Document of different Operating System:

Certain operating systems (OS) are specifically designed to meet security requirements or to offer surroundings and tools that are favourable to security duties when it comes to cybersecurity. The different types of cybersecurity operating systems are :

1. Penetration Testing and Ethical Hacking OS:

• Kali linux:

Overview: Kali Linux, a Debian-based system created by Offensive Security, is intended primarily for security audits and penetration testing.

Features: It comes with more than 600 pre-installed tools that cover topics including reporting, vulnerability assessment, information collection, and exploitation. Examples include the network scanning tool Nmap, the exploitation tool Metasploit, and the web application security testing tool Burp Suite.

Use: Perfect for ethical hackers and security experts that require a complete arsenal for evaluating and protecting systems.

• Parrot Security OS

Overview: Based on Debian, Parrot Security OS provides a secure environment for penetration testing, digital forensics, and privacy protection.

Features: Includes tools for network security, vulnerability assessment, and forensics, as well as features for anonymizing traffic, such as the Tor network. It is known for its lightweight design, making it suitable for older hardware.

Usage: Suitable for security experts looking for a balance between a full-featured toolkit and a lightweight OS.

BackBox

Overview: Ubuntu-based, BackBox focuses on providing a robust analysis toolkit for security assessments and vulnerability research.

Features: Includes tools for network analysis, vulnerability assessment, and forensic analysis. It also features a user-friendly interface and aims to streamline the security assessment process.

Usage: Good for security professionals who want a user-friendly environment with a solid set of tools for various security tasks.

2. Forensic OS

• CAINE (Computer Aided Investigative Environment)

Overview: CAINE is an Italian Linux distribution designed for digital forensics.

Features: Includes tools for evidence collection, data recovery, and forensic analysis. It integrates various forensic tools and provides a graphical user interface for easier navigation.

Usage: Useful for forensic investigators and analysts who need a comprehensive set of tools for conducting digital investigations.

• <u>DEFT Linux</u>

Overview: DEFT stands for Digital Evidence & Forensics Toolkit. It is tailored for digital forensics and incident response.

Features: Offers a wide array of tools for forensic analysis, data recovery, and incident response. It's designed to be easy to use and to support various forensic workflows.

Usage: Ideal for forensic professionals and incident responders who need a well-rounded toolkit for evidence handling and analysis.

3. Network Security OS

• Security Onion

Overview: Security Onion is a Linux distribution designed for network security monitoring and intrusion detection.

Features: Integrates multiple open-source security tools such as Suricata for IDS/IPS, Zeek (formerly Bro) for network analysis, and the Elastic Stack (Elasticsearch, Logstash, and Kibana) for log management and visualization.

Usage: Used by network security professionals for continuous monitoring and analysis of network traffic to detect and respond to threats.

• Snort

Overview: Snort is an open-source network intrusion detection system (NIDS) and intrusion prevention system (NIPS).

Features: While not an OS itself, Snort can be installed on various platforms. It uses signature-based detection to identify malicious activity and can be integrated with other tools for comprehensive network security.

Usage: Deployed on servers to monitor network traffic for suspicious activity and potential threats.

4. Specialized Security OS

• Qubes OS

Overview: Qubes OS is a privacy-focused Linux distribution that emphasizes security through virtualization.

Features: Utilizes Xen-based virtualization to compartmentalize applications and tasks into separate virtual machines (VMs), reducing the risk of a single compromised application affecting the entire system.

Usage: Ideal for users who need a high level of security and privacy, particularly in environments where compartmentalization is critical.

• Tails OS

Overview: Tails (The Amnesic Incognito Live System) is a live operating system designed to protect anonymity and privacy.

Features: Routes internet traffic through the Tor network and leaves no trace on the host system. It includes tools for encrypted communication and anonymous browsing.

Usage: Best for users who need to operate in high-security environments where privacy and anonymity are essential.

5. General-Purpose OS with Security Focus

• Windows Security Editions

Overview: Windows offers specialized editions like Windows 10 Pro for Workstations and Windows Server, which come with advanced security features.

Features: Includes Windows Defender Antivirus, BitLocker encryption, and advanced threat protection features like Windows Defender ATP. Windows Server editions offer additional tools for managing enterprise-level security.

Usage: Suitable for general-purpose use where security features need to be balanced with productivity and user experience.

macOS

Overview: macOS, developed by Apple, is known for its strong security features and user-friendly design.

Features: Includes built-in security features like Gatekeeper (app security), XProtect (malware detection), and FileVault (disk encryption). macOS is also known for its regular security updates. **Usage**: Good for users who require a secure operating environment with an emphasis on ease of use and integration with other Apple products.

6. Custom and Embedded Security OS

• OpenWrt

Overview: OpenWrt is a Linux-based firmware for routers and embedded devices.

Features: Provides advanced networking features, including customizable firewall rules, VPN support, and intrusion detection. It allows for the customization of network security settings. **Usage**: Ideal for securing home or small office network devices and for advanced users who need fine-grained control over network security.

• <u>Cor</u>eOS

Overview: CoreOS is a lightweight Linux distribution designed for containerized applications and automated updates.

Features: Focuses on security through minimal attack surfaces and automatic updates. It uses containers for application isolation, which enhances security.

Usage: Suitable for environments using containerized applications where minimizing the attack surface is crucial.

Each of these operating systems offers different tools, features, and focuses, catering to various aspects of cybersecurity, from penetration testing to network monitoring and digital forensics.