

Forum:[Hack Forums](#)

Thread: [Describe the Hacker Hats](#)

Omniscient - October 28, 2022, 9:00 am

Blackhat - Criminal
White - Ethical
Grey - Neutral
Green - New
Blue - ?
Red -?

Currently there are 6 hacker hats. Used to be just Black, White, and Grey. Now there is Green, Blue, and Red.

Green is easy, that's a new hacker. But how would you describe the Red and Blue?

I'm looking for community definitions, please don't start copying and pasting from sites online. I want to know how you interpret these.

Fkn - October 28, 2022, 9:13 am

A red hat hacker would be a hacker who takes aggressive steps to stop black hat hackers. Blue hats could be one of these two kinds—revenge seekers or external security professionals.

Juoku - October 28, 2022, 9:20 am

If I had to interpret them myself I'd go with:

Red - beginner criminal
Blue - beginner ethical

Although the more sensible would be red and blue like the ethical teams for offensive and defensive

Slyboo.ts - October 28, 2022, 9:25 am

Green, blue and red can be classified as experience levels.

Green hat: Novice hacker.
Blue hat: Experienced hacker.
Red hat: Highly experienced hacker.

Black, white and gray can be classified as special classifications for which only red hat hackers (the highly experienced) qualify.

Black hat: Highly experienced unethical/unlawful hacker.
White hat: Highly experienced ethical/lawful hacker.
Gray hat: Highly experienced antihero hacker.

Vibe - October 28, 2022, 9:25 am

Blue is for the police hackers

SecureOp - October 28, 2022, 9:25 am

(Oct 28, 2022 09:07 AM)Exploit_R4v3n Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I always thought they meant red/blue hat was:

Red: offensive security expert

Blue: defensive security expert

But at the end of the day they're still whitehat

then green would be a skid

Yeh I like this interpretation.

blackrose_x0x0 - October 28, 2022, 10:24 am

Don't blue and red hat both fall under the umbrella of white hat hackers? Red hats are red teamers (offensive) and blue hats are blue teamers (defensive).

I've never seen the green hat before except in some intro to cybersecurity class I took.

SIM-587985 - October 28, 2022, 11:11 am

[mention=5037217] what do you think?

Velma - October 28, 2022, 12:29 pm

White - Hacks for legal and good reasons

Black - Criminal, illegal hacking doing some shady business

Red - Specialises in attacking

Blue - Specialises in defending

Grey - Does borderline illegal stuff, but usually partakes in white hat activity not scared to bend the rules as much as they can without getting their hands chopped.

Omniscient - October 28, 2022, 12:29 pm

Thanks guys. You brought more clarity to those hats for me. Will make my plans easier. :) Stay tuned!

Pentatonix - October 28, 2022, 12:46 pm

Blue & Red should definitely stand for their respective teams. Red Team - Pentesting, etc.

Offensive. Blue team - SOC/Engineer, etc is defensive. Both fall under the whitehat umbrella VS the ominous Blackhat community. Green I'd imagine is just newer and hasn't gotten to either side as of yet.

grady - October 28, 2022, 12:47 pm

(Oct 28, 2022 12:46 PM)Pentatonix Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Green I'd imagine is just newer and hasn't gotten to either side as of yet.

From Google green hat looks like new ppl

In some situation "Green Hat" also handles the infrastructure behind blue/red interactions to make sure things go smoothly if there's something active

Nate - October 28, 2022, 1:07 pm

Blue reminds me of someone working cyber security or cyber warfare for government or corporations

And the red hat is a communist soviet Russia hacker

webdev77 - October 28, 2022, 2:42 pm

(Oct 28, 2022 09:07 AM)Exploit_R4v3n Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I always thought they meant red/blue hat was:

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then green would be a skid
I'm late to the party here, but I feel like the red team vs. blue team has to be it.

Very curious to see what this is going to result in on HF.

LeetSpeed - October 29, 2022, 2:08 pm

Here is how I interpret the hats;

Blackhat - Criminal
White - Ethical
Grey - sits on the fence is neither bad or good
Green - New on the block range
Blue - a vengeful one
Red - Vigilante type [warn]

Omniscient - October 29, 2022, 3:51 pm

(Oct 29, 2022 02:08 PM)LeetSpeed Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Here is how I interpret the hats;

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That's a copy/paste explanation. Unacceptable.

LeetSpeed - October 29, 2022, 3:53 pm

(Oct 29, 2022 03:51 PM)Admin Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) That's a copy/paste explanation. Unacceptable.
Ok I guess you wanted a more thought out response.

Goku - October 29, 2022, 3:54 pm

Blue - Ex hacker (retired)
Red - Script kiddie

(Oct 28, 2022 02:42 PM)webdev77 Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I'm late to the party here, but I feel like the red team vs. blue team has to be it.

