

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mTWeU4HtNj0>

Gui Panes

- Regedit
 - registry keys
- File Explorer
 - Filesystem
- Compmgmt.msc
 - Scheduled Tasks, Event Viewer, Shared Folders, and Local Users
- Services.msc
 - Services
- Control Panel
 - System Settings
- Task Manager
- Server Manager
 - Roles and Features
- Windows Security
- Gpedit.msc
 - Local GPOs

Registry (Regedit)

- Most configurations link back to a registry key
 - windows' internal database of configs
- Can be modified with CLI
 - Reg add
 - Set-ItemProperty
- Often also utilized by TAs for Methods of persistence
 - Way to solidify access

Filesystem

- Holds all data
 - Even the registry
- Paths to know:
 - C:\Windows\System32

- System binaries and libraries
- C:\Users
 - All user files
- C:\Program Files | C:\Program Files (x86) | C:\ProgramData
 - Application binaries, libs, and configuration files
- Highly configurable permissions
 - Big reason enterprises use windows in the first place

Computer Management

- Want to audit list of users against company
 - Delete/disable unauthorized
 - Set correct admins and other possible high priv groups
 - Make sure to document all the user you deleted because some injects require you to name the users you removed
- Review and remove unneeded shared folders
 - C\$ and in some cases ADMIN\$
- Check scheduled tasks for anomalies
 - Task set to trigger on boot
 - Tasks running unknown executables
- Use Event Viewer to troubleshoot issues and identify malicious activity
 - See event ID 4625 for failed login attempts
 - you can use this information to see which IP address is spamming the login and then you can block that IP
 - 7045 for service creation

Services

- Binaries (executables) designed to run in the background to serve some sort of OS or 3rd party functionality
 - Filezilla Server service - 3rd party FTP server
 - Bitlocker - Native drive encryption functionality
- Services are identified by one of two things:
 - Display name - simple to understand
 - World Wide Web Publishing Service
 - Service name - Shorter and used to refer to service internally
 - W3SVC
- Stop commonly exploited services
 - Printspooler
- Some attacks, initial access or privilege escalation, make use of temporary services to spawn a shell as the SYSTEM user

Control Panel

- Manage things like Firewall
 - Enable it, create rules to allow desired inbound (to services) and outbound (internet/dependencies) traffic
- Enable/Disable Remote Desktop
 - Disable if unused
- Enable User Account Control to a medium/high level
 - Runs processes with lower privs if possible, introduces popups that make you explicitly elevate to perform significant changes
- Manage network adapter properties
 - Might need to change things like your DNS server or default gateway to resolve issues

Processes (Task Manager)

- Processes originate from executable files
 - Apps
 - Discord
 - System Binaries
 - Winlogon - process that starts when a user log in
- Can create them and kill them (mostly)
- Types
 - App
 - Can be terminated by user
 - Background
 - No user interaction
 - i.e., how fast are fans spinning
 - Windows
 - System level and are auto launched

Task Manager Alternatives

- Tasklist or Get-Process
 - Cmd and powershell commands, can supply arguments for more info
- Process Hacker
 - Very thorough and detailed if desired
- Process Explorer
 - Color Coded, similar to process hacker, can scan all processes with virustotal
 - sysinternals.com
 - <https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/sysinternals/downloads/process-explorer>

Server Manager

- Only available on “Server” editions of windows
- Can allow you to manage parts of multiple servers at the same time
 - Not feature rich enough for this to be incredibly useful though
- Main purpose is having easy access to GUI panes
 - Can manage roles and features for server editions in this server manager
 - Roles and Features are optional add ons for the OS
 - IIS web server
 - Active Directory Domain Services (ADDS)
 - Microsoft Defender
 - On server editions, Microsoft Defender is considered a feature, therefore hackers may just uninstall it.

Defender

- installed by default on every OS except Server 2012
 - Can be uninstalled on Server editions through server manager
- Effectiveness depends on windows updates and OS
- Scan, Exclude, and Remediate malicious files
 - Newer defender has fancy capabilities like core isolation, attack surface reduction rules, exploit mitigations (DEP, ASLR, SEHOP, etc)

Gpedit

- Control IT and security specific OS policies
- Secpol
 - Windows Settings > Security Settings
 - Account Policies
 - Local Policies
- Group Policy Objects
 - Administrative Templates
 - Everything here is considered a GPO
- What exactly to set?
 - Look up stig for suggested configurations
 - disable auto run when plugging usb

