recon ng cheat sheet

Recon NG Cheat Sheet: Mastering Reconnaissance with Ease

recon ng cheat sheet is an invaluable resource for cybersecurity professionals, ethical hackers, and penetration testers who want to streamline their reconnaissance process. Reconnaissance is a critical phase in any penetration test or security assessment, as it involves gathering as much information as possible about the target to identify potential vulnerabilities. Recon NG, a powerful open-source reconnaissance framework, makes this task more efficient by automating data collection and analysis. In this article, we'll explore a comprehensive recon ng cheat sheet that will help you harness the full potential of this tool and enhance your OSINT (Open-Source Intelligence) capabilities.

What is Recon NG and Why Use a Cheat Sheet?

Recon NG is a modular framework designed for web reconnaissance. It provides a command-line interface that allows users to easily manage and execute various information-gathering modules, much like Metasploit does for exploitation. It supports integration with multiple APIs and databases, helping users collect data about domains, IPs, emails, and much more.

A recon ng cheat sheet serves as a quick reference guide to commands, modules, and workflows within Recon NG. Given the framework's extensive functionality and the abundance of modules, having a cheat sheet at your fingertips helps you avoid the learning curve and perform reconnaissance tasks more efficiently.

Getting Started with Recon NG

Before diving into the cheat sheet, it's important to understand the basic workflow of Recon NG:

- 1. **Initializing a workspace:** Workspaces isolate your projects and make it easier to manage data related to specific targets.
- 2. **Adding domains or targets:** You define the scope of your reconnaissance by adding domains or IPs.
- 3. **Running reconnaissance modules:** Modules perform various information gathering tasks such as DNS enumeration, WHOIS lookups, social media profiling, and more.
- 4. **Reviewing and exporting data:** The framework allows you to analyze the data and export reports.

Basic Commands Cheat Sheet

Here's a quick rundown of some essential Recon NG commands that every user should know:

- workspaces Lists all existing workspaces.
- workspace create [name] Creates a new workspace with the specified name.
- workspace select [name] Switches to the specified workspace.
- add domains [domain] Adds a domain to the current workspace.
- show domains Displays all domains added to the workspace.
- use [module] Loads a reconnaissance module.
- info Shows detailed information about the loaded module.
- options Lists configurable options for the current module.
- set [option] [value] Sets a module option (e.g., setting API keys or target domain).
- run Executes the loaded module.
- show hosts Lists discovered hosts.
- show creds Displays any collected credentials.
- export [format] [filename] Exports collected data in various formats like CSV, JSON, or HTML.

Popular Recon NG Modules and How to Use Them

The power of Recon NG lies in its modular design. Here are some of the most widely used modules that you'll find essential in your reconnaissance workflow.

DNS Enumeration Modules

DNS reconnaissance is foundational in mapping the target's network infrastructure.

- recon/domains-hosts/bing_domain_web Uses Bing search engine to discover hosts related to the domain.
- recon/domains-hosts/google_site_web Leverages Google search queries to find subdomains and hosts.
- recon/domains-hosts/brute_hosts Performs brute-force subdomain enumeration based on a wordlist.

Using these modules helps uncover subdomains, IP addresses, and hostnames that might not be immediately visible, expanding your attack surface.

WHOIS and IP Information Modules

Understanding ownership and network details is crucial for social engineering and further exploitation.

- recon/netblocks-companies/whois_pocs Retrieves points of contact from WHOIS data.
- recon/netblocks-hosts/netcraft Queries Netcraft's database for hosting information.
- recon/domains-hosts/shodan_hostname Uses Shodan API to identify internet-connected devices associated with a hostname.

Social Media and Email Recon Modules

Many attacks start with gathering email addresses or social profiles.

- recon/contacts-credentials/facebook_contacts Extracts Facebook contacts related to a domain.
- recon/contacts-credentials/google_contacts Gathers contacts from Google services.
- recon/contacts-credentials/theharvester_email Uses TheHarvester tool to find email addresses linked to a domain.