Very curious to see what this is going to result in on HF.
That's also a pretty good idea. Like Bloods vs Crips xd

Mr. Robot - October 29, 2022, 4:54 pm

Blackhat - Someone who would break the law to achieve what they want.
White - Someone who wouldn't break the law to achieve what they want.
Grey - Someone who would break the law if their target is breaking the law.
Green - Enthusiastic noob who has yet to decide their pathway with hats to wear.

Red and Blue = don't exist. These are just a way to subcategorize those who break the law and those who don't. Specifically these 'hats' come from the idea that on a good day a blackhat or greyhat might feel a certain way about a certain topic. It doesn't change the fact of what they are doing and what they are willing to do.

This is just my personal opinion however so w/e
I class myself as a gray hat. Fuck the chinese scam sites.

(Oct 28, 2022 12:46 PM)Pentatonix Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Blue & Red should definitely stand for their respective teams. Red Team - Pentesting, etc. Offensive. Blue team - SOC/Engineer, etc is defensive. Both fall under the whitehat umbrella VS the ominous Blackhat community. Green I'd imagine is just newer and hasn't gotten to either side as of yet.
Blue and red teaming are definitely different than 'hats'.

InspectorGadget - October 29, 2022, 8:36 pm

I'll throw my hat in the ring for my opinions:

Blackhat - Criminal, is happy to break most / any laws and widespread views on morality to achieve their goal. Example being certain "penetration testing" companies that encrypt critical data for critical systems, some of which lives depend on.

White - Ethical, their hacking and methods fall within the laws of their country and in most cases, the laws of their target. Whitehat's are usually involved in planned out pen-tests or bug bounty programs with clearly defined scopes. Example - hacker contracted to perform a Pentest against XYZ items in scope with full legal paperwork / agreements.

Grey - Usually a mixture of white and black (duurrrr) but will find themselves more likely to "bend the rules" or have a justification for outright breaking them. Justification may actually be good or bad. Example - Finding a security vulnerability, reporting it, vendor doesn't agree so you use the vulnerability to DM yourself a message from them to prove your point.

Green - I consider this to be a re-branding of the term Skid, although I guess it could come across as friendlier or nicer, with Skid having negative connotations around lack of effort whereas Green Hat can be seen as making it obvious somebody is quite new and / or learning the basics but understands this area of knowledge isn't an overnight thing and is happy to ask questions and solely use tools by other people. (Off topic - but anybody gate-keeping Cyber Sec with the mindset of "not using only your own custom made tools means you're useless" is likely a hypocrite and has a fragile ego.)

Blue- Professionally employed defensive stance - usually by companies / Orgs that have a mature Cyber Security policy and framework, this type of hacker usually would work as part of a larger team, often referred to as Blue Team, these are usually setup to respond to and seek out threats to the Org's networks / Infrastructure. They will also work with the Red Team to establish how best to detect and defend from the Red Team attacks.

Red - Professionally employed offensive stance - usually by companies / Orgs that have a mature Cyber Security policy and framework and a bigger budget for Cyber Security - this is because a company with a limited budget is seemingly more likely to have Cyber Defense rather than offense, this type of hacker usually would work as part of a larger team, often referred to as Red Team. The Red Team will attempt to invade the Org as if they were not employed at the Org, I.E they have to start from an outside point of view. They may try to smuggle sensitive information out of the Org network - the Blue Team would have to detect and prevent this, the Red Team has to find a way to avoid the detection. When a Red Team is successful, they would normally talk to the Blue Team to show where things went wrong and how the Org's overall security posture could be improved.

I personally think that the hats should stay at White, Black and Gray. I think that Blue and Red don't describe hackers as Blue and Red (and Purple) "hats" could be worn by people that would not describe themselves as hackers but do still work in Info Sec. A Digital Assurance Consultant or somebody in charge of Patch Management would likely not consider themselves a Blue Hat Hacker but would see themselves as a Blue "Hat" wearing, as they work in the Cyber Defense area of the Org. IMO, in a world that would cater to my view of the best idea's; either class all the colours as hacker related, or brand black / white / gray to be more Cyber Sec generalized.

Just my two cents.

Omniscient - October 29, 2022, 9:16 pm

(Oct 29, 2022 09:14 PM)php Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Without looking at anyone else's response:

Green, blue, red to me is a spectrum of skill level.

While white, grey, black is a spectrum of legality and ethics.
You might want to read some responses then.

vegetajgd - October 30, 2022, 11:03 am

(Oct 28, 2022 09:07 AM)Exploit_R4v3n Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I always thought they meant red/blue hat was:

Red: offensive security expert

Blue: defensive security expert

But at the end of the day they're still whitehat

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Would agree with this one. And green i feel is like a beginner hacker who has not decided yet which way to go but is versed in the aspects of hacking to get himself/herself a Green Hat.