Active Directory

Explanation

- Simply put, it's a way to centralize management of policies, computers, and users and store this data in a database

- How does your UH login work everywhere? (library, canvas, broncodirect)
 - Basically, what happens is that the computer we're logging our UH user into is domain joined, and because it's a part of the domain, you are logging into a domain user. The computer we use goes to the domain controller to see if you're logging into a valid user, if you are, only then your computer lets you log in.
- Forrest
 - A forest is just an overall cabinet containing multiple draws (domains)
- Domains are headed by machines designated as Domain Controllers (DC)
 - Member servers and workstations join the domain and are subject to management from the DC
- Within Domains you have objects
 - Organizational Units (OUs)
 - Groups
 - Users
 - Can log into every domain joined computer
 - Misc AD data
- Lightweight Directory Access Protocol (LDAP)
 - Query any and all information quickly
 - Can use any LDAP client
 - Dedicated programs
 - Internal Windows tools
 - Powershell

Domain Computer Management

- Know so far:
 - Login to any computer
 - Synced policies
 - But how?
- Deploy Policies via GPMC.msc
 - Default Domain Policy
 - Applies to all systems in the domain
 - Default Domain Controller Policy
 - Applies to all DCs

`gpupdate /force` = forces a group policy update on the domain joined computer

- WinRM (PS Remoting)
 - Enabled by default when you join a domain
 - It's how a lot of the behind the scenes management goes on
 - PS remoting lets us run powershell commands and scripts across the domain
 - The reason why windows team can be run by one person
 - Which also means it's what attackers are trying to get into

PS Remoting

- By default servers will only accept connections originating within the domain and from admin users
- WinRM is enabled by default but PS Remoting isn't
 - Enable-PSRemoting -force
- Example Commands
 - Invoke-Command -ScriptBlock {whoami} -ComputerName WEBSRV1
 - Enter-PSSession -ComputerName Server01
 - Interactive

Domain Names

- Domain Name System (DNS)
 - Attach words to IPs
 - User friendly
 - When IPs change, domain names stay the same but adjust to reflect the new IP
 - Good for avoiding hiccups with things like DHCP
- Dns.google -> 8.8.8.8
 - Server01.nebula.lan -> 192.168.1.25
- User UDP for queries
 - TCP used for other operations

Authentication

- 2 main ones, NTLM/NetNTLM and Kerberos
- NTLM/NetNTLM
 - NTLM is used locally on each machine to verify **local** users
 - NetNTLM is the **network** authentication protocol
 - **More prone to hacking**
- Kerberos
 - Uses the concept of tickets
 - Tickets have a lifetime (10 hours)
 - Derived from the user's password and the krbtgt account password
 - Analogous to the following situation
 - Show QRs code at the gate → get a wristband
 - Show wristband at booths to prove you're allowed to play → employee hands you balls
 - Throw the balls at the clowns → get prize
- Domain Account
 - Used by the server/ domain controller
- Local Account
 - Used by the local computer/ domain joined computer
 - On the domain joined computer, you can also log in using the domain account

Other Services

File Transfer Protocol (FTP)

- Port 21/TCP in and 20/tcp out for data
- Passive mode
 - Client side dictates which port to do the data transfer
- Protocol Implemented by Windows IIS and Filezilla Server
- FTP Clients natively exist on nearly every OS
 - Type `ftp` in CLI

Server Message Block (SMB)

- use it to move file
- Connect to filesystems on other computers
 - By default the entire C drive is share to administrators
- Some other fun APIs are exposed during SMB connections
 - Service control
 - Psexec
- Attackers use SMB to upload files
- Most popular method in getting access to a windows machine

Internet Information Services

- HTTP Web server built into Windows
 - Role you have to add
- Supports .Net(aspx) out of the box, PHP also configurable
- Very plain and boring out of the box

XAMPP

- Package installer
- Open source
- Packaged installation of parts of a web framework
- Apache serving HTTP
- MySQL hosting database
- Filezilla for FTP
- Tomcat is Apache but in java so worse

Content Management System (CMS)

- Actual apps that run on the framework
 - Wordpress (Blogs), OpenCart (Ecommerce sites), Drupal (General Management System), MediaWiki (Wiki)
 - All setup and work the same
 - HTTP - host the actual files allowing network access
 - Apache or IIS
 - Scripting Engine- Processes logic and renders content on HTTP pages
 - PHP
 - Database - contains all site data like posts, users, etc
 - MySQL
1. Put CMS file in webroot
 2. Setup database in MySQL
 3. Configure db cre