

Forum:[Hack Forums](#)

Thread: [How to Start in Cybersecurity: Share Your Personal Journey & Top Advice](#)

Sutil - June 30, 2023, 2:49 am

?Hi All,

We were all beginners once, trying to navigate the complex world of cybersecurity. This thread is all about reminiscing and offering a helping hand to those just starting out. Here, we'll share our personal journeys, the challenges we've encountered, the resources that helped us, and advice we wish we'd received when we first started.

I encourage everyone to contribute regardless of your level of expertise - whether you've been in the field for decades or just landed your first job. Please remember to respect everyone's experiences and refrain from posting any illegal content. Let's keep it professional and supportive!

How did you get started in cybersecurity?

What were the biggest challenges you faced as a beginner?

What resources (books, courses, websites) would you recommend to a novice?

What advice would you give to someone just starting out in the field?

Any other tips, tricks, or anecdotes you'd like to share?

This thread could become an invaluable resource for anyone interested in getting into cybersecurity. Let's learn from each other and grow together!

The first big challenge that I've encountered is the overwhelming amount of information available. So many languages, tools, concepts, practices... its tough to figure out where to start. Plus, it can be daunting to see how much there is to learn.

BiNBo - June 30, 2023, 6:13 am

I'll bite.

How did you get started in cybersecurity?

What got me interested, well many years ago I started learning about programming and logic concepts. The idea that you could get a computer to do just about anything you could imagine just by learning to tell it how in it's own language fascinated me as a child. From that point forward, I spent years learning and teaching myself everything I could on my own, and eventually once I hit my undergraduate program I decided to start moving towards IT and Cybersecurity. By the time I hit graduate school, I was well invested into a career field I absolutely love.

What were the biggest challenges you faced as a beginner?

Biggest challenges would have to be the quality of materials out there to learn on your own from, granted what's available today and what I had access to are totally different. With modern resources, it's never been more easy to start teaching yourself.

What resources (books, courses, websites) would you recommend to a novice?

Check out the ISC2 CC certification, as of the time of posting this you can sign up for the course and exam for free. It can help just about anybody get a feel for the concepts and ideas that encompass cybersecurity at the entry level. It can even help you to get your first entry level job!

Another resource is [TryHackMe](#) (my preference) and the very similar but not quite as tuned (if you

ask me) [HackTheBox](#) which both can help with understanding the basic and slightly more advanced concepts. As well as offering the opportunity to get some hands on practice with some pretty fun tools and skills.

What advice would you give to someone just starting out in the field?

Never stop searching, there's always something new to learn and some sort of fun way to practice your skills.

Any other tips, tricks, or anecdotes you'd like to share?

If you find yourself working as a systems administrator, accept a single fact. Your end users will find a way past filters, firewalls, etc. to get to porn. EVERY TIME. It's not an if, it's a when.

Sutil - June 30, 2023, 11:32 am

Thank you for sharing!??

Sutil - July 1, 2023, 8:23 am

(Jul 1, 2023 07:48 AM)phantomman55 Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) The question is why do you want to know? I myself am not in cybersecurity. However, I can code and do many different IT things on my own.

So, the questions you asked I wouldn't be able to answer it. I am just curious as to why you want people to reply to your questions?

I assume you want to get into cybersecurity yourself?

Yes, I'm asking because I myself want to know about others experiences however I feel like it would be beneficial for other beginners as well.

javierpena - July 1, 2023, 10:47 pm

How did you get started in cybersecurity?

A long time ago a friend of mine was bullied by someone and he was able to get inside his email and from there mess with his facebook by posting embarrassing statuses. This situation got me thinking that I can impose anonymous revenge on people who annoy me

What were the biggest challenges you faced as a beginner?

To understand that it takes a lot of years, hands on experience and patience to get to a level where you can actually do some interesting things

What resources (books, courses, websites) would you recommend to a novice?

What helped me the most is this guy's youtube channel <https://www.youtube.com/@ippsec>

What advice would you give to someone just starting out in the field?

Be patient, take long breaks from studying when you feel you are overwhelmed and if breaks don't help you really think if this is something you are actually interested in or just want to do it because others do it

Any other tips, tricks, or anecdotes you'd like to share?

Don't get seriously involved with anonymous people in the field until you have a solid knowledge about protecting yourself.

Bastille - July 1, 2023, 11:13 pm

Hello Sutil

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As I mentioned to try to learn with other people, we are building a lab in the apartment of an intern I'm friend with at work. He was learning alone, I was learning alone, we discussed about sysadmin and cybersecurity and we ended up to create a computer club for us and few other interns. After the office we go to his apartment, at weekends too, and it's really more pleasant to learn with other people who are passionate. It makes me think about the 80's / 90's when Internet wasn't the thing we know now, and guys used to go their friends' house to talk, learn, practice.

Blockonome - July 3, 2023, 3:33 am

(Jul 1, 2023 11:13 PM)Yseurk Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Hello Sutil

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I think this is of much value and I believe anyone wanting to step into this line of work, could get some beneficial information from this post.

Bastille - July 3, 2023, 9:51 am

(Jul 3, 2023 03:33 AM)Stan Marsh Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I think this is of much value and I believe anyone wanting to step into this line of work, could get some beneficial information from this post.

Thanks mate I appreciate :) I hope to share more and inspire beginners to learn cybersecurity

Sutil - July 3, 2023, 10:45 am

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