



Interested in learning
more about security?

SANS Institute

Security Consensus Operational Readiness Evaluation

This checklist is from the SCORE Checklist Project. Reposting is not permitted without express, written permission.

SCORE Security Checklist

Unusual Log Entries

Check your logs for suspicious events, such as:

- "Event log service was stopped."
- "Windows File Protection is not active on this system."
- "The protected System file [file name] was not restored to its original, valid version because the Windows File Protection..."
- "The MS Telnet Service has started successfully."
- Look for large number of failed logon attempts or locked out accounts.

To do this using the GUI, run the Windows event viewer:

```
C:\> eventvwr.msc
```

Using the command prompt:

```
C:\> eventquery.vbs | more
```

Or, to focus on a particular event log:

```
C:\> eventquery.vbs /L security
```

Other Unusual Items

Look for unusually sluggish performance and a single unusual process hogging the CPU: Task Manager → Process and Performance tabs

Look for unusual system crashes, beyond the normal level for the given system.

Additional Supporting Tools

The following tools are not built into Windows operating system but can be used to analyze security issues in more detail. Each is available for free download at the listed web site.

DISCLAIMER: The SANS Institute is not responsible for creating, distributing, warranting, or supporting any of the following tools.

Tools for mapping listening TCP/UDP ports to the program listening on those ports:

Fport – command-line tool at
www.foundstone.com

TCPView – GUI tool at
www.microsoft.com/technet/sysinternals

Additional Process Analysis Tools:

- Process Explorer – GUI tool at www.microsoft.com/technet/sysinternals
- TaskMan+ -- GUI tool at <http://www.diamondcs.com.au>

The Center for Internet Security has released various Windows security templates and security scoring tools for free at www.cisecurity.org.



Intrusion Discovery

Cheat Sheet v2.0

Windows XP Pro /
2003 Server / Vista
POCKET REFERENCE GUIDE

SANS Institute

www.sans.org and isc.sans.org

Download the latest version of this sheet from
<http://www.sans.org/resources/winsacheatsheet.pdf>

Purpose

System Administrators are often on the front lines of computer security. This guide aims to support System Administrators in finding indications of a system compromise.

How To Use This Sheet

On a periodic basis (daily, weekly, or each time you logon to a system you manage,) run through these quick steps to look for anomalous behavior that might be caused by a computer intrusion. Each of these commands runs locally on a system.

This sheet is split into these sections:

- Unusual Processes and Services
- Unusual Files and Reg Keys
- Unusual Network Usage
- Unusual Scheduled Tasks
- Unusual Accounts
- Unusual Log Entries
- Other Unusual Items
- Additional Supporting Tools

If you spot anomalous behavior: DO NOT PANIC!

Your system may or may not have come under attack. Please contact the Incident Handling Team immediately to report the activities and get further assistance.

Unusual Processes and Services

Look for unusual/unexpected processes, and focus on processes with User Name "SYSTEM" or "Administrator" (or users in the Administrators' group). You need to be familiar with normal processes and services and search for deviations.

Using the GUI, run Task Manager:

```
C:\> taskmgr.exe
```

Using the command prompt:

```
C:\> tasklist
C:\> wmic process list full
```

Also look for unusual services.

Using the GUI:

```
C:\> services.msc
```

Using the command prompt:

```
C:\> net start
C:\> sc query
```

For a list of services associated with each process:

```
C:\> tasklist /svc
```

Unusual Files and Registry Keys

Check file space usage to look for sudden major decreases in free space, using the GUI (right-click on partition), or type:

```
C:\> dir c:\
```

Look for unusually big files: Start→Search→For Files of Folders... Search Options→Size→At Least 1000KB

Look for strange programs referred to in registry keys associated with system start up:

- HKLM\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Run
- HKLM\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Runonce
- HKLM\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\RunonceEx

Note that you should also check the HKCU counterparts (replace HKLM with HKCU above).

Using the GUI:

```
C:\> regedit
```

Using the command prompt:

```
C:\> reg query <reg key>
```

Unusual Network Usage

Look at file shares, and make sure each has a defined business purpose:

```
C:\> net view \\127.0.0.1
```

Look at who has an open session with the machine:

```
C:\> net session
```

Look at which sessions this machine has opened with other systems:

```
C:\> net use
```

Look at NetBIOS over TCP/IP activity:

```
C:\> nbtstat -S
```

Look for unusual listening TCP and UDP ports:

```
C:\> netstat -na
```

For continuously updated and scrolling output of this command every 5 seconds:

```
C:\> netstat -na 5
```

The -o flag shows the owning process id:

```
C:\> netstat -nao 5
```

The -b flag shows the executable name and the DLLs loaded for the network connection.

```
C:\> netstat -naob 5
```

Note that the -b flag uses excessive CPU resources.

