

# OWASP Mobile Top 10

OWASP Korea Day 2013

July 13, 2013

Beau Woods

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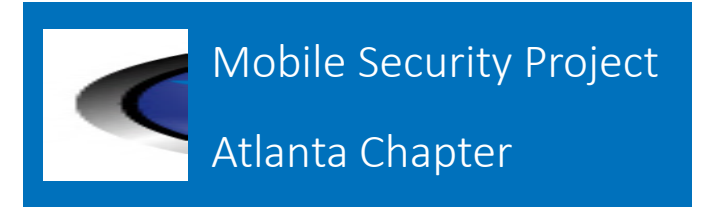
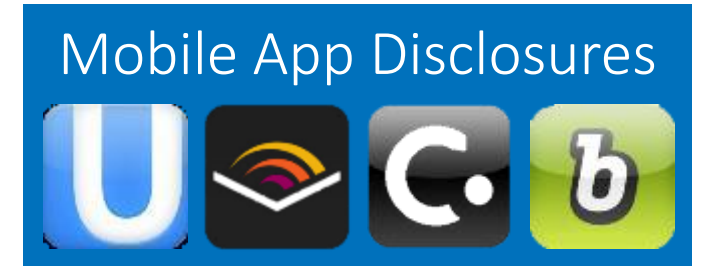
# About Me

35 yo American

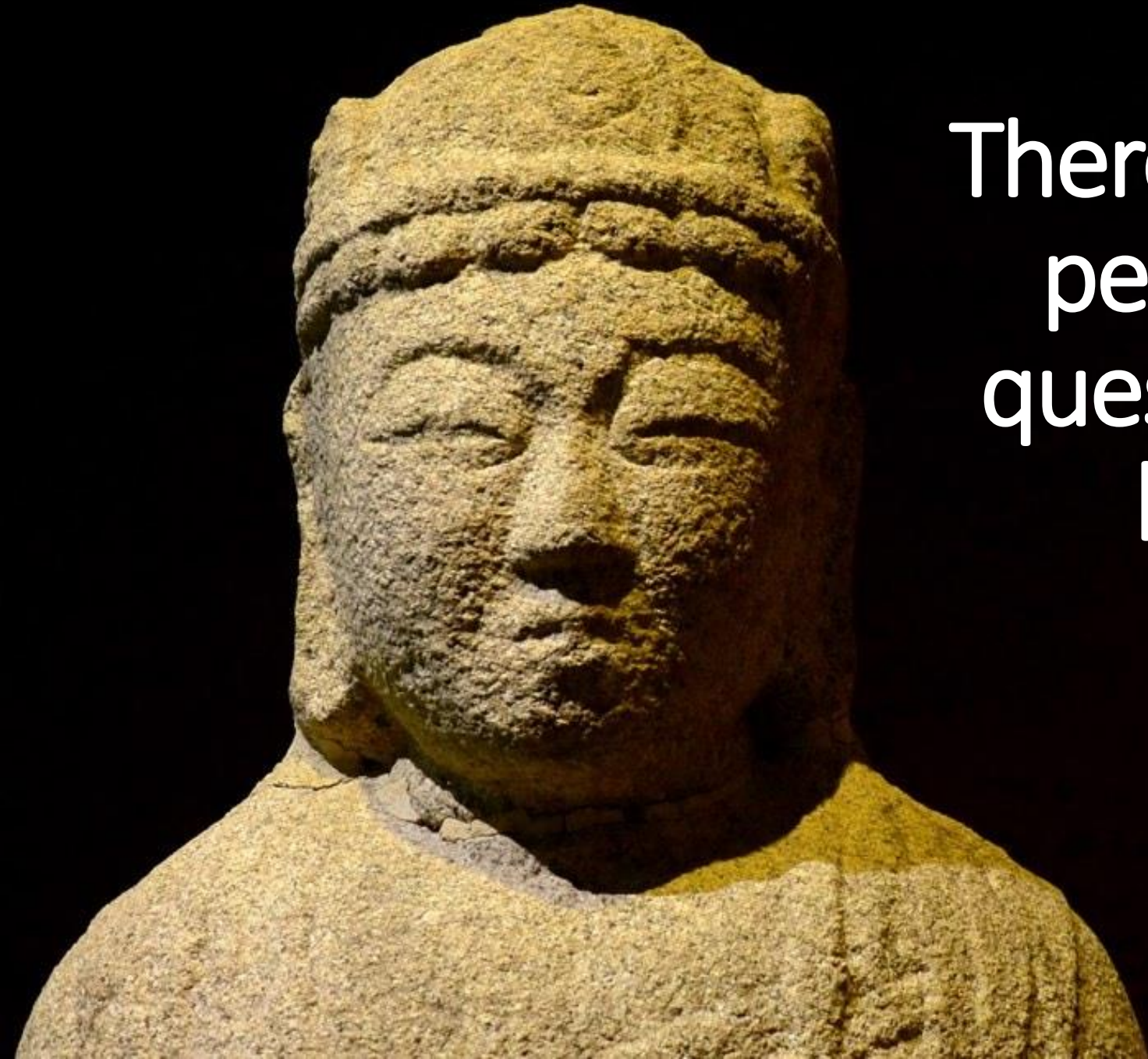
In S. Korea since February

17 years in IT & Information Security

Recovering Technologist



Passionate about travel, security...and Korean food



There are two types of  
people who have no  
questions. Those who  
know nothing and  
those who know  
everything.  
-Korean Proverb

