

TryHackMe SOC Role in Blue Team Assignment

Course: CEH

Date Assigned: 5-11-2025

Due Date: 4-11-2025

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Batch/Section: Super30 Batch

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Summary

This lab provides practical insight into how a Security Operations Center (SOC) functions as the first line of defense in an organization's security posture. You begin by monitoring live security telemetry – logs from endpoints, servers, firewalls, SIEM dashboards, identity systems, and cloud services – to build an understanding of baseline network behavior and normal user activity. From there, you explore how SOC analysts detect threats in real time by triaging alerts, correlating logs, and using SIEM queries to identify suspicious behaviors, IOC matches, and anomalies that signal potential attacks.

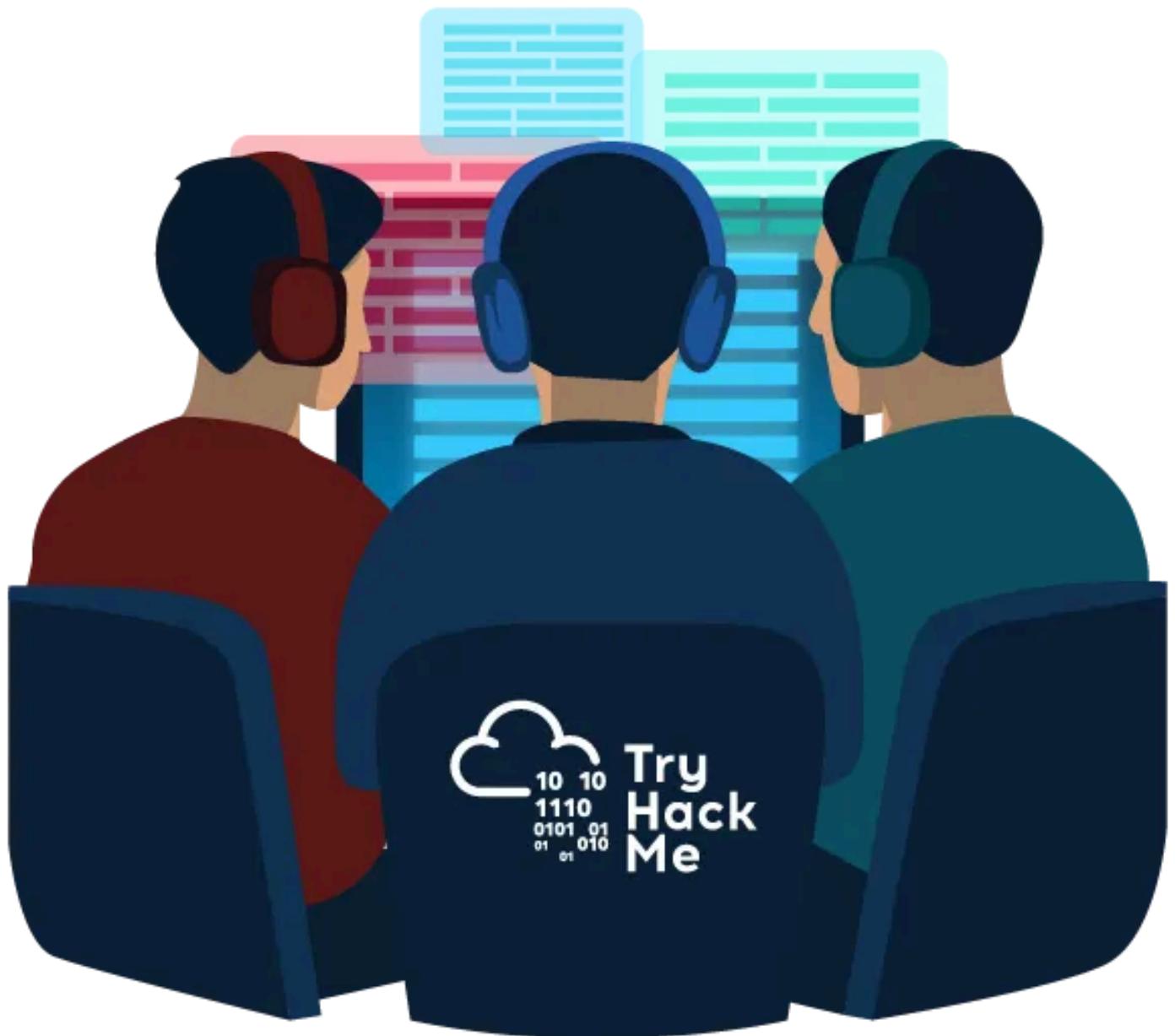
You investigate simulated security events such as phishing attempts, malware execution, privilege escalation, lateral movement, and exfiltration to learn what patterns trigger alerts and why. Through hands-on threat hunting exercises, you practice pivoting across log sources, examining event timelines, mapping attacker activity to MITRE ATT&CK, and validating suspicious indicators. You also learn effective incident handling steps from alert verification and escalation to evidence collection, user communication, and documenting findings.

