List of Hoaxes

1. IP source addresses aren’t trustable (page 20).
2. Fragmented packets have been abused to avoid security checks (page 21).
3. ARP-spoofing can lead to session-hijacking (page 22).
4. Sequence number attacks can be used to subvert address-based authentication (page 23).
5. It is easy to spoof UDP packets (page 27).
6. ICMP Redirect messages can subvert routing tables (page 27).
7. IP source routing can subvert address-based authentication (page 29).
8. It is easy to generate bogus RIP messages (page 29).
9. The inverse DNS tree can be used for name-spoofing (page 32).
10. The DNS cache can be contaminated to foil cross-checks (page 32).
11. IPv6 network numbers may change frequently (page 35).
12. IPv6 host addresses change frequently, too (page 35).
13. WEP is useless (page 39).
14. Attackers have the luxury of using nonstandard equipment (page 39).
15. Return addresses in mail aren’t reliable, and this fact is easily forgotten (page 42).
16. Don’t blindly execute MIME messages (page 43).
17. Don’t trust RPC’s machine name field (page 48).
18. Rpcbind can call RPC services for its caller (page 50).
19. NIS can often be persuaded to give out password files (page 50).
20. It is sometimes possible to direct machines to phony NIS servers (page 50).
21. If misconfigured, TFTP will hand over sensitive files (page 53).
22. Don’t make ftp’s home directory writable by ftp (page 56).
23. Don’t put a real password file in the anonymous ftp area (page 56).
24. It is easy to wiretap telnet sessions (page 58).
25. The r commands rely on address-based authentication (page 60).
26. Be careful about interpreting WWW format information (page 65).
27. WWW servers should be careful about URLs (page 65).
28. Poorly written query scripts pose a danger to WWW servers (page 66).
29. The MBone can be used to route through some firewalls (page 67).
30. Scalable security administration of peer-to-peer nodes is difficult (page 69).
31. An attacker anywhere on the Internet can probe for X11 servers (page 70).
32. UDP-based services can be abused to create broadcast storms (page 72).
33. Web servers shouldn’t believe uploaded state variables (page 76).
34. Signed code is not necessarily safe code (page 80).
35. JavaScript is dangerous (page 82).
36. Users are ill-equipped to make correct security choices (page 83).
37. Humans choose lousy passwords (page 96).
38. There are lots of ways to grab /etc/passwd (page 98).
39. There is no absolute remedy for a denial-of-service attack (page 107).
40. Hackers plant sniffers (page 128).
41. Network monitoring tools can be very dangerous on an exposed machine (page 159).
42. Don’t believe port numbers supplied by outside machines (page 178).
43. It is all but impossible to permit most UDP traffic through a packet filter safely (page 207).
44. A tunnel can be built on top of almost any transport mechanism (page 235).
45. If the connection is vital, don’t use a public network (page 236).