



# Tales of Practical Android Penetration Testing (Mobile Pentest Toolkit)

Alexander Subbotin

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## OWASP

The Open Web Application Security Project



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### • About Me

- IT Security Consultant (<https://subbotin.de>)
- Penetration Tester/Ethical Hacker with 5 years experience
- Working for enterprise (banking industry, telecommunication companies, wholesale, etc.)
- Trainer for Android and Web Pentesting
- Author and Maintainer of Awesome Pentest Cheatsheets project  
<https://github.com/coreb1t/awesome-pentest-cheat-sheets>
- Bug Hunter  
Yahoo on HackerOne <https://hackerone.com/coreb1t>



**Alexander  
Subbotin**  
IT-Security Consulting



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- Setup Pentest Environment
- Requirements:
  - Kali like distribution for mobile penetration testing
  - Updates for most used tools
  - Extensibility



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- Setup Pentest Environment - Current status
- <https://github.com/tanprathan/MobileApp-Pentest-Cheatsheet>

Distribution	Notes	Last Update
MobiSec	Last update 3 years ago	3 years ago
Santoku	Based on Ubuntu 14.04	
Vezir Project	Based on Ubuntu 15.04	2,5 years ago
Apple	For Window only	2018-05-08
Android Tamer	Manually updated to last versions of platform-tools, Android SDK, Android Studio and much more	



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- Setup Pentest Environment
- Do we really need to use separated environment/VM?
- 95 % of time we are using the same (few) tools
  - adb
  - Java Decompiler
  - Tools for static analysis
  - Tools for dynamic analysis
  - Debugger
  - Tools allowing runtime modification





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- That is how the idea for Mobile-Pentest-Toolkit (MPT) was born
- For each category of tools use just one tool

**FRIDA**

apktool

abe

drozer



pidcat



signapk



JD-GUI



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- Can you remember all the command line parameters for the mentioned tools?
- Example:
- `jarsigner -verbose -sigalg SHA1withRSA -digestalg SHA1 -keystore <name> <apk><alias> -storepass <pw>`
- `frida -R -f <package-name> -l file.js --no-pause`
- You have to specify **what** to do and not **how**.
- MPT provides a simplest interface to your tooling related to android security testing.



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- Setup Pentest Environment - **Tools**
- MPT implements a simple package manager
- Currently supported git, http, and zip installation

```
ANDROID_TOOLS = {
    'pidcat': {
        'url': 'https://github.com/JakeWharton/pidcat',
        'bin': os.path.join(MOBILE_FOLDER + 'pidcat/pidcat.py'),
        'install': 'git'
    },
    'adus': {
        'url': 'https://github.com/coreblt/adus',
        'bin': os.path.join(MOBILE_FOLDER + 'adus/adus.sh'),
        'install': 'git'
    },
    'mobSF': {
        'url': 'https://github.com/ajinabraham/Mobile-Security-Framework-MobSF',
        'bin': '', # use run_mobile_security_framework() to run the mobSF
        'install': 'git'
    }
}
```





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- Setup Pentest Environment - **Device**
- Install Pentest tools
- XposedFramework
- Drozer
- JustTrustMe (xposed plugin)
- Inspeckage (xposed plugin)
- ...

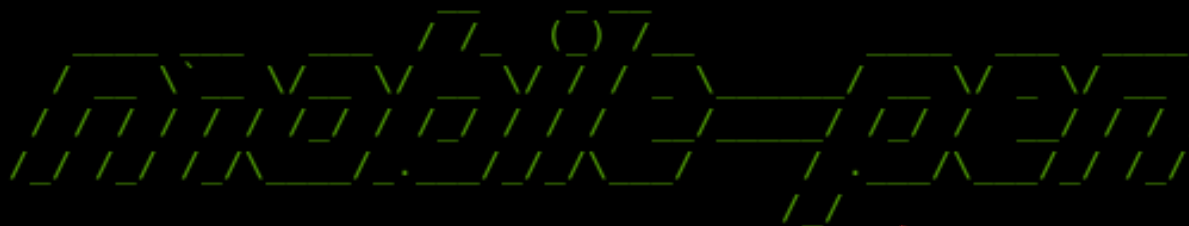


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- Setup Pentest Environment - **Device**
- Install Pentest tools

```
→ mpt git:(master) ✗ mpt --install apps
```



Written by @coreblt  
Version: 0.4.6

```
[00:22:53] [I] Installing Xposed app  
[00:22:53] [I] Installing JustTrustMe app  
[00:22:53] [I] Installing Drozer Agent app  
[00:22:54] [I] Installing Inspeckage app  
[00:22:55] [I] Installing RootCloak app
```





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- Setup Pentest Environment - **Pentest**
- Install the app
- Create configuration
- Allows to use MPT from everywhere



