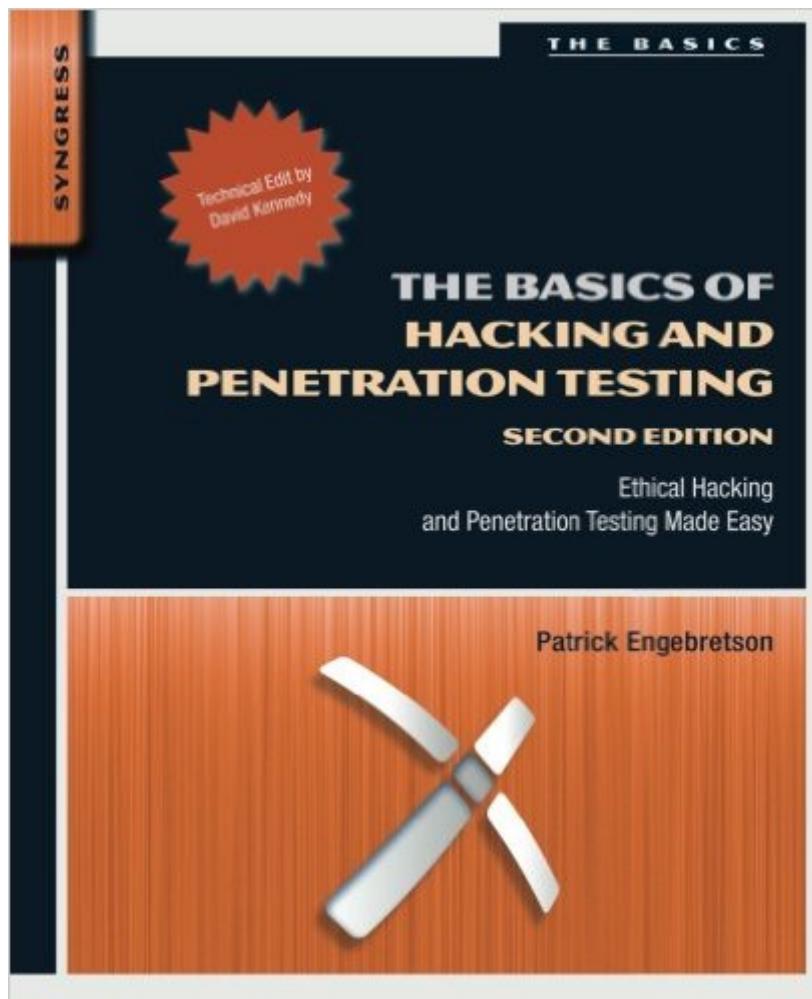


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The Basics Of Hacking And Penetration Testing, Second Edition: Ethical Hacking And Penetration Testing Made Easy



Synopsis

The Basics of Hacking and Penetration Testing, 2nd Ed. serves as an introduction to the steps required to complete a penetration test or perform an ethical hack from beginning to end. No prior hacking experience is needed. You will learn how to properly utilize and interpret the results of modern day hacking tools, which are required to complete a penetration test. Tool coverage includes Backtrack and Kali Linux, Google reconnaissance, MetaGooFil, DNS interrogation, Nmap, Nessus, Metasploit, the Social Engineer Toolkit (SET) , w3af, Netcat, post exploitation tactics, the Hacker Defender rootkit, and more. The book provides a simple and clean explanation of how to effectively utilize the tools and introduces a four-step methodology for conducting a penetration test or hack. You will be provided with the know-how required to jump start your career or gain a better understanding of offensive security. The book walks through each of the steps and tools in a structured, orderly manner, allowing readers to understand how the output from each tool can be fully utilized in the subsequent phases of the penetration test. This process allows readers to clearly see how the tools and phases function and relate. The second edition includes updated information covering Kali Linux as well as focusing on the seminal tools required to complete a penetration test. New tools added including the Social Engineer Toolkit, Meterpreter, w3af and more! Each chapter contains hands-on examples and exercises that are designed to teach you how to interpret the results and utilize those results in later phases. Written by an author who works in the field as a Penetration Tester and who teaches Offensive Security, Penetration Testing, and Ethical Hacking, and Exploitation classes at Dakota State University

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Customer Reviews

The book is very readable compared to other technical books. The writer is clearly a teacher who understands how to keep a reader's attention while providing useful, real world information. As of now, this book seems very up-to-date. It was published recently and has what I have read in other resources are commonly used tools in the industry. I read the whole book and took copious notes due to my upcoming certification tests and interest in hacking. I used the tools in at least the 1st half of the book. I will update this review once I use the tools listed in the 2nd half of the book. As the book recommended, I downloaded Oracle VMWare, Kali-Linux and Metasploitable. Don't be intimidated by these tasks -> Oracle VMWare is a piece of cake to install, and booting up two machines with Kali (which is the attacking machine) and Metasploitable (the woefully unprotected target machine) are pretty simple, too. All of these products are free. Preparing this test bed is your key to understanding and enjoying much of the material in this book. It also allows you to 'own' a system pretty simply, so you can get a feel for the core tasks in hacking. As an example of success using tools and instructions in this book, I used nmap, a scanner, from the Kali virtual machine against the Metasploitable virtual machine, determined a vulnerability and associated exploit, and built and executed it using Metasploit, an exploit development and delivery platform. I consider this my first hack, and although it was made a breeze to do for the sake of learning as quickly as possible, I am still proud!!!

Yes, Kali Linux is the follow-up release of "Backtrack R3" from 2012, while Kali was released in ~March of 2013. Which is why you won't hear much about Backtrack, since it is now Kali. Sounds like a misinformed script kiddie who places more weight on tools than on knowledge which will get him far.... considering that this specific topic (Backtrack R3 -> Kali) is a fairly well-known fact and can be located in Google very easily. So anyone reading the initial reviewer's comment, please do not be swayed by his lack of knowledge. This is a great book that will help put you on the right track, but that track is a lot more than simply learning how to "use a tool" or running "a fill in the blank" scan, and clicking magic button. A novice approach such as what one would likely conclude from the original reviewer's lack of highly available knowledge in the field will only serve you problems should you get caught. You should always work on your own equipment and labs and/or with written and explicit authorization of the equipment of others specific to the scope of what activities will be

taken. If you are serious about learning and actually entering in to the field; be forewarned it is massive and daunting, however, if you take it one step at a time and get a broad overview of the landscape first, you can begin to layout and map your path with regards to the various topics you will want to learn in the most logical manner possible. While I am far from "experienced" myself, it is a rewarding field that will likely become exponentially more rewarding and important with the growing array of expansive impacts to fields that have largely not been synonymous with Network or Information Security.

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