HackTheBox and OSCP: Thinking Outside the Box

Dylan Makowski
[dmakowski:~]$ whoami
What is HackTheBox?

The creators keep it nice and simple:

“A massive playground for you to learn and improve your pen-testing skills.”
Who is HackTheBox for?

Simply put...hackers! From system administrators, to software developers, to any person interested in security!
Where does OSCP come in?
OSCP, or the Offensive Security Certified Professional certification, is a highly regarded and difficult penetration testing certification. It is achieved by hacking your way through several challenge boxes.
Differences between HTB and PWK
HackTheBox is more of an all around penetration testing platform made by the community. This can be amazing, and sometimes not so great...

PWK, or Penetration Testing with Kali Linux, is Offensive Security’s paid lab environment, which is tailored to help students get familiar with the penetration testing mindset.
Pros and Cons of PWK

**PWK pros:**
- Tailored to help prep for OSCP
- Created by the same company who created the exam
- Forum filled with other students willing to help

**PWK cons:**
- Costly
- “Outdated”
- Not a lot of “noob” friendly guides
HTB pros:
- Free and paid version
- Extensive community to help with challenges
- Wide variety of boxes and standalone challenges
- Pro Labs

HTB cons:
- Some boxes can be hit or miss
- Other users can be, at times, toxic
- More “CTF-y” than pure pen testing environment
OSCP Prep Time
How to Prep

If you can afford it, definitely go through the PWK course work. HTB is good to practice particular techniques, but the CTF aspects that HTB presents do not correlate to the OSCP exam.
Questions?
Hack The Box Challenge

https://www.hackthebox.eu/invite