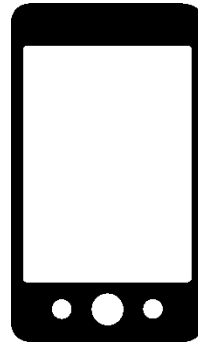
# Mobile Elements



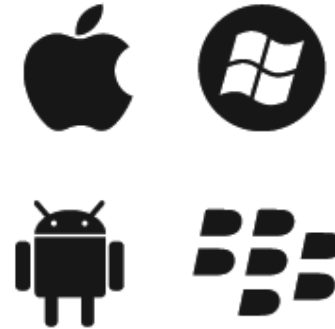
Server



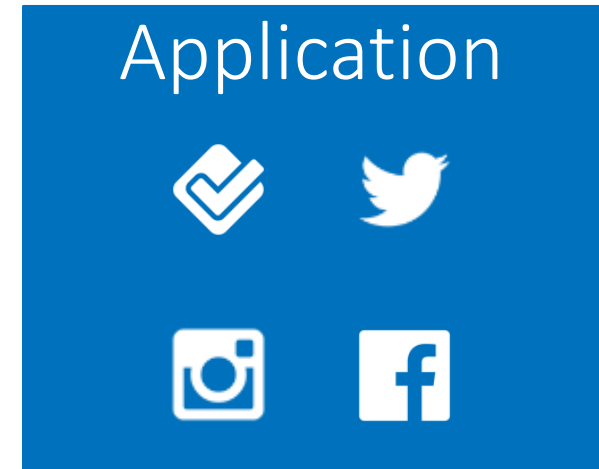
Network



Hardware



Platform



Client

# Mobile Considerations

## Mobile Devices

### Use models

Always on  
Always connected  
Omnipresent

### Capabilities

Communications  
Limited resources  
Highly variable

### Hardware

Extensive RF & SSD  
Highly variable  
Not upgradable

### Platform

Highly variable  
Limited options  
Variable security

## Traditional Devices

### Use models

Frequently off  
Disconnected  
Location-bound

### Capabilities

Many resources  
Robust platform  
Well documented

### Hardware

Limited RF & HDD  
Highly variable  
Highly upgradable

### Platform

Standardized  
Well understood  
Robust security

# OWASP Mobile Top 10 Risks

M1 Insecure Data Storage

M2 Weak Server Side Controls

M3 Insufficient Transport Layer Protection

M4 Client Side Injection

M5 Poor Authorization and Authentication

M6 Improper Session Handling

M7 Security Decisions via Untrusted Inputs

M8 Side Channel Data Leakage

M9 Broken Cryptography

M10 Sensitive Information Disclosure

Alpha Documentation

Mobile Security Project

Top 10 Risks

Top 10 Controls

Threat Model

Testing Guide

Tools

Secure Development

# M1 Insecure Data Storage

## Sensitive data

Authentication data

Regulated information

Business-specific information

Private information

## Examples



## Recommendations

Business must define, classify, assign owner & set requirements

Acquire, transmit, use and store as little sensitive data as possible

Inform and confirm data definition, collection, use & handling

Mobile  
Controls  
1, 2 & 7

## Protections

1. Reduce use and storage
2. Encrypt or hash
3. Platform-specific secure storage with restricted permissions

7

# M2 Weak Server Side Controls



## OWASP Top 10 Web Application Risks 2013

- A1 Injection
- A2 Broken Authentication and Session Management
- A3 Cross-Site Scripting (XSS)
- A4 Insecure Direct Object References
- A5 Security Misconfiguration
- A6 Sensitive Data Exposure
- A7 Missing Function Level Access Control
- A8 Cross-Site Request Forgery (CSRF)
- A9 Using Components with Known Vulnerabilities
- A10 Unvalidated Redirects and Forwards

## Recommendations

- Always validate input
- Don't trust the client
- Harden mobile app servers & services
- Beware information disclosure
- Understand host & network controls
- Perform integrity checking regularly

