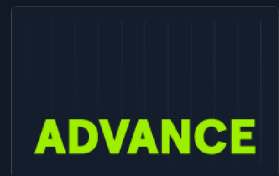
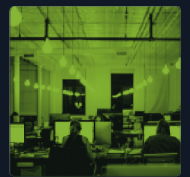
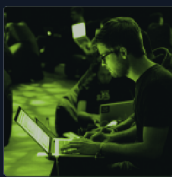
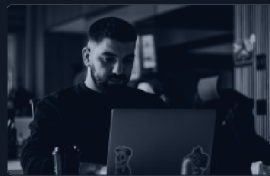
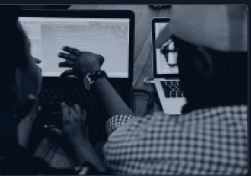


Cybersecurity training platform buyers guide

What you need to look for in your next cybersecurity performance platform.



Summary

Hack The Box (HTB) has been recognized as a leader in The Forrester Wave™: Cybersecurity Skills And Training Platforms, Q4 2023. We wanted to take this opportunity to evaluate what makes an exceptional cybersecurity training platform and what you should expect from your next provider.



Cybersecurity training is changing

The cyber threat landscape constantly changes, with new vulnerabilities discovered daily. On top of this, we see emerging threats from AI that security teams need to quickly respond to, along with boosting defenses of newer technologies, including the cloud.

With the rapidly evolving industry, our traditional training needs to change too, if we want our cybersecurity teams to keep pace.



Cybersecurity training	Cybersecurity performance
Relies on certifications and multiple-choice questions.	Focuses on teaching provable skills for real-world scenarios.
Is simply there to tick a box.	Offers a human-first approach designed to create and maintain high-performing cyber professionals.
One-size-fits-all approach with no flexibility.	Is flexible and personalized to individual needs.
The training doesn't fit your organization.	Aligns with organizational objectives and workforce development.
Once certified, the training and learning stops.	Goes beyond upskilling and solves issues such as retention, burnout, and provides clear career paths.
A one-off training session that's quickly forgotten.	A place you return to day in and day out for continuous learning that supports career development.



Expect timely hands-on content



Aside from any certification-focused content (typically updated to match the certification bodies' glacial pace), your CS&T provider must keep pace with the evolving threat and technology landscape with R&D and content experts ready and able to release new, relevant training courses and labs on a weekly or biweekly basis

The Forrester Wave™

Here's what we provide at HTB:

- ✔ New Machines are released **every week** on [HTB Enterprise Platform](#), offering over 600 virtual Machines and Challenges for your team to upskill on the latest Common Vulnerabilities and Exposures (CVEs).
- ✔ Advanced Red Team labs test your preparedness level with complex, challenging, real-world scenarios, vastly reducing detection and response time. Halborn, a SAAAS (Security Advisor as a Service) company, [reduced their time spent conducting audits by 25%](#) thanks to HTB training.
- ✔ Content categorization enables managers to understand better how lab content within the platform relates to particular skills such as areas of interest, frameworks, vulnerabilities, and more.



Enable security workforce development with reporting and benchmarking



Look for CS&T platforms that deliver reports, dashboards, and metrics at the executive level, offer custom post-exercise results with detailed recommendations, and integrate into tools, like GRC, that track risks and associated mitigation efforts.

The Forrester Wave™



To be truly effective, cybersecurity performance must align with organizational objectives for efficient workforce development.

Go beyond simply reporting completion rates and map to specific skills, highlighting the development and how this benefits the business with risk reduction to justify additional investment.

By benchmarking your team's learning progression, you can report success metrics that align with risk-averse KPIs to the board.

After benchmarking skills with a CTF, you can conduct a gap analysis to identify disparities between a team's current and desired capabilities. It involves evaluating skills, processes, and technologies against company goals to pinpoint areas for improvement.

Our reporting allows leaders to showcase the competency of their team to stakeholders, instilling confidence in the cybersecurity strategy.



Completion Activity

Get a quick overview of your member's completions.

Last 7 Days ▾

	Sat 26/8	Sun 27/8	Mon 28/8	Tue 29/8	Wed 30/8	Thu 31/8	Fri 1/9
All	0	0	3	0	0	0	0
Machines	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Machine Flags	0	0	2	0	0	0	0
Challenges	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sherlocks	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sherlock questions	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

0 1-5 6-10 11+

Keep track of the areas your team is upskilling in.

Your next performance platform should enable you to track the following metrics:



Increased
time spent on
training / upskilling



Increased
team engagement
level



Decreased
response time or
incident recovery



We use the Dedicated Labs instances for CTFs we host every Friday afternoon. It's a fun and casual way for the team to gather and work together to solve challenges and our favorite way to end the work week!

