

Richard Waters

Contact Information

- Location: Liverpool, UK
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- GitHub: [GitHub](#)

Professional Summary

Experienced and highly skilled **Cyber Security Professional** with a **First-Class Honours degree** in Computer Science and over **10 years of coding experience**. Proficient in **penetration testing, ethical hacking, and network security**, with expertise in tools like **Burp Suite, Nmap, John the Ripper, and Metasploit**.

Extensive knowledge of **Windows, macOS, and Linux** environments, coupled with strong **programming and scripting** abilities. Adept at identifying vulnerabilities, securing systems, and implementing robust security measures to **protect organisations from cyber threats**. Passionate about staying ahead of emerging security risks and best practices.

Core Skills & Competencies

- **Penetration Testing & Ethical Hacking**: Conducting vulnerability assessments and security audits.
 - **Security Tools**: Proficient in **Burp Suite, Nmap, Wireshark, Metasploit, John the Ripper, Nessus**.
 - **Operating Systems**: Expert in **Windows, macOS, Linux** environments.
 - **Network Security & Monitoring**: Securing and monitoring networks to prevent cyber threats.
 - **Programming & Scripting**: Python, Bash, Java, Go, JavaScript, C++, Rust for security automation.
 - **Cloud Security**: Experience with **AWS, Azure, Google Cloud** security practices.
 - **Incident Response & Digital Forensics**: Investigating cyber threats and security breaches.
 - **Regulatory Compliance**: Knowledge of **ISO 27001, GDPR**, and risk assessments.
 - **Version Control & DevOps**: Skilled in **Git, CI/CD, Docker, Kubernetes, Terraform**.
 - **Threat Intelligence & Cyber Risk Analysis**: Identifying and mitigating security threats.
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Professional Experience

Penetration Tester

SecureTech Solutions, Liverpool | Jan 2021 – Dec 2023

- Conducted **penetration tests** on web applications, networks, and cloud environments.
- Analyzed **network traffic** using Wireshark to detect anomalies and threats.
- Identified and exploited **security vulnerabilities** using tools like **Burp Suite, Nmap, Metasploit**.
- Simulated **real-world cyber attacks** to strengthen security postures.
- Ensured compliance with **ISO 27001, GDPR, and industry security standards**.

Senior Software Engineer (Security Focus)

Club L London, Manchester | Jan 2023 – Present

- Developed **secure backend systems** using **Node.js and MongoDB**.
- Implemented **security best practices** to protect against **XSS, SQL injection, and other threats**.
- Conducted **threat modelling and security risk assessments**.
- Built **custom API security layers** to prevent unauthorized access.
- Integrated **real-time performance monitoring** for detecting security anomalies.

Cyber Security & AI Consultant

Freelancer.com, Liverpool | Jan 2020 – Present

- Developed an **AI-driven security system** to block malicious web traffic.
- Conducted **digital forensics investigations** using Python and machine learning.
- Created **automated security scripts** to scan and monitor logs for intrusions.
- Advised clients on **cybersecurity strategies and risk mitigation**.

Software Engineer & Network Security Specialist

Tornado, Liverpool | Jan 2019 – Dec 2021

- Designed **custom CRM systems** with **secure authentication & data encryption**.
 - Monitored **network traffic** to identify potential security breaches.
 - Developed **firewalls and intrusion detection systems**.
 - Implemented **CI/CD security measures** to protect code integrity.
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Education & Certifications

Bachelor of Science (BSc) in Computer Science

Liverpool Hope University | 2018 – 2021

- **First-Class Honours** | Specialised in **Cyber Security, Networking, Ethical Hacking**
- Dissertation: *"Beyond the Fingerprint: Merging Humans with Machines"*

Certifications

- **CompTIA Security+ (In Progress)**
- **Certified Ethical Hacker (CEH) (In Progress)**
- **Offensive Security Certified Professional (OSCP) (Planned)**
- **AWS Certified Security – Specialty (Planned)**

Technical Skills

- **Programming:** Python, Bash, Java, JavaScript, Go, Rust, C++, C#, Ruby, Swift, PHP, Kotlin
- **Security Tools:** Burp Suite, Nmap, Metasploit, John the Ripper, Wireshark, Nessus
- **Operating Systems:** Windows, macOS, Linux
- **Networking:** TCP/IP, VPN, Firewalls, DNS, Network Penetration Testing
- **Cloud Security:** AWS, Azure, Google Cloud
- **DevOps & CI/CD:** Docker, Kubernetes, GitLab CI/CD, Ansible, Terraform
- **Databases:** MySQL, PostgreSQL, MongoDB, Redis, Firebase, PostgreSQL, PHPMyAdmin, SQLite
- **Version Control:** Git, GitHub, GitLab, Bitbucket
- **Threat Intelligence:** Threat Modeling, Cyber Risk Analysis, Vulnerability Assessment
- **Incident Response:** Digital Forensics, Threat Hunting, Incident Response Planning
- **Regulatory Compliance:** ISO 27001, GDPR, PCI DSS, HIPAA, NIST Cybersecurity Framework
- **Soft Skills:** Communication, Problem Solving, Teamwork, Adaptability, Time Management

Projects & Additional Experience

- **Developed a penetration testing report** outlining vulnerabilities and mitigation strategies: [GitHub Repo](#)
- **Created automated network monitoring scripts** to detect real-time threats.
- **Active in Capture the Flag (CTF) competitions**, refining penetration testing skills.
- **Conducted security awareness training** for software developers on secure coding practices.

References

Available upon request.