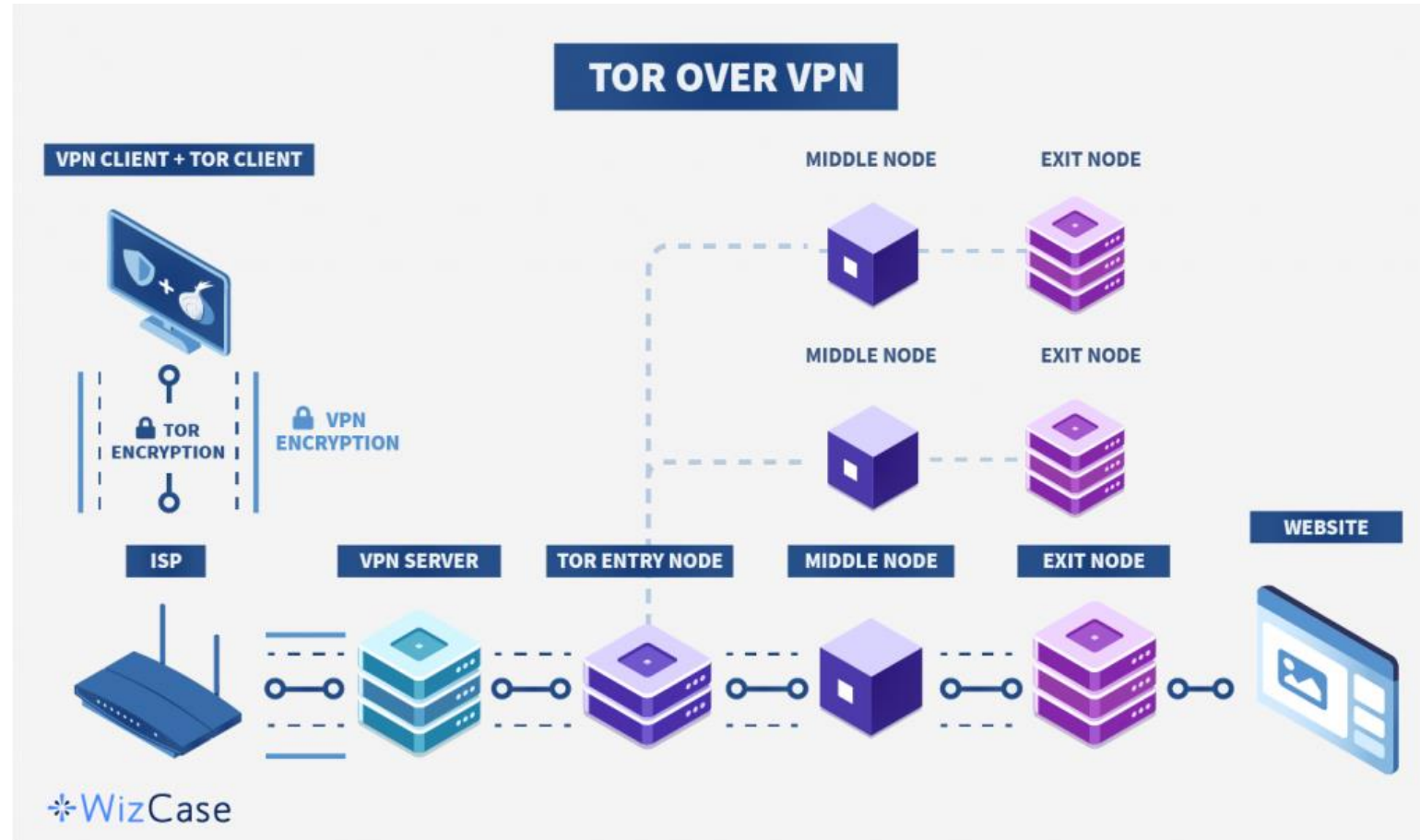
# Using VPN



# Using TOR



# Using TOR over VPN





























# OSINT Tools



# Resources

- OSINT Framework (<https://osintframework.com/>)
- OSINT Curious (<https://osintcurio.us/>)
  - YouTube: (<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCjzceWf-OT3ImIKztzGkipA>)
- Michael Bazzell's Open Source Intelligence Techniques Book
  - 8<sup>th</sup> Edition as of 1/1/21
- Bellingcat (<https://www.bellingcat.com/>)
- Hunting Cyber Criminals by Vinny Troia
- How to Disappear by Frank M. Ahearn
- Gray Man by Matthew Dermody
- The Ultimate OSINT Collection (@hatless1der on Twitter)
  - <https://start.me/p/DPYPMz/the-ultimate-osint-collection>
- ATP 2-22.9 Open-Source Intelligence, July 2012, Department of the Army

# Education/Training

- The OSINTion: <https://www.theosintion.com/courses/>
- OSINT Combine: <https://academy.osintcombine.com/>
- Plessas: <https://academy.plessas.net/>
- GeoGuessr: <https://www.geoguessr.com/>
- Udemy
  - Open-Source Intelligence (OSINT) Fundamentals by Heath Adams (The Cyber Mentor)
  - The Ultimate Dark Web, Anonymity, Privacy, and Security course by Zaid Sabih (zSecurity)

# Final Words

- Pay Attention to Detail
- Always keep looking
- Picture is worth a thousand words
- Small information can be very big in an investigation