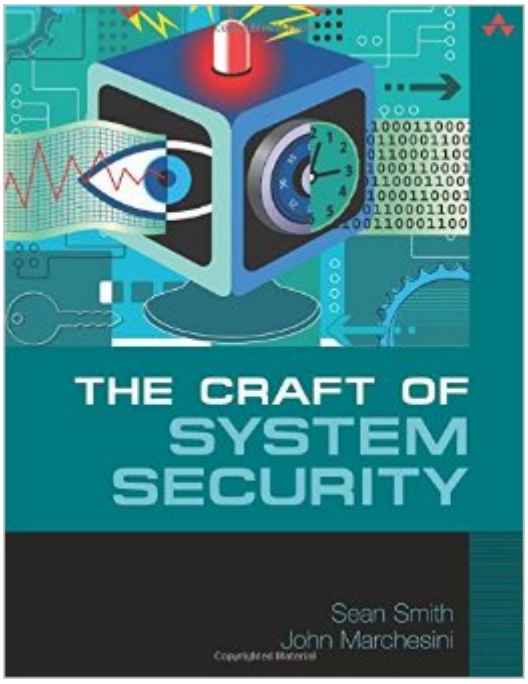
The Craft Of System Security



Synopsis

"I believe The Craft of System Security is one of the best software security books on the market today. It has not only breadth, but depth, covering topics ranging from cryptography, networking, and operating systems--to the Web, computer-human interaction, and how to improve the security of software systems by improving hardware. Bottom line, this book should be required reading for all who plan to call themselves security practitioners, and an invaluable part of every university's computer science curriculum." --Edward Bonver, CISSP, Senior Software QA Engineer, Product Security, Symantec Corporation "Here's to a fun, exciting read: a unique book chock-full of practical examples of the uses and the misuses of computer security. I expect that it will motivate a good number of college students to want to learn more about the field, at the same time that it will satisfy the more experienced professional." --L. Felipe Perrone, Department of Computer Science, Bucknell University Whether you're a security practitioner, developer, manager, or administrator, this book will give you the deep understanding necessary to meet today's security challenges--and anticipate tomorrow's. Unlike most books, The Craft of System Security doesn't just review the modern security practitioner's toolkit: It explains why each tool exists, and discusses how to use it to solve real problems. After quickly reviewing the history of computer security, the authors move on to discuss the modern landscape, showing how security challenges and responses have evolved, and offering a coherent framework for understanding today's systems and vulnerabilities. Next, they systematically introduce the basic building blocks for securing contemporary systems, apply those building blocks to today's applications, and consider important emerging trends such as hardware-based security. After reading this book, you will be able to Understand the classic Orange Book approach to security, and its limitations Use operating system security tools and structures--with examples from Windows, Linux, BSD, and Solaris Learn how networking, the Web, and wireless technologies affect security Identify software security defects, from buffer overflows to development process flaws Understand cryptographic primitives and their use in secure systems Use best practice techniques for authenticating people and computer systems in diverse settings Use validation, standards, and testing to enhance confidence in a system's security Discover the security, privacy, and trust issues arising from desktop productivity tools Understand digital rights management, watermarking, information hiding, and policy expression Learn principles of human-computer interaction (HCI) design for improved security Understand the potential of emerging work in hardware-based security and trusted computing

Book Information

Paperback: 592 pages
Publisher: Addison-Wesley Professional; 1 edition (December 1, 2007)
Language: English
ISBN-10: 0321434838
ISBN-13: 978-0321434838
Product Dimensions: 7 x 1.3 x 9 inches
Shipping Weight: 1.9 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)
Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (5 customer reviews)
Best Sellers Rank: #201,015 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #60 inÂ Books > Computers & Technology > Certification > CompTIA #138 inÂ Books > Computers & Technology > Business Technology > Management Information Systems #158 inÂ Books > Computers & Technology > Security & Encryption > Privacy & Online Safety