# OWASP

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- Setup Pentest Environment - **Pentest**
- Install the app
- Create configuration
- Allows to use MPT from everywhere

**DEMO**

```
→ python git:(master) ✗ mpt --setup test/root-checker-201810.apk
[00:25:12] [I] Installing apk file: test/root-checker-201810.apk
[00:25:14] [I] Folder for security assessment pentest-2018-10-30 created
→ python git:(master) ✗ tree pentest-2018-10-30
pentest-2018-10-30
├── app
│   └── root-checker-201810.apk
└── backup
```



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- Starting your favorite tools
- jd-gui (source code review)
- Drozer (android app analysis)
- mobSF (static analysis)
- frida
- and more ...





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## OWASP testing methodology – Insecure Data Storage

V2	Data Storage and Privacy	
	Verify that system credential storage facilities are used appropriately to store sensitive data, such as PII, user credentials or cryptographic keys.	✓
2.1		
2.2	Verify that no sensitive data is stored outside of the app container or system credential storage facilities.	
2.3	Verify that no sensitive data is written to application logs.	✓
2.4	Verify that no sensitive data is shared with third parties unless it is a necessary part of the architecture.	✓



adb logcat    Is the output really readable?

```
10-25 12:45:08.590 1833 1833 W System.err: at com.android.internal.os.ZygoteInit.main(ZygoteInit.java:776)
10-25 12:45:08.590 1833 1833 W System.err: at de.robv.android.xposed.XposedBridge.main(XposedBridge.java:1
10-25 12:45:08.590 1833 1833 I info : saveLoginInfo: username = test | password = secretpass
10-25 12:45:08.590 1833 1833 I info :
10-25 12:45:08.592 1833 1833 I saveLoginInfo: Saving to file /data/user/0/com.htbridge.pivaa/cache/cache18211
3D48F
10-25 12:45:08.609 1833 1833 I htbridge: saveLoginInfoExternalStorage: writable, all ok!
10-25 12:45:08.611 1833 1833 I htbridge: getExternalStorageDirectory = /storage/emulated/0
10-25 12:45:08.614 1833 1833 I htbridge: getExternalStoragePublicDirectory = /storage/emulated/0/Android/data
10-25 12:45:08.615 1833 1833 I htbridge: saveLoginInfoExternalStorage: username = test | password = secretpas
10-25 12:45:08.615 1833 1833 I htbridge:
10-25 12:45:08.615 1833 1833 I htbridge: saveLoginInfoExternalStorage: opening for writing /storage/emulated/
ials.dat
10-25 12:45:08.617 1833 1833 I htbridge: saveLoginInfoExternalStorage: opening for reading /storage/emulated/
ials.dat
10-25 12:45:10.620 599 1173 I ActivityManager: START u0 {cmp=com.htbridge.pivaa/.WebViewActivity} from uid 1
```



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## OWASP testing methodology – Insecure Data Storage

**DEMO**



Solution: use pidcat

→ colored output for only on process

```
W      at de.robv.android.xposed.XposedBridge.main(XposedBridge.java:107)
info   I saveLoginInfo: username = test | password = secretpass
saveLoginInfo I Saving to file /data/user/0/com.htbridge.pivaa/cache/cache1007723920 md5 content = 0B120EC357E51EEC0
B31D0A9F
htbridge I saveLoginInfoExternalStorage: writable, all ok!
I getExternalStorageDirectory = /storage/emulated/0
I getExternalStoragePublicDirectory = /storage/emulated/0/Android/data/com.htbridge.pivaa/files
I saveLoginInfoExternalStorage: username = test | password = secretpass
I saveLoginInfoExternalStorage: opening for writing /storage/emulated/0/Android/data/com.htbridge.pivaa
/credentials.dat
I saveLoginInfoExternalStorage: opening for reading /storage/emulated/0/Android/data/com.htbridge.pivaa
/credentials.dat
chromium I [INFO:CONSOLE(1)] "portal.check()", source: https://www.htbridge.com/ssl/assets/app.js?v=1539773887
cr_AwContents W onDetachedFromWindow called when already detached. Ignoring
```



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Backup Option

→ Compare two states of application



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## OWASP testing methodology – Insecure Data Storage



