Hassan Alvarado

Senior Penetration Tester

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STRENGTHS

Client Communication
Explained attack paths during executive briefings, and client teams left with clearer risks, priorities, and next steps.

Assessment Leadership
Owned scopes through retesting across concurrent engagements; junior testers often sought guidance during difficult reviews.

Evidence Quality
Built reproducible proof for findings, so remediation teams could validate fixes without guessing at original conditions.

Security Analysis
Connected authentication, authorization, and business logic flaws with practical impact; that context sharpened mitigation choices.

Team Mentorship
Reviewed test cases and reports with three junior testers, helping delivery teams produce steadier client-ready work.

SKILLS

Penetration Testing

API Security Testing

Mobile Security | Network Testing

Vulnerability Research

OWASP Methodology

Client Communication

Technical Reporting

Executive Presentations

Rules of Engagement

Remediation Validation

Security Fundamentals

SUMMARY

Senior penetration tester with five years of consulting experience across **web application**, API, mobile, and network **security assessments** for higher education, healthcare, financial services, and software clients. Holds a Bachelor of Science in Cybersecurity and OSCP certification, with hands-on capability across **common vulnerabilities**, exploitation workflows, remediation planning, retesting, and evidence-based reporting. Leads engagements from **rules of engagement** through final delivery, translating technical findings into clear risk narratives for engineers, executives, and non-technical stakeholders. Mentors junior testers through scoping, test-case development, quality review, and presentations. Ready to help Meridian Cyber Advisory protect diverse organizations through client-focused assessments, practical mitigation guidance, clear reporting, and dependable teamwork.

EXPERIENCE

Senior Penetration Tester

Redwood Ridge Security | June 2024 - Present | Irvine, CA

Leads consulting assessments across web applications, APIs, mobile platforms, and external networks for **higher education**, healthcare, and SaaS **clients**. Owns engagement planning, exploitation, reporting, retesting, stakeholder communication, and mentorship while protecting delivery quality across concurrent work.

- Led scoped web, **API**, mobile, and network tests with **Burp Suite** and Nmap for client assurance.
- Built **Python** reconnaissance workflows that shortened repeated checks during time-boxed consulting assessments.
- Validated authorization, sessions, and input controls with reproducible evidence for remediation teams.
- Presented attack paths and mitigation priorities to engineers, application owners, and executive stakeholders.
- Managed retesting with traceable evidence, confirming fixes for critical and high-risk findings.
- Mentored three junior testers through scoping reviews, report checks, and client **presentations**.

Penetration Testing Consultant

Canyon Peak Cybersecurity | July 2022 - May 2024 | San Diego, CA

Delivered end-to-end consulting engagements for web applications, REST APIs, mobile back ends, and corporate networks. Combined reconnaissance, exploitation, client coordination, **technical reporting**, executive communication, peer review, and delivery retrospectives across twelve assessments.

- Executed twelve web, API, mobile, and network engagements under formal **rules of engagement**.
- Created **Burp Suite** and **OWASP ZAP** workflows that reduced duplicated manual validation during assessments.
- Investigated injection, access-control, secret exposure, and cloud misconfiguration risks with business context.
- Coordinated daily client updates, clarified constraints, and escalated material findings without disrupting operations.
- Authored **reports** with severity rationale, reproduction steps, screenshots, and prioritized corrective actions.
- Standardized evidence handling and presentation structure through peer reviews and delivery retrospectives.

Security Assessment Analyst

Harbor Point Technology Services | June 2021 - June 2022 | Riverside, CA

Supported supervised assessments for web applications, APIs, internal networks, and mobile services. Prepared inventories, test cases, evidence, reporting notes, and client presentations while applying safe exploitation techniques under senior consultant guidance.

Common Vulnerabilities | Burp Suite | Python

LANGUAGES

English — Native

Spanish — Proficient

MY CAREER

- Senior Penetration Tester at Redwood Ridge Security (2.2 Years)
- Penetration Testing Consultant at Canyon Peak Cybersecurity (1.8 Years)
- Security Assessment Analyst at Harbor Point Technology Services (1 Years)

- Prepared asset inventories and test cases from client scopes for supervised **security assessments**.
- Validated application and network issues with Burp Suite, **Nmap**, **Wireshark**, and OWASP checklists.
- Reproduced authentication and input weaknesses in isolated environments with complete evidence capture.
- Maintained structured findings that improved traceability from discovery through technical review and delivery.
- Translated testing observations into concise presentations for developers, infrastructure teams, and program managers.
- Applied **OSCP** lab techniques for enumeration and privilege escalation within documented engagement constraints.

PROJECTS

Higher Education API Security Review 2024

A focused API review turned complex access-control questions into practical evidence, clear risk priorities, and remediation steps for application teams serving higher education users.

Mobile Authentication Assessment 2023

Careful mobile testing connected authentication behavior with real user risk, giving engineering stakeholders a clearer path from discovery through retesting.

LEADERSHIP & AWARDS

- Cyber Defense Student Excellence Award, California State University, San Bernardino, 2021
- Dean's List, California State University, San Bernardino, 2020 and 2021
- National Cyber League Team Finalist, 2020

EDUCATION

Bachelor's Degree in Cybersecurity

California State University, San Bernardino GPA: 3.8 2021 San Bernardino, CA

Coursework: *Network security, ethical hacking, digital forensics, application security*

CERTIFICATIONS

- Offensive Security Certified Professional (OSCP) 2023
- Cybersecurity Fundamentals Certificate 2021

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- **Web Testing Tools:** Burp Suite, OWASP ZAP, SQLMap
- **Network Testing Tools:** Nmap, Metasploit, Wireshark
- **Programming Languages:** Python, Bash, PowerShell
- **Operating Systems:** Linux, Windows, macOS
- **Application Security:** Web Applications, REST APIs, Mobile Applications
- **Testing Methodologies:** OWASP Testing Guide, Rules of Engagement, Exploitation Workflows
- **Vulnerability Areas:** Injection, Access Control, Authentication
- **Reporting Tools:** Technical Reports, Executive Summaries, Client Presentations
- **Assessment Delivery:** Scoping, Retesting, Evidence Handling
- **Security Domains:** Network Security, Cloud Security, Security Fundamentals
- **Certification Knowledge:** OSCP, Ethical Hacking, Privilege Escalation

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- Cybersecurity Club Peer Mentor, California State University, San Bernardino, 2020-2021
- Capture the Flag Team Competitor, 2019-2021
- OWASP Inland Empire Chapter Volunteer, 2021-2022

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Work Status : Authorized to work in United States. No sponsorship required.

REFERENCES

AVAILABLE ON REQUEST