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CompTIA PT0-003 Exam Syllabus Topics:

Topic	Details

Topic 1	• Reconnaissance and Enumeration: This topic focuses on applying information gathering and enumeration techniques. Cybersecurity analysts will learn how to modify scripts for reconnaissance and enumeration purposes. They will also understand which tools to use for these stages, essential for gathering crucial information before performing deeper penetration tests.
Topic 2	• Engagement Management: In this topic, cybersecurity analysts learn about pre-engagement activities, collaboration, and communication in a penetration testing environment. The topic covers testing frameworks, methodologies, and penetration test reports. It also explains how to analyze findings and recommend remediation effectively within reports, crucial for real-world testing scenarios.
Topic 3	• Post-exploitation and Lateral Movement: Cybersecurity analysts will gain skills in establishing and maintaining persistence within a system. This topic also covers lateral movement within an environment and introduces concepts of staging and exfiltration. Lastly, it highlights cleanup and restoration activities, ensuring analysts understand the post-exploitation phase's responsibilities.
Topic 4	• Attacks and Exploits: This extensive topic trains cybersecurity analysts to analyze data and prioritize attacks. Analysts will learn how to conduct network, authentication, host-based, web application, cloud, wireless, and social engineering attacks using appropriate tools. Understanding specialized systems and automating attacks with scripting will also be emphasized.
Topic 5	• Vulnerability Discovery and Analysis: In this section, cybersecurity analysts will learn various techniques to discover vulnerabilities. Analysts will also analyze data from reconnaissance, scanning, and enumeration phases to identify threats. Additionally, it covers physical security concepts, enabling analysts to understand security gaps beyond just the digital landscape.

CompTIA PenTest+ Exam Sample Questions (Q241-Q246):

NEW QUESTION # 241
During an assessment, a penetration tester obtains a low-privilege shell and then runs the following command:
findstr /SIM /C:"pass" *.txt *.cfg *.xml
Which of the following is the penetration tester trying to enumerate?

- A. Permissions
- B. Secrets
- C. Configuration files
- D. Virtual hosts

Answer: B

Explanation:
By running the command findstr /SIM /C:"pass" *.txt *.cfg *.xml, the penetration tester is trying to enumerate secrets.
Explanation:
* Command Analysis:
* findstr: A command-line utility in Windows used to search for specific strings in files.
* /SIM: Combination of options; /S searches for matching files in the current directory and all subdirectories, /I specifies a case-insensitive search, and /M prints only the filenames with matching content.
* /C:"pass": Searches for the literal string "pass".
* ***.txt .cfg .xml: Specifies the file types to search within.
* Objective:
* The command is searching for the string "pass" within .txt, .cfg, and .xml files, which is indicative of searching for passwords or other sensitive information (secrets).
* These file types commonly contain configuration details, credentials, and other sensitive data that might include passwords or secrets.
* Other Options:
* Configuration files: While .cfg and .xml files can be configuration files, the specific search for "pass" indicates looking for secrets like passwords.
* Permissions: This command does not check or enumerate file permissions.
* Virtual hosts: This command is not related to enumerating virtual hosts.

Pentest References:
* Post-Exploitation: Enumerating sensitive information like passwords is a common post-exploitation activity after gaining initial access.
* Credential Discovery: Searching for stored credentials within configuration files and documents to escalate privileges or move laterally within the network.
By running this command, the penetration tester aims to find stored passwords or other secrets that could help in further exploitation of the target system.

NEW QUESTION # 242
During a penetration test, the tester gains full access to the application's source code. The application repository includes thousands of code files. Given that the assessment timeline is very short, which of the following approaches would allow the tester to identify hard-coded credentials most effectively?

- A. Run TruffleHog against a local clone of the application
- B. Scan the live web application using Nikto
- C. Perform a manual code review of the Git repository
- D. Use SCA software to scan the application source code

Answer: A

Explanation:
Given a short assessment timeline and the need to identify hard-coded credentials in a large codebase, using an automated tool designed for this specific purpose is the most effective approach. Here's an explanation of each option:
* Run TruffleHog against a local clone of the application (answer: A):
* Explanation: TruffleHog is a specialized tool that scans for hard-coded secrets such as passwords, API keys, and other sensitive data within the code repositories.
* Effectiveness: It quickly and automatically identifies potential credentials and other sensitive information across thousands of files, making it the most efficient choice under time constraints.
* References:
* TruffleHog is widely recognized for its ability to uncover hidden secrets in code repositories, making it a valuable tool for penetration testers.
* Scan the live web application using Nikto (Option B):
* Explanation: Nikto is a web server scanner that identifies vulnerabilities in web applications.
* Drawbacks: It is not designed to scan source code for hard-coded credentials. Instead, it focuses on web application vulnerabilities such as outdated software and misconfigurations.
* Perform a manual code review of the Git repository (Option C):
* Explanation: Manually reviewing code can be thorough but is extremely time-consuming, especially with thousands of files.
* Drawbacks: Given the short timeline, this approach is impractical and inefficient for identifying hard-coded credentials quickly.
* Use SCA software to scan the application source code (Option D):
* Explanation: Software Composition Analysis (SCA) tools are used to analyze open source and third-party components within the code for vulnerabilities and license compliance.
* Drawbacks: While SCA tools are useful for dependency analysis, they are not specifically tailored for finding hard-coded credentials.
Conclusion: Running TruffleHog against a local clone of the application is the most effective approach for quickly identifying hard-coded credentials in a large codebase within a limited timeframe.