Using --backup option create 2 backups for different states

```
pentest-2018-10-30
├── app
│   └── pivaa.apk
└── backup
    └── backup1_com.htbridge.pivaa_init
        ├── databases
        │   ├── pivaaDB
        │   └── pivaaDB-journal
        └── _manifest
```

after login the /data/data/<app>  
folder states differ from each  
other

```
pentest-2018-10-30
├── app
│   └── pivaa.apk
└── backup
    └── backup2_com.htbridge.pivaa_after_login
        ├── databases
        │   ├── pivaaDB
        │   └── pivaaDB-journal
        ├── external_storage_files
        │   └── credentials.dat
        ├── _manifest
        ├── root
        │   ├── app_textures
        │   ├── app_webview
        │   │   ├── Cookies
        │   │   ├── Cookies-journal
        │   │   ├── GPUCache
        │   │   │   ├── index
        │   │   │   └── index-dir
        │   │   │       └── the-real-index
        │   ├── metrics_guid
        │   ├── Web Data
        │   ├── Web Data-journal
        │   └── webview_data.lock
        └── shared_prefs
            ├── com.htbridge.pivaa_preferences.xml
            └── WebViewChromiumPrefs.xml
```



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## Other challenges

- Dynamic analysis
- Dynamic instrumentation and runtime hooking (Frida)
- Root Detection Bypass
- SSL Pinning Bypass



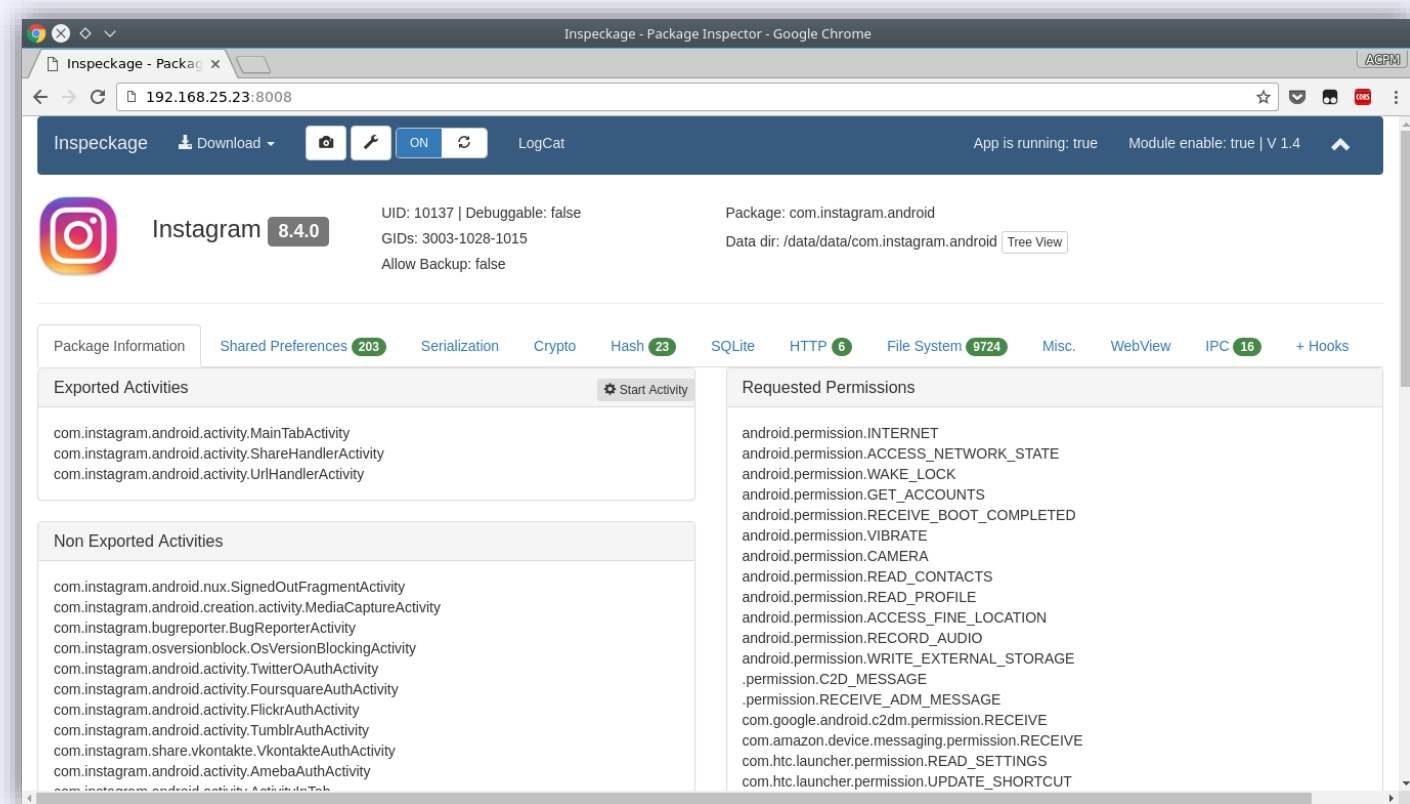


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## Other challenges

- Dynamic analysis - Inspeckage





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## Other challenges

- Dynamic instrumentation and runtime hooking (Frida)
- Download a proper Frida version and execute Frida on the device (--frida option)

```
[I] Detected device architecture x86
[I] Downloading frida https://github.com/frida/frida/releases/download/12.2.18/frida-server-12.2.18-android-x86.xz
[I] Frida filename: frida-server-12.2.18-android-x86
[I] Frida remote version: 12.2.18
[I] Frida local version:12.2.18
[I] adb shell is running as uid=0(root)
[I] Running /data/local/tmp/frida-server
```