Customer Reviews

The preface of the book says that the book grew from a college course to solve this problem: "to provide the right security education to students who may only ever take one security course and then move on toward a wide range of professional careers." Its nice when the authors put the goal of the book at the front, it makes reading it in the proper context much easier and reviewing the book (usually) much easier.I think the authors met their goal of a book to give to people who may only read one security book in a college course and have it be readable and useful. It is written in an understandable manner and provides enough pictures and explanations for someone new to the subject who "has to take the class" and enough math and further reading for someone that wants to really delve into a subject to do so. Important words are in italics so if you wanted to or needed to look up the definitions to really understand the section you could, but there is enough information in the paragraphs to get by.The book also has the added plus of being useful to someone studying for their CISSP (if they actually want to know the subjects). It explains topics that, in my opinion, are not explained very well in the study guides. Their discussion of the orange book was superb and I wish I had this book when I was trying to make sense of it when I was studying. The chapters on cryptography go beyond the typical Alice and Bob stuff you get in most books (Alice and Bob are still there) but they also get into examples of breaking cryptography and explaining how the attacks work and usually backing it up with the math involved. I really could say something good about every chapter in the book. Each chapter is laid out with a solid, consistent road map, is full of quality readable content, and wraps it up with a "take home" message at the end.The Table of Contents

doesn’t seem to be available on but if you are interested in the book, I’d recommend you take a look at it over at the InformIT site. It covers a lot of ground in its five parts of History, Security and the Modern Computing Landscape, Building Blocks for Secure Systems, Applications, and Emerging Tools. The book also comes with a huge list of references and a pretty good index for looking up topics.I usually have my list of likes and dislikes for books. For this book I don’t have any dislikes. The book is readable, well edited, a good font size, and I learned things from it. I’ve been actively recommending it to people at work, especially the guys working on their CISSP.

I was surprised to see that this book has only two previous reviewers. Published 5 years ago, one might think that it is out of date at this point. However, I found Smith and Marchesini both valuable and readable. The authors focus on background and concepts across the whole range of concepts connected with systems security. This includes hardware, software and human elements. They focus on the "craft", rather than the science or just "how to do it" screen shots. A craft has to be passed down from practitioner to practitioner. The book starts with the Orange Book and Saltzer and Schroeder and builds from there. The discussion of the failures (and successes) of these security templates is invaluable for today’s practitioner and academic. Also included is a good bibliography of security papers and books prior to 2008.I recommend this book for academics and practitioners who want to understand the "why" of security practice, not just the how.Fred Scholl

This book is a reasonable introduction to software security, but nothing like what can be gained in a real security architecture class. It was assigned as optional reading for a security class with Steven Bellovin, and is definitely a great way to get an introduction to simple theory behind security as well as get a sense of what is necessary to "think securely" about software systems.

Completely satisfied.

Excellent book! Clear and easy to read.

V/386 library) Worlds of Childhood: The Art and Craft of Writing for Children (The Writer's Craft) Hacking: Computer Hacking:The Essential Hacking Guide for Beginners, Everything You need to know about Hacking, Computer Hacking, and Security ... Bugs, Security Breach, how to hack) CompTIA Security+ Guide to Network Security Fundamentals (with CertBlaster Printed Access Card) Securing Web Services with WS-Security: Demystifying WS-Security, WS-Policy, SAML, XML Signature, and XML Encryption Programmer's Ultimate Security DeskRef: Your programming security encyclopedia Security Risk Management: Building an Information Security Risk Management Program from the Ground Up Security Analysis: Sixth Edition, Foreword by Warren Buffett (Security Analysis Prior Editions) 6 Months to 6 Figure Passive Income: Anyone Can Do It - Guide to Guaranteed Financial Security .. Make Money While You Sleep (Personal Financial Security) Security Risk Assessment: Managing Physical and Operational Security The Myths of Security: What the Computer Security Industry Doesn't Want You to Know Dynamic Networks and Cyber-Security: 1 (Security Science and Technology) Unix, Solaris and Linux: A Practical Security Cookbook: Securing Unix Operating System Without Third-Party Applications ERNST & YOUNG AUDIT, CONTROL, SECURITY FEATURES OF AIX OPERATING SYSTEM Muscular System Coloring Book: Now you can learn and master the muscular system with ease while having fun Linux: For Beginners - Step By Step User Manual To Learning The Basics Of Linux Operating System Today! (Ubuntu, Operating System)