

Checklist for Securing Application Design

Category	Vulnerable Area	Facts to ANALYSE	
Design	Code Flow – Division of code based on MVC	Presence of backdoor parameters/functions/files	1. Are there backdoor/unexposed business logic classes? 2. Are there unused configurations related to business logic? 3. If request parameters are used to identify business logic methods, is there a proper mapping of user privileges and methods/actions allowed to them?
		Placement of checks	1. Are security checks placed before processing inputs?
		Insecure Data Binding Mechanism	1. Check if unexposed instance variables are present in form objects that get bound to user inputs. If present, check if they have default values. 2. Check if unexposed instance variables present in form objects that get bound to user inputs. If present, check if they get initialized before form binding.
	Authentication and Access Control Mechanism	Insecure authentication and access control logic	1. Is the placement of authentication and authorization check correct?
			2. Is there execution stopped/terminated after for invalid request? I.e. when authentication/authorization check fails?
			3. Are the checks correct implemented? Is there any backdoor parameter?
			4. Is the check applied on all the required files and folder within web root directory?
		Redundant configuration	1. Is there any default configuration like Access- ALL?
			2. Does the configuration get applied to all files and users?
	Insecure Session management	3. In case of container managed authentication - Is the authentication based on web methods only?	
		4. In case of container managed authentication - Does the authentication get applied on all resources?	
	Weak Password Handling	1. Does the design handle sessions securely?	
1. Is Password Complexity Check enforced on the password?			
2. Is password stored in an encrypted format?			
Data Access Mechanism	3. Is password disclosed to user/written to a file/logs/console?		
	Presence of sensitive data in configuration/code files	1. Are database credentials stored in an encrypted format?	
Centralized Validation and Interceptors	Presence/support for different insecure data sources and their related flaws	1. Does the design support weak datastores like flat files	
	Weakness in any existing security control	1. Does the centralized validation get applied to all requests and all the inputs?	
		2. Does the centralized validation check block all the special characters?	
		3. Does are there any special kind of request skipped from validation?	
4. Does the design maintain any exclusion list for parameters or features from being validated?			
Architecture	Entry Points	Insecure Data handling and validation	1. Are all the untrusted inputs validated?
	External Integrations	Insecure data transmission	1. Is the data sent on encrypted channel? Does the application use HTTPClient for making external connections? 2. Does the design involve session sharing between components/modules? Is session validated correctly on both ends?
		Elevated privilege levels	1. Does the design use any elevated OS/system privileges for external connections/commands?
Configuration	External API's used	Known flaws present in 3rd party APIs/functions	1. Is there any known flaw in API's/Technology used? For eg: DWR
	Inbuilt Security Controls	Common Security Controls	1. Does the design framework provide any inbuilt security control? Like <%= %> in ASP.NET MVC. 2. Are are there any flaw/weakness in the existing inbuilt control? 3. Are all security setting enabled in the design?

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