Gabe Lawrence,
VP of Information @



Here's how we do this at HTB:

- ✔ Extensive reporting and skill progression benchmarking with [HTB Enterprise Platform](#) tracks engagement, content completed, tools utilized, techniques implemented, and difficulty.
- ✔ Map Machines to MITRE ATT&CK and NIST NICE frameworks so you can assess your cyber preparedness in different areas.
- ✔ Facilitate CTF events so that managers can test and benchmark team performance after using the platform, with a live event-based scoreboard with team and individual performance, following up with a detailed team and player report after the event.
- ✔ Content categorization enables managers to track individual growth with content mapped to real-world skills such as areas of interest, technologies, frameworks, vulnerabilities, and more.



Increase company-wide performance



Look for CS&T platforms that deliver upskilling for functions like governance, risk, and compliance (GRC); include application and API security content; provide cross-training content in DevOps, agile, and networking; offer opportunities to develop security champions outside of security and IT; and deliver foundational cybersecurity training for prospective internal candidates to gauge interest in security as a career.

The Forrester Wave™

A career in cybersecurity isn't a simple straight line, it requires 360-degree upskilling in all aspects of the industry. This is why your next performance platform needs to facilitate purple teaming by encouraging team collaboration.

When red teams understand how blue teams defend and vice versa, both can better identify their weaknesses. But this can only be put into practice if your performance platform enables it.

It goes deeper still. The foundational skills and mindset of a hacking professional need to be taught from the get-go. It's this creative problem-solving that leads to the greatest cybersecurity professionals.

Easi, a European IT services partner, doubled the content shared in Red and Blue team meetings using HTB, and as a result, improved Purple team training.



So, how do we do this at HTB?

- ✔ Create defensive versions of offensive Machines for both red and blue teams to collaborate on.
- ✔ Teach the foundational skills with Academy, which can then be put to the test in Dedicated and Professional Labs.
- ✔ Help organizations build a resilient security program across all functions with cross-training content for IT and developers.
- ✔ Content categorization enables managers to filter by areas of interest, encouraging the use of different skills.



Offers tailored training to specific job roles

Managers need to develop detection strategies, evaluate threats, and monitor efficiency, all of which can be done with the right tools. By having a performance platform that offers clear career paths and personalized programs, you'll improve employee learning while providing tangible results to the business.

For this reason, we have carefully mapped our courses and labs to the MITRE ATT&CK and NIST NICE frameworks. Managers using the [HTB Enterprise Platform](#) can easily search courses using MITRE terminology and assign them based on the techniques and tactics relevant to their teams.

What's more, our content is also categorized by the latest CVEs, areas of interest, technologies, and OWASP.

With Hack The Box, you can:

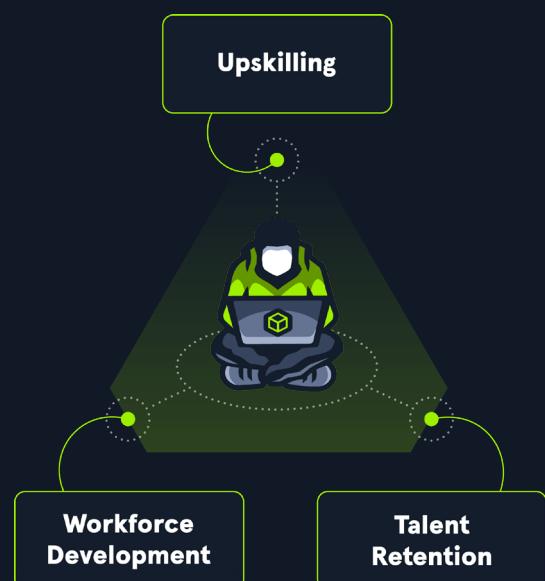
- ✔ Target specific MITRE ATT&CK and NIST NICE framework skills.
- ✔ Identify blind spots by mapping skills to then build a performance program strategy.
- ✔ Help organizations build a resilient security program across all functions with cross-training content for IT and developers.
- ✔ Have the flexibility to assign performance programs to individual needs.
- ✔ Report on performance to the board with MITRE-aligned skills.