Tips for Maximizing Efficiency with Your Recon NG Cheat Sheet

Using a recon ng cheat sheet effectively is more than just memorizing commands. Here are some practical tips to enhance your reconnaissance:

Customize Your Workspaces

Always create a new workspace for each target. This keeps your data organized and prevents cross-contamination between projects. Your recon ng cheat sheet should remind you of the commands to create and switch between workspaces quickly.

Leverage API Integrations

Recon NG supports many APIs such as Shodan, Censys, Google, and more. Set your API keys early using the keys add command to unlock powerful data sources. Your cheat sheet can list common APIs and their configuration commands.

Chain Modules for Comprehensive Recon

Don't rely on a single module. Use your cheat sheet to plan sequences of modules that complement each other—for example, start with domain enumeration, then WHOIS lookups, followed by gathering social media data.

Export and Analyze Data Outside Recon NG

Recon NG allows exporting data into multiple formats. Use your cheat sheet to remember export commands so you can analyze the collected intelligence in spreadsheets or other tools, facilitating better reporting and decision-making.

Advanced Recon NG Commands and Techniques

Once you're comfortable with the basics, it's time to dive deeper into some advanced commands and workflows that a recon ng cheat sheet should include.

Using the API Key Manager

To add API keys:

keys add [service] [apikey]

For example, to add a Shodan API key:

keys add shodan YOUR_SHODAN_API_KEY

You can view stored keys with:

```
keys list
```

This functionality is essential for unlocking the full potential of Recon NG modules tied to third-party services.

Automating Recon with Scripts

Recon NG can be scripted to automate repetitive tasks. Including common script snippets in your cheat sheet lets you kickstart reconnaissance faster.

Example script to run multiple modules:

```
use recon/domains-hosts/bing_domain_web
set SOURCE example.com
run

use recon/domains-hosts/google_site_web
set SOURCE example.com
run
```

This saves time and ensures consistency.

Database Management

Recon NG stores gathered data in a local SQLite database. You can query this database directly or use built-in commands like:

show all

to review all collected data.

Integrating Recon NG With Other Tools

Recon NG doesn't need to work in isolation. It integrates well with other popular OSINT tools and penetration testing frameworks.

The Harvester and Recon NG

While Recon NG has modules inspired by TheHarvester, running both tools can provide complementary data on emails and subdomains.

Metasploit and Recon NG

Recon NG's modular approach is similar to Metasploit, and you can export discovered hosts and credentials to Metasploit for exploitation, streamlining your penetration testing workflow.

Using Recon NG with Burp Suite

After gathering domain and host information, importing this data into Burp Suite allows for targeted web application testing.

Final Thoughts on Using a Recon NG Cheat Sheet

A well-structured recon ng cheat sheet is more than just a list of commands; it's a roadmap to efficient and effective reconnaissance. It helps you stay organized, leverage the full power of Recon NG's modules, and integrate gathered intelligence into your broader security workflow. Whether you're a beginner or an experienced penetration tester, keeping a cheat sheet handy can significantly speed up your OSINT gathering and improve the quality of your assessments.

As you get more comfortable, consider customizing your cheat sheet to include your favorite modules, personal notes on API keys, and even automation scripts tailored to your typical targets. Recon NG's flexibility combined with a solid cheat sheet will empower you to uncover security weaknesses that others might miss.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is Recon-ng and how is it used?

Recon-ng is an open-source reconnaissance framework written in Python, used by penetration testers and security researchers to gather information about targets efficiently through automated modules.

Where can I find a reliable Recon-ng cheat sheet?

Reliable Recon-ng cheat sheets can be found on GitHub repositories, cybersecurity blogs, and platforms like GitLab or Medium, often maintained by security professionals and enthusiasts.

What are some essential Recon-ng commands to include in a cheat sheet?

Essential commands include 'workspace' to manage projects, 'modules search' to find modules, 'modules load' to load a module, 'options set' to configure module parameters, 'run' to execute modules, and 'show hosts' or 'show contacts' to view gathered data.