NEW QUESTION # 243
During a security assessment, a penetration tester needs to exploit a vulnerability in a wireless network's authentication mechanism to gain unauthorized access to the network. Which of the following attacks would the tester most likely perform to gain access?

- A. Beacon flooding
- B. Eavesdropping
- C. KARMA attack
- D. MAC address spoofing

Answer: D

Explanation:
MAC address spoofing involves changing the MAC address of a network interface to mimic another device on the network. This

technique is often used to bypass network access controls and gain unauthorized access to a network.
* Understanding MAC Address Spoofing:
* MAC Address: A unique identifier assigned to network interfaces for communication on the physical network segment.
* Spoofing: Changing the MAC address to a different one, typically that of an authorized device, to gain access to restricted networks.
* Purpose:
* Bypassing Access Controls: Gain access to networks that use MAC address filtering as a security measure.
* Impersonation: Assume the identity of another device on the network to intercept traffic or access network resources.
* Tools and Techniques:
* Linux Command: Use the ifconfig or ip command to change the MAC address.
Step-by-Step Explanationifconfig eth0 hw ether 00:11:22:33:44:55
* Tools: Tools like macchanger can automate the process of changing MAC addresses.
* Impact:
* Network Access: Gain unauthorized access to networks and network resources.
* Interception: Capture traffic intended for another device, potentially leading to data theft or further exploitation.
* Detection and Mitigation:
* Monitoring: Use network monitoring tools to detect changes in MAC addresses.
* Secure Configuration: Implement port security on switches to restrict which MAC addresses can connect to specific ports.
* References from Pentesting Literature:
* MAC address spoofing is a common technique discussed in wireless and network security chapters of penetration testing guides.
* HTB write-ups often include examples of using MAC address spoofing to bypass network access controls and gain unauthorized access.
References:
* Penetration Testing - A Hands-on Introduction to Hacking
* HTB Official Writeups
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NEW QUESTION # 244
A penetration tester finishes a security scan and uncovers numerous vulnerabilities on several hosts. Based on the targets' EPSS (Exploit Prediction Scoring System) and CVSS (Common Vulnerability Scoring System) scores, which of the following targets is the most likely to get attacked?

- A. Target 3: EPSS Score = 0.6, CVSS Score = 1
- B. Target 1: EPSS Score = 0.6, CVSS Score = 4
- C. Target 4: EPSS Score = 0.4, CVSS Score = 4.5
- D. Target 2: EPSS Score = 0.3, CVSS Score = 2

Answer: B

Explanation:
The EPSS (Exploit Prediction Scoring System) estimates how likely a vulnerability is to be exploited. Higher EPSS scores indicate a higher likelihood of exploitation.
* Option A (Target 1) #:
* EPSS 0.6 (60% chance of exploitation)
* CVSS 4 (Medium severity)
* # Best candidate since it has the highest likelihood of exploitation.
* Option B (Target 2) #: EPSS 0.3 (30%) is lower, making it less likely to be attacked.
* Option C (Target 3) #: EPSS 0.6 is high, but CVSS 1 is very low, meaning the vulnerability is not critical.
* Option D (Target 4) #: CVSS 4.5 is higher, but EPSS 0.4 is lower, meaning attackers are less likely to exploit it.
# Reference: CompTIA PenTest+ PT0-003 Official Guide - Vulnerability Prioritization with EPSS & CVSS

NEW QUESTION # 245
A penetration tester who is conducting a vulnerability assessment discovers that ICMP is disabled on a network segment. Which of the following could be used for a denial-of-service attack on the network segment?

- A. Smurf
- B. Ping of death

- C. Fraggle
- D. Ping flood

Answer: C

Explanation:
Fraggle attack is same as a Smurf attack but rather than ICMP, UDP protocol is used. The prevention of these attacks is almost identical to Fraggle attack.
Ref: https://www.okta.com/identity-101/fraggle-attack/

NEW QUESTION # 246
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