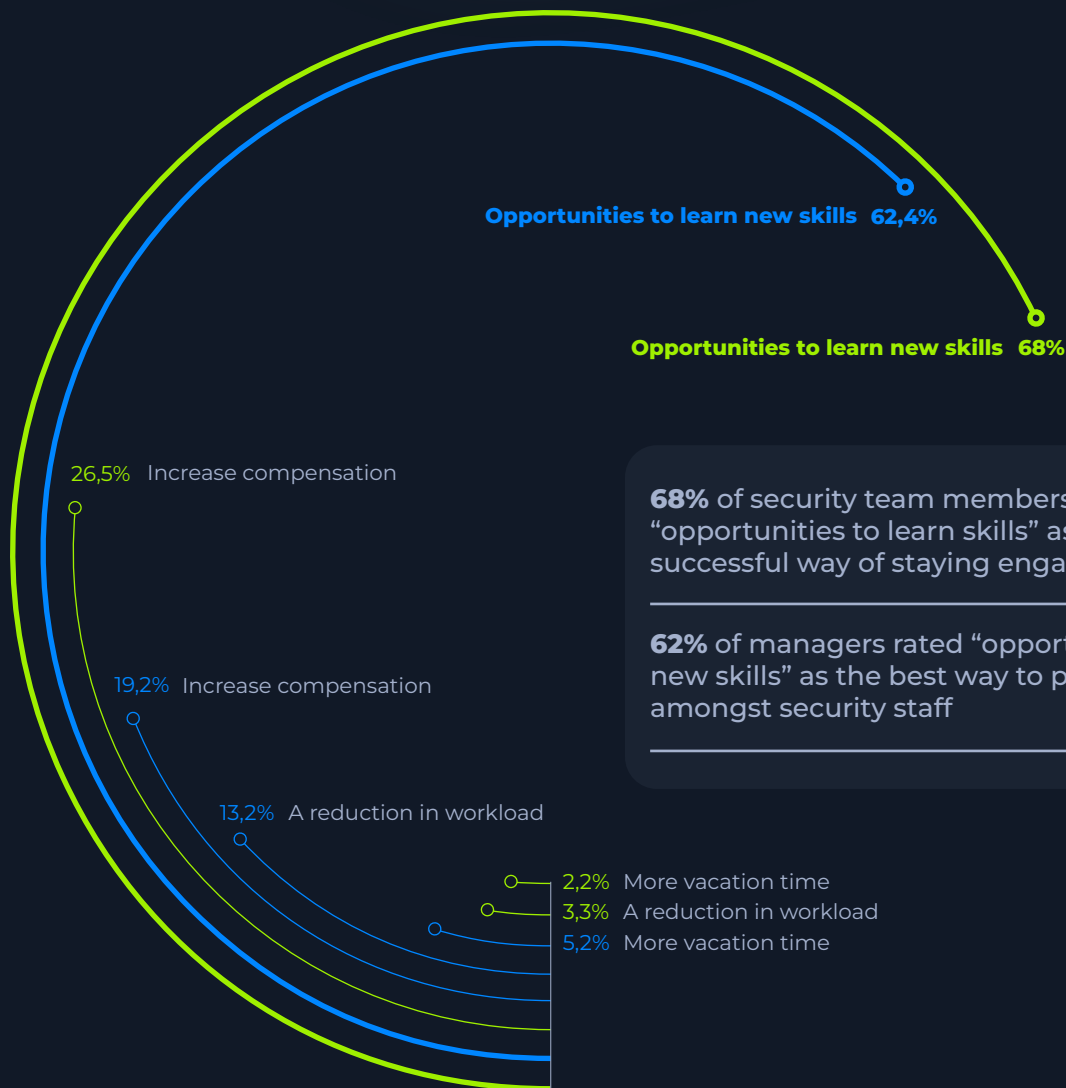
Embrace a human-first approach

People are at the heart of great cybersecurity teams. Performance platforms must be multi-layered, creating and maintaining high-performing cyber professionals who love their work.

Performance platforms should be used to develop skills, remain engaged at work, fight burnout, and fall even more in love with their roles in your organization.

Cybersecurity professionals are in high demand, with a huge skills gap plaguing the industry. So, how can you stand out from the competition and retain your team? With the right platform by your side.





68% of security team members rated “opportunities to learn skills” as the most successful way of staying engaged at work

62% of managers rated “opportunities to learn new skills” as the best way to prevent burnout amongst security staff

How HTB offers human-first performance:

- ✔ 2.5 million community of cybersecurity professionals looking to learn and support one another.
- ✔ Engaging gamified upskilling that develops and grows careers.
- ✔ Fun CTFs encourage friendly competition and teamwork while offering managers an opportunity to assess and benchmark skills. More than 70% of managers view team events like CTFs as a viable way to boost employee engagement. ([Cyber attack readiness report](#)).
- ✔ Provide clear career paths and development opportunities to teams, fighting fatigue and boosting engagement.
- ✔ Personalized learning opportunities and flexible training with guided mode and write-ups for Machines.



Choose HTB as your next performance platform

Today's cyber threats present a new challenge to organizations, and unskilled teams pose a real risk to the security of your business.

This is why cybersecurity performance programs and continuous improvement are no longer a nice-to-have; but a necessity.

Hack The Box has been recognized by Forrester as a leader in upskilling platforms that keep pace with the cybersecurity industry and create high-performing teams.

Let us do the talking:
[Sign up for a FREE HTB demo](#)

About HTB

Hack The Box is the Cyber Performance Center with the mission to provide a human-first platform to create and maintain high-performing cybersecurity individuals and organizations.

Hack The Box is the only platform that unites upskilling, workforce development, and the human focus in the cybersecurity industry, and it's trusted by organizations worldwide for driving their teams to peak performance.

Offering an all-in-one environment for continuous growth, assessment, and recruitment, Hack The Box provides solutions for all cybersecurity domains. Launched in 2017, Hack The Box brings together the largest global cybersecurity community of more than 2.6 million platform members.

Rapidly growing its international footprint and reach, Hack The Box is headquartered in the UK, with additional offices in the US, Australia, and Greece.



Keep your top talent with HTB's hiring and retention resources:



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