The lab covers essential SOC response workflows including account blocking, isolating compromised hosts, blocking malicious IPs/domains, and working with DFIR teams for deeper analysis. You gain understanding of playbooks, use cases, and rule tuning to reduce false positives and improve detection fidelity. Finally, you explore SOC collaboration practices, reporting, and strategies to harden the environment and stay ahead of adversary tactics. It's a full SOC lifecycle experience: monitor, detect, analyze, respond, recover – the same structured approach used to protect real enterprise environments.

The Contents of the Room

- **Task 1:** Introduction
- **Task 2:** Security Hierarchy
- **Task 3:** Meet the Blue Team
- **Task 4:** Advancing SOC Career
- **Task 5:** Final Challenge
- **Task 6:** Conclusion

Task 1: Introduction to SOC



In your Junior Security Analyst Intro training, you learned the basics of what a SOC Level 1 analyst does in a team, such as monitoring alerts, investigating initial security incidents, and escalating suspicious actions. But merely learning the

duties of your role doesn't help much. To operate firmly and without hesitation in the real world as a professional, you must understand where a SOC stands in a business's security functions and how your role relates to the entire cybersecurity world.

The SOC serves as the central cybersecurity defense operations hub within an enterprise. It is your job as a SOC L1 analyst to work in frontline defense, where you constantly oversee protective resources, SIEM dashboards, endpoint logs, and network alerts. You have your work guided by senior analysts and security managers and are responsible for the accurate management of incidents and decision-making.

Anticipating the learning path, you understand the functions of leadership and support personnel around you, such as SOC Managers, Incident Response (IR) teams, Threat Intelligence specialists, and the Governance, Risk & Compliance (GRC) function. Knowing their duties allows you to work within the framework of collaboration and align your role for the most productive advancement in your career.

The screenshot shows the TryHackMe platform interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with icons for Try Hack Me, Dashboard, Learn, Practice, Compete, a search bar, a notification bell with 6 notifications, a 'Go Premium' button, and a user profile icon. Below the navigation bar, the main content area has a dark background with a world map and binary code patterns. The title 'SOC Role in Blue Team' is displayed in large white text. Below the title, a sub-header says 'Discover security roles and learn how to advance your SOC career, starting from the L1 analyst.' There are three small cards showing icons related to security roles. Below these cards, there are buttons for 'Share your achievement', 'Save Room', '91 Recommend', and 'Options'. A progress bar at the bottom indicates 'Room completed (100%)'. The main content area is titled 'Task 1' and contains a section titled 'Introduction'. This section includes a green circular icon with a person's face, a brief description of the task, and a link to 'Junior Security Analyst Intro'. At the bottom of the page, there is a section titled 'Answer the questions below' with a 'Let's find out!' button, a 'No answer needed' button, and a 'Correct Answer' button.

Task 2: Security Hierarchy

Task 2 ✓ Security Hierarchy ^

Security Hierarchy

Cyber security priorities are different for every company. For law firms, the goal is the privacy of the legal documents. For factories, the availability of production lines. For hospitals, patient safety. That's why every company has a unique security approach and security team structure. Let's take a look at the high-level example of it:

Executives:
CEO / CFO / Company owner
Focus on global business objectives

Security Leadership:
CTO / CIO / CISO (if exists)
Lead company-wide IT or security program

Security Managers:
Team Lead / SOC Manager
Manage a single team or department like SOC

Technical:
Analyst / Engineer / Red Teamer
Perform technical tasks like log analysis

CEO
CISO
SOC Manager
Red Team Lead
SOC Analyst
SOC Engineer
GRC Specialist
Penetration Tester

Q1.Which senior role typically makes key cyber security decisions?

Answer : CISO

Q2.What is the common name for roles like SOC analysts and engineers?

Answer : Blue Team



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Answer: CISO

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Answer: Blue Team

Answer the questions below

Which senior role typically makes key cyber security decisions?

CISO

✓ Correct Answer

What is the common name for roles like SOC analysts and engineers?

