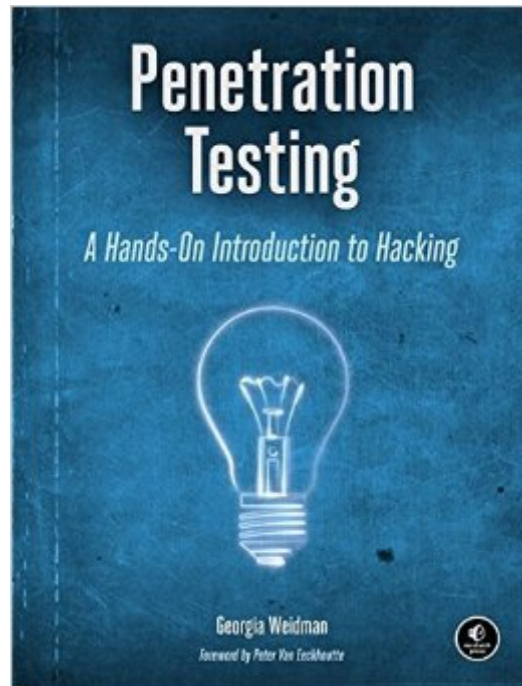


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# Penetration Testing: A Hands-On Introduction To Hacking



## Synopsis

Penetration testers simulate cyber attacks to find security weaknesses in networks, operating systems, and applications. Information security experts worldwide use penetration techniques to evaluate enterprise defenses. In *Penetration Testing*, security expert, researcher, and trainer Georgia Weidman introduces you to the core skills and techniques that every pentester needs. Using a virtual machine-based lab that includes Kali Linux and vulnerable operating systems, you'll run through a series of practical lessons with tools like Wireshark, Nmap, and Burp Suite. As you follow along with the labs and launch attacks, you'll experience the key stages of an actual assessment - including information gathering, finding exploitable vulnerabilities, gaining access to systems, post exploitation, and more. Learn how to:

- Crack passwords and wireless network keys with brute-forcing and wordlists
- Test web applications for vulnerabilities
- Use the Metasploit Framework to launch exploits and write your own Metasploit modules
- Automate social-engineering attacks
- Bypass antivirus software
- Turn access to one machine into total control of the enterprise in the post exploitation phase

You'll even explore writing your own exploits. Then it's on to mobile hacking - Weidman's particular area of research - with her tool, the Smartphone Pentest Framework. With its collection of hands-on lessons that cover key tools and strategies, *Penetration Testing* is the introduction that every aspiring hacker needs.

## Book Information

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georgia-weidman-founder-of-bulb-security/A Book Review of "Penetration Testing: A Hands-On Introduction to Hacking" • In June of 2014 No Starch Press published "Penetration Testing: A Hands-On Introduction to Hacking" • by security trainer and researcher Georgia Weidman (@georgiaweidman). Although the book has been categorized as an introductory guide to penetration testing, the information should also benefit more seasoned individuals as well. Wikipedia defines penetration testing as "an attack on a computer system with the intention of finding security weaknesses, potentially gaining access to it, its functionality and data." • The book provides a blue print that can be used by information security practitioners who are tasked in ensuring an organization's security posture as well as checking to confirm if employees are abiding to the security policies that are in place. Moreover, as an educator, I quickly realized the practical usefulness of "Penetration Testing: A Hands-On Introduction to Hacking" • would serve in a classroom and lab environment. The table of contents represents an orderly and organized method to learning the material in the book. The book begins with an introduction, a very informative section titled "Penetration Testing Primer" • that laid out the purpose of the book and builds to more advance concepts and practices in later chapters. The body of the book consists of five parts, twenty well-written chapters as well as a resource and index section. Each chapter in the book ends with a chapter summary recapping the main topics.

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