Again, you need to understand normal port usage for the system and look for deviations.

Also check Windows Firewall configuration:

```
C:\> netsh firewall show config
```

Unusual Scheduled Tasks

Look for unusual scheduled tasks, especially those that run as a user in the Administrators group, as SYSTEM, or with a blank user name.

Using the GUI, run Task Scheduler:

Start→Programs→Accessories→System Tools→Scheduled Tasks

Using the command prompt:

```
C:\> schtasks
```

Check other autostart items as well for unexpected entries, remembering to check user autostart directories and registry keys.

Using the GUI, run msconfig and look at the Startup tab:

Start → Run, **msconfig.exe**

Using the command prompt:

```
C:\> wmic startup list full
```

Unusual Accounts

Look for new, unexpected accounts in the Administrators group:

```
C:\> lusrmgr.msc
```

Click on Groups, Double Click on Administrators, then check members of this group.

This can also be done at the command prompt:

```
C:\> net user
```

```
C:\> net localgroup administrators
```



Upcoming SANS Training

[Click Here for a full list of all Upcoming SANS Events by Location](#)

SANS Seattle 2017	Seattle, WAUS	Oct 30, 2017 - Nov 04, 2017	Live Event
SANS Gulf Region 2017	Dubai, AE	Nov 04, 2017 - Nov 16, 2017	Live Event
SANS Amsterdam 2017	Amsterdam, NL	Nov 06, 2017 - Nov 11, 2017	Live Event
SANS Milan November 2017	Milan, IT	Nov 06, 2017 - Nov 11, 2017	Live Event
SANS Miami 2017	Miami, FLUS	Nov 06, 2017 - Nov 11, 2017	Live Event
SANS Paris November 2017	Paris, FR	Nov 13, 2017 - Nov 18, 2017	Live Event
Pen Test Hackfest Summit & Training 2017	Bethesda, MDUS	Nov 13, 2017 - Nov 20, 2017	Live Event
SANS Sydney 2017	Sydney, AU	Nov 13, 2017 - Nov 25, 2017	Live Event
GridEx IV 2017	Online,	Nov 15, 2017 - Nov 16, 2017	Live Event
SANS San Francisco Winter 2017	San Francisco, CAUS	Nov 27, 2017 - Dec 02, 2017	Live Event
SANS London November 2017	London, GB	Nov 27, 2017 - Dec 02, 2017	Live Event
SIEM & Tactical Analytics Summit & Training	Scottsdale, AZUS	Nov 28, 2017 - Dec 05, 2017	Live Event
SANS Khobar 2017	Khobar, SA	Dec 02, 2017 - Dec 07, 2017	Live Event
SANS Austin Winter 2017	Austin, TXUS	Dec 04, 2017 - Dec 09, 2017	Live Event
SANS Munich December 2017	Munich, DE	Dec 04, 2017 - Dec 09, 2017	Live Event
European Security Awareness Summit & Training 2017	London, GB	Dec 04, 2017 - Dec 07, 2017	Live Event
SANS Bangalore 2017	Bangalore, IN	Dec 11, 2017 - Dec 16, 2017	Live Event
SANS Frankfurt 2017	Frankfurt, DE	Dec 11, 2017 - Dec 16, 2017	Live Event
SANS Cyber Defense Initiative 2017	Washington, DCUS	Dec 12, 2017 - Dec 19, 2017	Live Event
SANS Security East 2018	New Orleans, LAUS	Jan 08, 2018 - Jan 13, 2018	Live Event
SANS SEC460: Enterprise Threat Beta	San Diego, CAUS	Jan 08, 2018 - Jan 13, 2018	Live Event
SANS Amsterdam January 2018	Amsterdam, NL	Jan 15, 2018 - Jan 20, 2018	Live Event
Northern VA Winter - Reston 2018	Reston, VAUS	Jan 15, 2018 - Jan 20, 2018	Live Event
SEC599: Defeat Advanced Adversaries	San Francisco, CAUS	Jan 15, 2018 - Jan 20, 2018	Live Event
SANS San Diego 2017	OnlineCAUS	Oct 30, 2017 - Nov 04, 2017	Live Event
SANS OnDemand	Books & MP3s OnlyUS	Anytime	Self Paced