Best Practices for Documentation

SoftUni Team

Technical Trainers

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Have a Questions?

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#Cyber_Security

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Why Taking Notes is Important?

Taking Notes is a Must!

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- When conducting **penetration testing**, or other security operations, taking notes is essential for not getting lost and getting a good report
- Imagine a real engagement, only from your **reconnaissance** process, you can generate a tons amount of notes
- Imagine finding a vulnerability and exploiting it?
- When doing penetration **testing**, you are responsible for your actions
- The way to prove your actions are your notes and screenshots

How to Take Notes Efficiently?

In the Scope of the Course, we Will Use Obsidian

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- Obsidian is highly customizable local note taking application
- It has cloud sync but we will stick to local files only
- Feel free to **customize obsidian** as your willing
- It has a huge amount of methods and plugins, helping you getting smoother experience
- Obsidian config is stored per project
- That means if you were to **generate new project** you are with the defaults again

In the Scope of the Course, we Will Use Obsidian

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- To migrate your configuration, copy **.obsidian folder** from your previous project (when you configured obsidian) to your **current folder**
- My configuration is provided with the materials
- When migrating a configuration, if you were using community plugins, obsidian will ask if you want to allow them
- If you feel comfortable and trust me, click enable plugins haha

Note Taking Methodology

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- There is no accepted or best practical way of taking notes. It is a good idea to play around a find a way that works for you
- Even though there is not a **methodology**, I need to explain a few really important things
- The main goal of taking notes is to know what, when and how
- For example, you found an **SQL injection**
- My best practice is to document with what payload you managed to find the vulnerability, how did you exploited it, and what did you get
- For all of these steps I would **inlucde request** / **response** from burp or sqlmap, as well as screenshots
- Start small but build up a **structure** for yourself!

Note Taking Methodology

- One of the best way of organizing your notes (**when doing pentest or red teaming operations**) is the following:

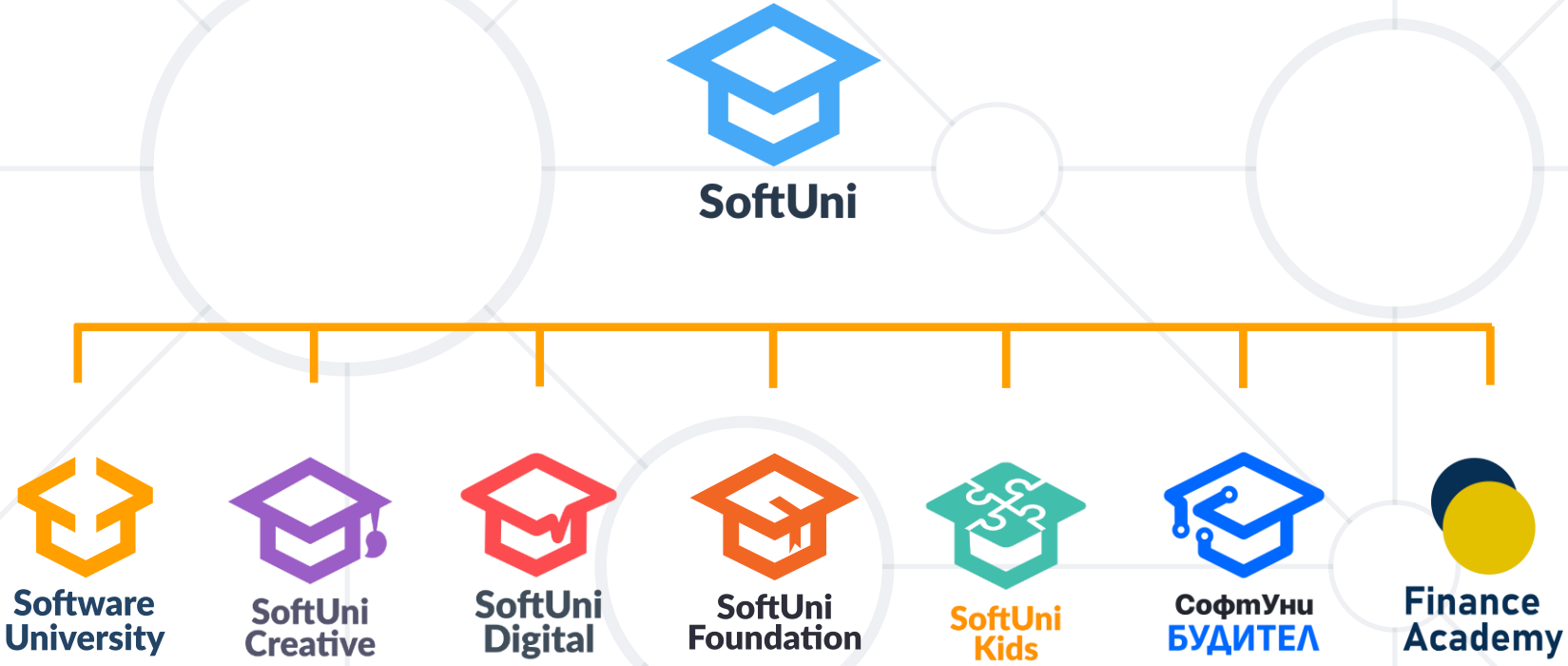
```
engagement_name
├── 0-admin
├── 1-osint
├── 2-recon
├── 3-targets
│   ├── domain_name
│   │   └── exfil
│   └── ip_hostname
│       └── exfil
├── 4-screenshots
│   └── YYYYMMDD_HHMM_IP_Description.png
├── 5-payloads
├── 6-logs
└── readme.md
```

- Let's demonstrate it!

Summary

- Taking notes is a **must**!
- Implement custom note taking methodology

Questions?



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