Vulnerability Scanning vs Penetration Testing

A Comparison Chart

Penetration Testing

Vulnerability Scanning

DEFINITION

Checks your IT environment for known vulnerabilities.

Attempts to exploit your known vulnerabilities.

SCOPE

Assesses vulnerabilities of all your assets from firewalls, software and web apps, servers, and devices.

Targets specific, often critically vulnerable assets only and simulates an attack.

TOOLS

Can be done manually or automatically using a third-party tool.

Usually done manually.

FREQUENCY

Can be completed in as short as several minutes to a few hours and is usually done frequently.

More time-consuming as it can last from several days to weeks and is done annually.

COSTS

Generally low cost.

Relatively more expensive to carry out.

MANPOWER

Performed by trained cyber security professionals.

Performed by highly skilled security analysts or ethical hackers.

Let's Talk

+1 (701) 235-2363 | 1Staff.com | 1staff@professionaladvantage.com

professional advantage