

Social Engineering Penetration Testing: Executing Social Engineering Pen Tests, Assessments and Defense

Gavin Watson, Andrew Mason, Richard Ackroyd



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Social engineering attacks target the weakest link in an organization's security-human beings. Everyone knows these attacks are effective, and everyone knows they are on the rise. Now, *Social Engineering Penetration Testing* gives you the practical methodology and everything you need to plan and execute a social engineering penetration test and assessment. You will gain fascinating insights into how social engineering techniques-including email phishing, telephone pretexting, and physical vectors- can be used to elicit information or manipulate individuals into performing actions that may aid in an attack. Using the book's easy-to-understand models and examples, you will have a much better understanding of how best to defend against these attacks.

The authors of *Social Engineering Penetration Testing* show you hands-on techniques they have used at RandomStorm to provide clients with valuable results that make a real difference to the security of their businesses. You will learn about the differences between social engineering pen tests lasting anywhere from a few days to several months. The book shows you how to use widely available open-source tools to conduct your pen tests, then walks you through the practical steps to improve defense measures in response to test results.

- Understand how to plan and execute an effective social engineering assessment
- Learn how to configure and use the open-source tools available for the social engineer
- Identify parts of an assessment that will most benefit time-critical engagements
- Learn how to design target scenarios, create plausible attack situations, and support various attack vectors with technology
- Create an assessment report, then improve defense measures in response to test results

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