How does a Recon-ng cheat sheet help in penetration testing?

A cheat sheet provides quick command references and module usage tips, enabling penetration testers to efficiently perform reconnaissance without having to remember complex commands or look up documentation frequently.

Can Recon-ng cheat sheets be customized for specific reconnaissance tasks?

Yes, cheat sheets can be customized to focus on specific reconnaissance tasks such as domain enumeration, social media profiling, or API integrations depending on the penetration tester's needs.

Are there any graphical user interfaces (GUIs) for Recon-ng or is it command-line only?

Recon-ng primarily operates as a command-line tool and does not have an official GUI, but some third-party tools or integrations may offer GUI-like features for easier usage.

How often should a Recon-ng cheat sheet be updated?

A Recon-ng cheat sheet should be updated regularly to incorporate new modules, commands, and changes in the framework, ideally aligning with official Recon-ng releases or community updates.

Additional Resources

Recon NG Cheat Sheet: A Professional Guide to Mastering Reconnaissance Frameworks

recon ng cheat sheet serves as an essential resource for cybersecurity professionals, penetration testers, and ethical hackers who seek to optimize their reconnaissance efforts using the Recon NG framework. As a powerful, modular reconnaissance tool written in Python, Recon NG offers an extensible platform for gathering intelligence during the initial phases of security assessments. This article delves into the nuances of the recon ng cheat sheet, exploring its features, commands, modules, and best practices to elevate reconnaissance workflows in a competitive cybersecurity landscape.

Understanding Recon NG and Its Role in Reconnaissance

Recon NG is an open-source reconnaissance framework designed to streamline and automate the process of open-source intelligence (OSINT) gathering. Unlike traditional reconnaissance scripts or standalone tools, Recon NG provides a comprehensive environment where users can load modules tailored for specific data sources, execute commands systematically, and export results efficiently. The modularity of Recon NG allows practitioners to customize their approach depending on the target, objectives, and available data.

The recon ng cheat sheet acts as a quick reference guide that consolidates frequently used commands, module descriptions, and workflow tips. For both novices and seasoned professionals, having a cheat sheet enhances operational speed and reduces the learning curve associated with the framework's command-line interface.

Key Features Highlighted in the Recon NG Cheat Sheet

The recon ng cheat sheet encapsulates several critical functionalities that define the framework's usefulness:

- Module Management: Commands to list, load, and configure modules for targeted reconnaissance.
- Workspace Handling: Features to create, switch, and manage workspaces, enabling organized data segregation per engagement.
- **Data Enumeration:** Tools for querying domain information, social media footprints, IP addresses, and more through integrated APIs.
- Reporting and Export: Options to export collected intelligence into various formats for documentation and sharing.

Understanding these features through a cheat sheet format accelerates the user's capability to conduct reconnaissance with precision.

Essential Commands from the Recon NG Cheat Sheet

Mastery of Recon NG commands is pivotal for leveraging its full potential. The cheat sheet typically categorizes commands into several groups: workspace commands, module commands, and data commands.

Workspace Commands

Workspaces in Recon NG isolate data to prevent cross-contamination between different assessments. Common workspace commands include:

- workspaces Lists all existing workspaces.
- workspace create <name> Creates a new workspace for a specific target.
- workspace select <name> Switches the current session to the specified workspace.

• workspace delete <name> — Removes a workspace and its associated data.

Efficient workspace management ensures organized data collection and retrieval during multi-target operations.

Module Commands

Recon NG's power lies in its extensive module library. The cheat sheet emphasizes commands such as:

- modules search <keyword> Searches for modules matching a keyword.
- modules load <module_name> Loads a module into the current session for execution.
- show info Displays detailed information about the loaded module, including its options and description.
- set <option> <value> Configures module-specific options like API keys or target parameters.
- run Executes the loaded module with the configured options.

The cheat sheet not only lists these commands but often includes examples, aiding users in applying modules effectively for tasks such as domain enumeration, WHOIS lookups, or social media data extraction.