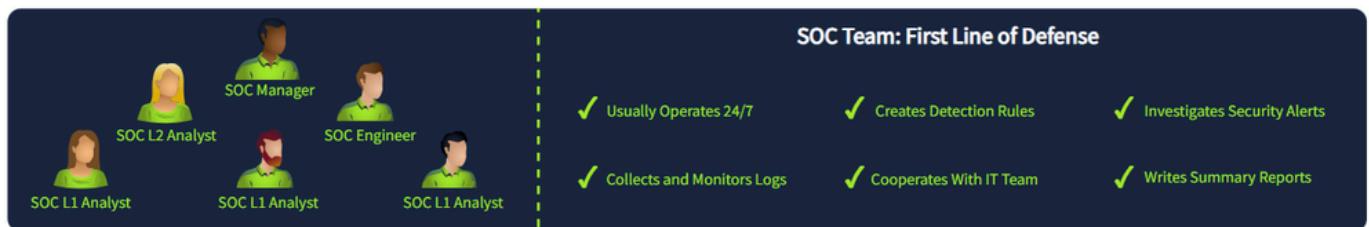
Blue Team

✓ Correct Answer

Task 3: Meet the Blue Team

Blue Team is about defensive security, meaning it constantly monitors for attacks and tries to respond to them quickly. Depending on a company's size and sector, Blue Team can include a lot of different roles and subdepartments, usually counting 3 to 50 members total. Now, let's explore the most common Blue Team departments.

Security Operations Center (SOC)



That's where you are most likely to start your cyber security journey! SOC is the central hub for an organization's cyber security - they are the first line of defense, work with various alerts, and handle most attacks. You can read more about SOC structure in [this room](#), but an efficient SOC is usually composed of the following roles:



- **L1 Analysts:** Junior members who triage alerts and pass complex cases to L2
- **L2 Analysts:** Experienced members who investigate more advanced attacks
- **Engineers:** Experts in configuring security tools like EDR or SIEM
- **Manager:** A person who manages the whole SOC team

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Cyber Incident Response Team (CIRT)



If SOC expertise is not enough or the incident goes out of control, you urgently call the "firefighters" - CIRT, also called CSIRT or CERT. The members should have a broad knowledge of cyber threats and handle breaches without depending on tools like EDR or SIEM. A CIRT job is stressful and responsible, but also rewarding. Here are a few CIRT examples:

- **JPCERT:** Japan's CERT handling nation-wide breaches
- **Mandiant:** A private team responding to global cyber incidents

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- **Mandiant:** A private team responding to global cyber incidents
- **AWS CIRT:** Investigates security incidents of AWS customers

Specialized Defensive Roles



Large companies, technology-focused startups, and government agencies often require narrow and specialized Blue Team roles - exciting and highly valuable, but requiring deep topic knowledge and broad experience in broader fields like SOC or IT. These narrow roles can include:



- **Digital Forensics Analyst:** Uncover hidden threats in disk and memory
- **Threat Intelligence Analyst:** Gather data about emerging threat groups
- **AppSec Engineer:** Maintain a secure software development lifecycle
- **AI Researcher:** Study AI threats and how to defend against them

Answer the questions below

Does Blue Team focus on defensive or offensive security?

Defensive

✓ Correct Answer

Which department handles active or urgent cyber incidents?

CIRT

✓ Correct Answer

💡 Hint

Q1. Does Blue Team focus on defensive or offensive security?

Answer: Defensive

Q2. Which department handles active or urgent cyber incidents?

Answer: CIRT

Task 4: Advancing SOC Career

Task 4 ✓ Advancing SOC Career

SOC Path

Starting as a SOC L1 analyst may be a great option to broaden your cyber world awareness and better understand the more specialized roles. Moreover, even the entry-level SOC L1 role can be fun and engaging: You will deal with real attacks, protect the company from advanced threat groups, and learn a lot during the process. Let's see how you can start:

1. Gain core [SOC skills](#) and practice them. Related skills like red teaming or general IT would help, too!
2. Be proactive, try yourself in CTFs, stay in the loop of cyber news, and consider the [SAL1 certification](#)!
3. Prepare for an interview, learn the difference between an internal SOC and MSSP, and apply for a job!
4. After working for some time in a junior position, consider preparing and advancing to more senior roles!

Internal SOC vs MSSP

Not every organization has the expertise to operate a SOC on its own and relies on a Managed Security Services Provider (MSSP), a company that delivers outsourced security services, most commonly SOC, to its clients. Working at MSSP is typically high-pressure, but it is also a good option to quickstart your career. While we recommend applying for any open SOC position as your first job, it's also important to understand the differences:

Topic	Internal SOC	MSSP
 Scenario Example	You work in a SOC team of the bank and protect the bank's systems	You work for a global MSSP protecting its sixty customers in Europe

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Topic	Internal SOC	MSSP
Scenario Example	You work in a SOC team of the bank and protect the bank's systems	You work for a global MSSP protecting its sixty customers in Europe
Working Pace	You usually have calm shifts without too much time pressure	Your shift usually starts from a queue of urgent alerts to analyze
Security Tools	You work with just a few tools, but need to know them very well	You have to work with sixty diverse security tools and platforms
Incident Practice	You saw and learned from just two major cyber attacks last year	Every week, you deal with attacks and breaches, and can learn from it



Next Steps

Next Steps

Your most natural next step after L1 is to become a SOC L2 analyst, but you are free to choose another path! While handling a SIEM alert, you might notice that engineering work appeals to you more. During a cyber attack, you may be fascinated by CIRT actions. You may also find yourself well-suited as a manager and build your path to the CISO role. No matter what, your first year or two is to get real work experience, and to spend this time effectively, follow the tips below!

