

Cloud DFIR class I

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<Figure 1> Cloud Environment Setup

Key Components

- 4 IAM Users: Users with varying access permissions are set up from the start of the scenario.
- 2 EC2 Instances: Virtual server instances are used to execute some of the tasks within the scenario.
- 2 Secrets Manager Secrets: These secrets store critical information, and the objective is to read these secrets without triggering detection mechanisms.

Detection Mechanisms: AWS services like CloudTrail, S3, and CloudWatch are included, monitoring and recording user activities.

Primary Objectives

Read the Values of Two Secrets: The goal is to read the values of two secrets stored in AWS Secrets Manager without triggering the detection mechanisms.

Setup and Strategy

Use a Temporary Email Address: It is recommended to use a temporary email address to receive notifications. This is necessary during the CloudGoat setup, and it helps verify whether detection mechanisms have been triggered by email notifications.

Wait After Deployment: There is a necessary waiting period of 30-60 minutes after AWS resources are fully deployed and integrated. This time is needed for CloudWatch alarms to fully integrate with



CloudTrail logs.

Considerations

Detection Evasion Strategy: A crucial part of this scenario is finding ways to circumvent detection mechanisms. Careful consideration of IAM user permissions, logging configurations, and the characteristics of API calls is required.

Possibility of Replay: The scenario is designed to be played and experimented with multiple times, allowing for testing various strategies. Learning from both failures and successes can lead to more effective methods of bypassing security mechanisms.

This scenario serves as part of cloud security training, aiding in developing the ability to understand and respond to security threats in real cloud environments. Additionally, it provides an opportunity to gain practical insights into potential security issues in real work environments and to understand the limitations and strengths of detection systems.