Data Commands

Post-execution, managing the collected data is crucial. Commands related to data handling include:

- show hosts Displays hosts discovered during enumeration.
- show contacts Lists contact information gathered.
- show domains Outputs domain names found in the reconnaissance process.
- export <format> <filename> Exports data into formats such as CSV, JSON, or XML.

These commands support analysts in reviewing findings and integrating output into broader security reports.

Recon NG Cheat Sheet in Practical Reconnaissance Scenarios

Beyond mere command recall, the recon ng cheat sheet serves as an operational playbook during live assessments. For example, when conducting a reconnaissance on a new client's web infrastructure, an analyst might:

- 1. Create a dedicated workspace: workspace create clientX
- 2. Load domain reconnaissance modules: modules load recon/domains-hosts/bing domain web
- Set target domain: set SOURCE clientx.com
- 4. Run the module to gather domain data.
- 5. Use social media modules to collect associated profiles.
- 6. Export findings for further analysis and documentation.

This structured approach, supported by the cheat sheet's concise command references, improves efficiency and reduces operational errors.

Comparing Recon NG with Other Reconnaissance Tools

While tools like Nmap, Maltego, or the Harvester offer valuable reconnaissance features, Recon NG stands out due to its modular architecture and extensibility. Unlike static tools, Recon NG allows users to write or integrate custom modules, adapting to evolving intelligence requirements.

The cheat sheet complements this flexibility by offering a quick command repository that can be adapted for custom modules, which is less common in other tools. However, the learning curve for Recon NG can be steeper compared to GUI-based tools, making the cheat sheet an invaluable asset for newcomers.

Best Practices for Using the Recon NG Cheat Sheet Effectively

To maximize the benefits of a recon ng cheat sheet, users should consider the following strategies:

• **Regular Updates:** Recon NG undergoes frequent updates; ensure the cheat sheet reflects current commands and modules.

- **Contextual Use:** Use the cheat sheet as a guide rather than a script, adapting commands to the specific engagement context.
- **Integration with Other Tools:** Combine Recon NG outputs with other analysis platforms for comprehensive intelligence.
- **Documentation:** Maintain notes on module performance and results to refine future reconnaissance techniques.

By embedding the recon ng cheat sheet into routine workflows, reconnaissance professionals can enhance their productivity and accuracy.

Recon NG's evolving ecosystem benefits greatly from community contributions, and cheat sheets often reflect collective insights that improve usability. Whether for initial learning or advanced operations, a well-structured recon ng cheat sheet remains a cornerstone resource within the OSINT and penetration testing communities.

Recon Ng Cheat Sheet

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education in security is useful, but not required. This title is suitable for people with at least two years of experience in development, network management, or DevOps, or with an established interest in security.