Learn From Every Alert  Understand why a rule triggered and use it to sharpen your detection skills

Think Like An Attacker  Ask "Why would the attackers do it" before triaging how did they do it

Verify Everything  Never assume. Always validate alerts and suspicious behavior in logs

Get Involved in Incidents  Real attacks teach lessons no lab can. They are worth a sleepless night

How would you call a cyber security company providing SOC services?

MSSP

✓ Correct Answer

Which role naturally continues your SOC L1 analyst journey?

SOC L2 Analyst

✓ Correct Answer

Q1. How would you call a cyber security company providing SOC services?

Answer: MSSP

Q2. Which role naturally continues your SOC L1 analyst journey?

Answer: SOC L2 Analyst

Task 5: Final Challenge

Task 5 ✓ Final Challenge

Final Challenge

For this task, imagine yourself as a CISO of TrySecureMe, a big multinational company. You oversee multiple departments and deal with incidents every month. This time, as many as seven incidents are happening at the same time, and you have to choose the right people to deal with every one of them. Do you know security roles well enough to complete this challenge?

Website Instructions

[View Site](#)

Open the attached website by clicking the **View Site** button above and consider resizing or opening it in full screen for a better view. Then, drag and drop the roles from the left to the incidents on the right. If your choices are correct, claim your flag and complete the task! You can reset the website at any time by clicking the **Reset** button.

Welcome to TrySecureMe!

Seven security tasks require an action, and you have to choose the right people to deal with every one of them. Observe the roles on the top, drag the correct roles, and drop it on the corresponding scenario below.

Alice Threat Researcher, Lucas SOC L1 Analyst, Susan SOC L2 Analyst

SIEM created an alert about FW-NY-01 Firewall brute-force. Who should triage the alert?
The office in France was somehow hit with ransomware. Immediate response is required!
Who can check the new version of tryhackme.thm for vulnerabilities?
The SIEM is unavailable due to a storage limit. Who can investigate the issue?
Our servers storing the credit cards require PCI DSS audit. Who can help us here?
The HR manager Anna launched a phishing malware. Who should make a deep analysis?
FINT7 threat group actively targets our company. Who can analyze their tactics?

Next Rooms in Path

1. Humans as Attack Vectors
2. Systems as Attack Vectors

Answer the questions below

Complete the room!

No answer needed

Complete

How likely are you to recommend this room to others?

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

TryHackMe | Blue Room progress (88%)

Welcome to TrySecureMe!

Seven security tasks require an action, and you have to choose the right people to deal with every one of them. Observe the roles on the top, drag the correct roles, and drop it on the corresponding scenario below.

Susan SOC L2 Analyst, Ben Penetration Tester, Alice Threat Researcher

SIEM created an alert about FW-NY-01 Firewall brute-force. Who should triage the alert?
The office in France was somehow hit with ransomware. Immediate response is required!
Who can check the new version of tryhackme.thm for vulnerabilities?
The SIEM is unavailable due to a storage limit. Who can investigate the issue?
Our servers storing the credit cards require PCI DSS audit. Who can help us here?
The HR manager Anna launched a phishing malware. Who should make a deep analysis?
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SOC Role in Blue Team Web App

Windows Server 20... onlineservices.prote... Apply for PAN (129) Syllogism in O... (129) Deep Live Ca...

Type here to search

20°C Mostly clear ENG 03-11-2025 10:33



Answer the questions below

What flag did you claim after completing the final challenge?

THM{trysecureme_is_secured!}

✓ Correct Answer

Q1.What flag did you claim after completing the final challenge?

Answer: THM{trysecureme_is_secured!}

Task 6: Conclusion

Task 6 ✓ Conclusion

Great job completing the challenge! Now you know how SOC team works, where it is placed in the security structure, and what you to do to start your career journey. Now, continue to the next rooms and learn what does SOC actually protect: humans and systems.

Next Rooms in Path

1. Humans as Attack Vectors
2. Systems as Attack Vectors

Answer the questions below

Complete the room!

No answer needed

✓ Correct Answer



You did it! 🎉 SOC Role in Blue Team complete!

Points earned

56

Completed tasks

6

Room type

Walkthrough

Difficulty

Easy

Streak

1

 81,493 users are actively learning this week

Declaration

I declare that this work is my own and completed without unauthorized assistance.

Signature: Praveen Kumar

Date: 5-11-2025