

Miscellaneous: What is a penetration test?

Penetration testing, often called “pentesting”, “pen testing”, or “security testing”, is the practice of attacking your own or your clients’ IT systems in the same way a hacker would to identify security holes. You do this without actually harming the network. The person carrying out a penetration test is called a penetration tester or pentester.

Penetration testing requires that you get permission from the person who owns the system. Otherwise, you would be hacking the system, which is illegal in most countries.

In other words: The difference between penetration testing and hacking is whether you have the system owner’s permission. If you want to do a penetration test on someone else's system, we highly recommend that you get written permission.

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Author: Samir Mhatre

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