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Mohit., Cameron Buchanan, Terry Ip, Andrew Mabbitt, Benjamin May, Dave Mound, 2016-10-21 Unleash the power of Python scripting to execute effective and efficient penetration tests About This Book Sharpen your pentesting skills with Python Develop your fluency with Python to write sharper scripts for rigorous security testing Get stuck into some of the most powerful tools in the security world Who This Book Is For If you are a Python programmer or a security researcher who has basic knowledge of Python programming and wants to learn about penetration testing with the help of Python, this course is ideal for you. Even if you are new to the field of ethical hacking, this course can help you find the vulnerabilities in your system so that you are ready to tackle any kind of attack or intrusion. What You Will Learn Familiarize yourself with the generation of Metasploit resource files and use the Metasploit Remote Procedure Call to automate exploit generation and execution Exploit the Remote File Inclusion to gain administrative access to systems with Python and other scripting languages Crack an organization's Internet perimeter and chain exploits to gain deeper access to an organization's resources Explore wireless traffic with the help of various programs and perform wireless attacks with Python programs Gather passive information from a website using automated scripts and perform XSS, SQL injection, and parameter tampering attacks Develop complicated header-based attacks through Python In Detail Cybercriminals are always one step ahead, when it comes to tools and techniques. This means you need to use the same tools and adopt the same mindset to properly secure your software. This course shows you how to do just that, demonstrating how effective Python can be for powerful pentesting that keeps your software safe. Comprising of three key modules, follow each one to push your Python and security skills to the next level. In the first module, we'll show you how to get to grips with the fundamentals. This means you'll guickly find out how to tackle some of the common challenges facing pentesters using custom Python tools designed specifically for your needs. You'll also learn what tools to use and when, giving you complete confidence when deploying your pentester tools to combat any potential threat. In the next module you'll begin hacking into the application layer. Covering everything from parameter tampering, DDoS, XXS and SQL injection, it will build on the knowledge and skills you learned in the first module to make you an even more fluent security expert. Finally in the third module, you'll find more than 60 Python pentesting recipes. We think this will soon become your trusted resource for any pentesting situation. This Learning Path combines some of the best that Packt has to offer in one complete, curated package. It includes content from the following Packt products: Learning Penetration Testing with Python by Christopher Duffy Python Penetration Testing Essentials by Mohit Python Web Penetration Testing Cookbook by Cameron Buchanan, Terry Ip, Andrew Mabbitt, Benjamin May and Dave Mound Style and approach This course provides a quick access to powerful, modern tools, and customizable scripts to kick-start the creation of your own Python web penetration testing toolbox.

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o WordPress e aplicativos móveis; usar ferramentas de segurança e planejar defesas contra execução remota.

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Najera-Gutierrez, 2018-08-31 Discover the most common web vulnerabilities and prevent them from becoming a threat to your site's security Key Features Familiarize yourself with the most common web vulnerabilities Conduct a preliminary assessment of attack surfaces and run exploits in your lab Explore new tools in the Kali Linux ecosystem for web penetration testing Book Description Web applications are a huge point of attack for malicious hackers and a critical area for security professionals and penetration testers to lock down and secure. Kali Linux is a Linux-based penetration testing platform that provides a broad array of testing tools, many of which can be used to execute web penetration testing. Kali Linux Web Penetration Testing Cookbook gives you the skills you need to cover every stage of a penetration test - from gathering information about the system and application, to identifying vulnerabilities through manual testing. You will also cover the use of vulnerability scanners and look at basic and advanced exploitation techniques that may lead to a full system compromise. You will start by setting up a testing laboratory, exploring the latest features of tools included in Kali Linux and performing a wide range of tasks with OWASP ZAP, Burp Suite and other web proxies and security testing tools. As you make your way through the book, you will learn how to use automated scanners to find security flaws in web applications and understand how to bypass basic security controls. In the concluding chapters, you will look at what you have learned in the context of the Open Web Application Security Project (OWASP) and the top 10 web application vulnerabilities you are most likely to encounter, equipping you with the ability to combat them effectively. By the end of this book, you will have acquired the skills you need to identify, exploit, and prevent web application vulnerabilities. What you will learn Set up a secure penetration testing laboratory Use proxies, crawlers, and spiders to investigate an entire website Identify cross-site scripting and client-side vulnerabilities Exploit vulnerabilities that allow the insertion of code into web applications Exploit vulnerabilities that require complex setups Improve testing efficiency using automated vulnerability scanners Learn how to circumvent security controls put in place to prevent attacks Who this book is for Kali Linux Web Penetration Testing Cookbook is for IT professionals, web developers, security enthusiasts, and security professionals who want an accessible reference on how to find, exploit, and prevent security vulnerabilities in web applications. The basics of operating a Linux environment and prior exposure to security technologies and tools are necessary.

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remotely-placed Raspberry Pi 3. By the end of this book you will be able to turn Raspberry Pi 3 into a hacking arsenal to leverage the most popular open source toolkit, Kali Linux 2.0. Style and approach This concise and fast-paced guide will ensure you get hands-on with penetration testing right from the start. You will quickly install the powerful Kali Linux 2 on your Raspberry Pi 3 and then learn how to use and conduct fundamental penetration techniques and attacks.

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