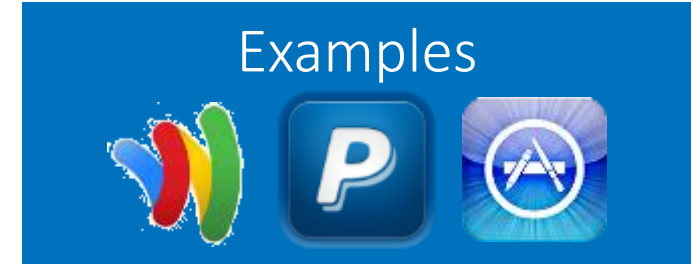
Mobile  
Controls  
5 & 6



# M3 Insufficient Transport Layer Protection

## Impact

Expose authentication data  
Disclosure other **sensitive information**  
Injection  
Data tampering



## Recommendations

Use platform-provided cryptographic libraries  
Force strong methods & valid certificates  
Test for certificate errors & warnings  
Use pre-defined certificates, as appropriate  
Encrypt sensitive information before sending  
All transport, including RFID, NFC, Bluetooth Wifi, Carrier  
Avoid HTTP GET method

Mobile  
Controls  
3

# M4 Client Side Injection

## Impact

App or device compromise

Abuse resources or services (SMS, phone, payments, online banking)

Extract or inject data

**Man-in-the-Browser (MITB)**

## Recommendations

Always validate input

Don't trust the server

Harden mobile app clients

Beware information disclosure

Perform integrity checking regularly

Mobile  
Controls  
9

# M5 Poor Authorization and Authentication

## Impacts

- Account takeover
- Confidentiality breach
- Fraudulent transactions

## Recommendations

- Use appropriate methods for the risk
- Use unique identifiers as additional (not primary) factors
- Differentiate between client vs. server authentication
- Ensure out-of-band methods are truly OOB (this is hard)
- Hardware-independent identifiers

Mobile  
Controls  
4

## Examples



## Most common methods

- Account name
- Password
- Oauth
- HTTP Cookies
- Stored passwords
- Unique tokens

# M6 Improper Session Handling

## Impacts

- Account takeover
- Confidentiality breach
- Fraudulent transactions

## Most common methods

- Oauth
- HTTP Cookies
- Stored passwords
- Unique tokens

## Recommendations

- Allow revocation of device/password
- Use strong tokens and generation methods
- Consider appropriate session length (longer than web)
- Reauthenticate periodically or after focus change
- Store and transmit session tokens securely

Mobile  
Controls  
4

# M7 Security Decisions via Untrusted Inputs

## Description

Reliance on files, settings, network resources or other inputs which may be modified.

## Recommendations

- Validate settings and files with checksums
- Validate all inputs
- Encrypt communications
- Ensure trusted data sources

## Examples

- DNS settings
- Cookies
- Configuration files
- Network injection
- Mobile malware
- URL calls

# M8 Side Channel Data Leakage

## Side channel data

Caches

Keystroke logging (by platform)

Screenshots (by platform)

Logs



## Recommendations

Consider server-side leakage

Reduce client-side logging

Consider mobile-specific private information

Consider platform-specific data capture features

Securely cache data (consider SSD limitations)

Mobile  
Controls  
1, 2, 3, 6 & 7

# M9 Broken Cryptography

## Cryptography

- ...is not encoding
- ...is not obfuscation
- ...is not serialization
- ...is best left to the experts

*“The only way to tell good cryptography from bad cryptography is to have it examined by experts.”*

**-Bruce Schneier**

## Examples



## Recommendations

- Use only well-vetted cryptographic libraries
- Understand one-way vs. two-way encryption
- Use only well-vetted cryptographic libraries (not a typo)
- Use only platform-provided cryptographic storage
- Use only well-vetted cryptographic libraries (still not a typo)
- Protect cryptographic keys fanatically
- Use only well-vetted cryptographic libraries (seriously - always do this)

Mobile  
Controls  
1, 2 & 3

# M10 Sensitive Information Disclosure

## Side application data

API or encryption keys

Passwords

Sensitive business logic

Internal company information

Debugging or maintenance information

## Recommendations

Store sensitive application data server-side

Avoid hardcoding information in the application

Use platform-specific secure storage areas



## M1 Insecure Data Storage

- Account number & passcode stored in flat text file

## Risks & mitigating factors

- Passcode not used for other systems
- App contained and accessed sensitive and private information



## M5 Poor Authorization & Authentication

- Account name and password in plain text
- Used HTTP GET method (logged to server)

## M8 Side Channel Data Leakage

- Logged password to client and server

## M9 Broken Cryptography

- First attempt to fix issue obfuscated password

## Risks & mitigating factors

- Same password used for web application
- Password reuse likely
- Stored password securely





## M1 Insecure Data Storage

- Account number & password stored in flat text file

## Risks & mitigating factors

- App contained and accessed private information
- Password reuse likely
- App used by Arab Spring protests





## DIY Vulnerability Discovery

- Explore files on mobile devices and backups
- Search for passwords
- Sniff network connections
- Downgrade SSL

## OWASP Resources

- WebScarab
- GoatDroid
- iGoat
- MobiSec
- iMas
- Mobile Testing Guide



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