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## Other challenges

- Dynamic instrumentation and runtime hooking (Frida)
- Use frida to hook cryptographic functions

```
// public static String encryptAES_ECB_PKCS5Padding(String value) {  
  
var enc = Java.use('com.htbridge.pivaa.handlers.Encryption')  
enc.encryptAES_ECB_PKCS5Padding.overload('java.lang.String').implementation = function(arg1){  
    console.log('enc.encryptAES_ECB_PKCS5Padding() hook')  
    console.log('value to encrypt: ' + arg1)  
    var a = this.encryptAES_ECB_PKCS5Padding(arg1)  
    return a;  
}  
}
```



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## Other challenges

- Dynamic instrumentation and runtime hooking (Frida)
- Use frida to hook cryptographic functions

```
→ frida -R -f com.htbridge.pivaa -l encryption.js --no-pause

/ _ | Frida 12.2.18 - A world-class dynamic instrumentation toolkit
| ( |
> |
/_/_| Commands:
    help      -> Displays the help system
    object?   -> Display information about 'object'
    exit/quit -> Exit

    More info at http://www.frida.re/docs/home/
Spawned `com.htbridge.pivaa`. Resuming main thread!
[Remote::com.htbridge.pivaa]-> enc.encryptAES_ECB_PKCS5Padding() hook
value to encrypt: secrettext
```

### Encryption Vulnerabilities

#### Predictable Random Number Generator

The mobile application uses predictable Random Number Generator. Under certain conditions this can jeopardize the entire data encryption performed by the mobile application.

GENERATE

#### Weak encryption (AES/CBC/PKCS5Padding)

Weak or badly implemented encryption algorithms can endanger data storage and transmission used by the mobile application.

secrettext

ENCRYPT

wBYEygLwhteKlplEy8R+sA==



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## Other challenges

- Root Detection Bypass


Disable root detection at runtime  
using frida

```
→ mpt git:(master) ✗ mpt --root-detection org.freeandroidtools.root_checker
: : : : More info at http://www.frida.re/docs/home/
Spawned `org.freeandroidtools.root_checker`. Resuming main thread!
[Remote::org.freeandroidtools.root_checker]-> Root Detections Bypass
Dropped File Access: /system/app/Superuser.apk
Root Detections Bypass
Dropped Command: su
```

### Root Checker

ROOT CHECKERSAFETY NETBUILD INFO

#### Root Status

Your **TEST\_TEST** Nexus 5X - 7.1.0  
- API 25 - 1080x1920\_1 is  
**Not Rooted**  
OS: Android 7.1.1 (SDK 25)  
[CHECK](#)

#### Check Details

Root Access	No Access
SU	Su found
UID/GID	uid=10080(u0_a80) gid=10080(u0_a80) groups=10080(u0_a80),3003(inet), 9997(everybody),50080(all_a80)
Unix Utils	busybox toybox toolbox
Env. Path	/sbin:/vendor/bin:/system/sbin/ system/bin:/system/xbin





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## Other challenges

- SSL Pinning Bypass

**DEMO**



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- Other helpful tools
- **Objection** - is a runtime mobile exploration toolkit, powered by [Frida](#) working on not rooted and jailbroken devices.
- <https://github.com/sensepost/objection>
- **AppMon** - automated framework for monitoring and tampering system API calls of native iOS and android apps
- <https://github.com/dpnishant/appmon>
- **House** - runtime mobile application analysis toolkit with a Web GUI, powered by [Frida](#)
- <https://github.com/nccgroup/house>



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- MPT - Overview
- Setup Pentest Environment
  - Tools
  - Device
  - Config
- Simple Interface to interact with pentest tools
- Allows to perform static, dynamic analysis
- Support to bypass SSL certificate pinning and root detection
- Supports zsh autocompletion



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- Further Ideas
  - Automatically rebuild apk with backup and debug flags enabled (in progress)
  - Automatically generate PoCs for sending broadcast messages and start activities and services (in progress)
  - Integrate file explorer for files on the devices
  - Generate Frida hooks for selected code (method) on the fly
  - Implement anti-debugging bypass (in progress)



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## Thank you for your attention!



Alexander Subbotin



@coreb1t



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