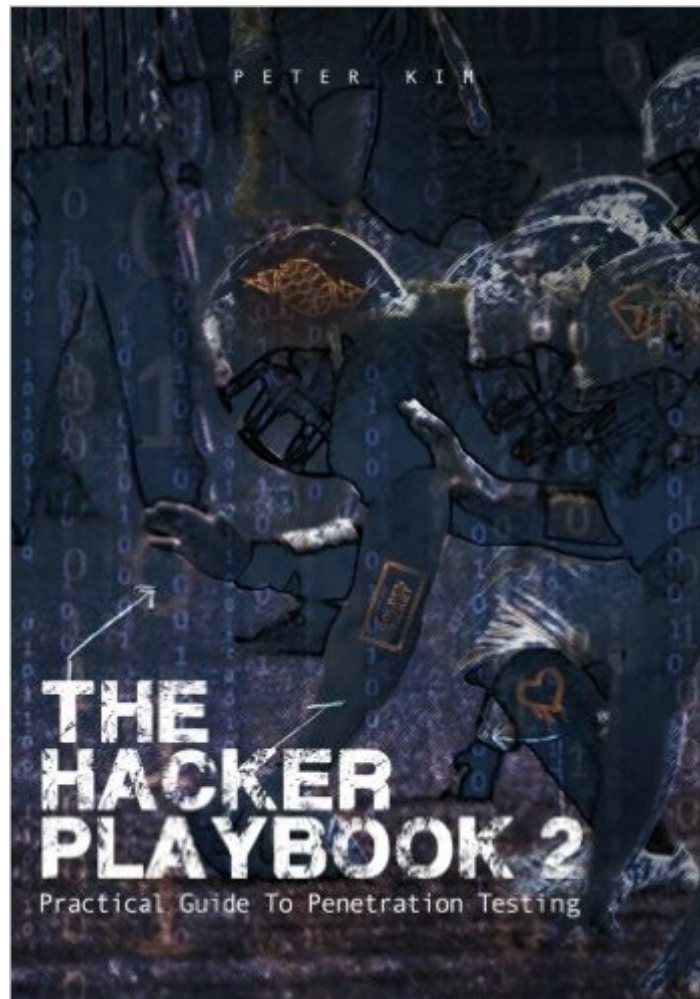


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The Hacker Playbook 2: Practical Guide To Penetration Testing



Synopsis

Just as a professional athlete doesn't show up without a solid game plan, ethical hackers, IT professionals, and security researchers should not be unprepared, either. The Hacker Playbook provides them their own game plans. Written by a longtime security professional and CEO of Secure Planet, LLC, this step-by-step guide to the "game" of penetration hacking features hands-on examples and helpful advice from the top of the field. Through a series of football-style "plays," this straightforward guide gets to the root of many of the roadblocks people may face while penetration testing—including attacking different types of networks, pivoting through security controls, privilege escalation, and evading antivirus software. From "Pregame" research to "The Drive" and "The Lateral Pass," the practical plays listed can be read in order or referenced as needed. Either way, the valuable advice within will put you in the mindset of a penetration tester of a Fortune 500 company, regardless of your career or level of experience. This second version of The Hacker Playbook takes all the best "plays" from the original book and incorporates the latest attacks, tools, and lessons learned. Double the content compared to its predecessor, this guide further outlines building a lab, walks through test cases for attacks, and provides more customized code. Whether you're downing energy drinks while desperately looking for an exploit, or preparing for an exciting new job in IT security, this guide is an essential part of any ethical hacker's library—so there's no reason not to get in the game.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The Hacker Playbook did it again! This is a great follow up to the first book as it goes more in depth in certain areas. I love the amount of PowerShell techniques that are covered in THP2 since this is becoming the standard for lateral movement. If you want to add some more tricks to your arsenal this is a great book to read. If you own THP1 you will not be disappointed with THP2. It will just bring your game to the next level.

Excellent update to the original Hacker Playbook. I like the heavy use of Powershell, and the various scripts used to demonstrate recent vulnerabilities like Shellshock and OpenSSL Heartbleed. Peter did a great job and this book is a great resource from those just beginning, to those of an intermediate level. If you are unsure if this book is for you, it probably is. I've learned a few tricks and there are such a wide number of tips that most people will also walk away happy.

Security professional with 5-6 years of high level incident response and threat intel work here. These (THPB 1 and 2) are my go to books for pen testing / offsec. I like Kim's writing style and approach to covering the topics so I always pick up these books at some point. It's a nice and easy light read but has enough technical info and insight by the author to be useful to any information security professional from day onward. It's also worth noting that the author is actively engaged in the security community and working as a very successful penetration tester. Between that and updating the corresponding website ([...]) it's a good value. At the price of less than a pizza delivery and generally in the list of my top 10 security books/series, it's an easy choice to pick these up.

I bought both the print and Kindle versions. The Kindle version is excellent, just like THPB1. The print version is in a slightly larger format and goes into more depth. I really like the section on setting up your own test lab and the tutorial on shell coding. Overall, THPB2 is more technical and detailed in its approach to pen testing.

It always nice when a technical book is successful enough to warrant a follow up. However this one falls disappointingly short of the first. Its poorly edited, and much less technically fluid or digestible. The biggest issue i had was part of the 'intro' in which the author recommends using a ctf to familiarize yourself with certain concepts (over the wire). I love OTW and used that to help educate myself before making the leap to being an app sec professional. The way he explains one of the exercises read terribly. I had done the games before reading his how-to, but if it had been the

other way around, in no way would i have been able to complete even the most basic level. I found the answers thru command lines, not via the way more involved assembly/rev engineering method. It just seemed unnecessarily difficult. While i like the larger print format and different different information, none of it presented as clearly as the first nor was it as useful. The editing is also worse than the first volume. I'd say skip this one. There are much better options in the market.

I used the first book for MANY assessments in the past and it has helped a bunch. I've probably came across just about every scenario in the first book and seeing a second book with even more updated material is awesome. The second book is just as amazing if not more amazing than the first - tons of helpful tricks and tips, code and how-to's to get your past the sticking points of penetration testing. If you do penetration testing / security assessments or even defensive security for IT you should get this book. This will shortly be a best-seller.

Poorly written. Heavy reliance on football analogy is more annoying than helpful. Does not progress through a logical sequence of learning through increasing difficulty. Feels more like a book about how hard it is to learn how to hack, so you should just pay the Author to hack for you. The book assumes too much technical skill to be useful to a beginner. The book tries to cover too many topics in a limited space to be a reference for an advanced hacker. Perhaps this book would be helpful as a tool for a mid-level hacker who is very familiar with a few techniques, and wants to get started with other attack vectors.

Great guide, but don't stop here! If you're interested in this field be aware there is no "magic bullet" for books/guides. You'll need several as each one deals with ideas in different ways, and your setup/goals/abilities will differ from others. So get a few books of this genre that are highly rated to help yourself out. Written in a very easy to understand way.

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