

Web applications are often targeted by attackers due to their exposure on the internet. The **most dangerous vulnerabilities** are categorized by organizations like **OWASP (Open Web Application Security Project)**. Here are the **top vulnerabilities** that can severely impact web applications:

1. Injection Attacks (SQL, NoSQL, Command, etc.)

- **Description:** Attackers inject malicious code into input fields, which gets executed by the database or system.
 - **Impact:** Data leaks, unauthorized access, full system compromise.
 - **Example:** SQL Injection (`' OR 1=1 --` to bypass login authentication).
-

2. Broken Authentication & Session Management

- **Description:** Weak authentication mechanisms allow attackers to take over user accounts.
 - **Impact:** Account takeover, identity theft, privilege escalation.
 - **Example:** Using default passwords, missing multi-factor authentication (MFA).
-

3. Sensitive Data Exposure

- **Description:** Web applications fail to protect sensitive user data like passwords, credit card details, or personal information.
 - **Impact:** Data breaches, financial fraud, identity theft.
 - **Example:** Storing passwords in plaintext, missing HTTPS.
-

4. Security Misconfiguration

- **Description:** Default settings, exposed error messages, and unnecessary services make applications vulnerable.
 - **Impact:** Attackers can exploit misconfigurations to gain access or escalate privileges.
 - **Example:** Leaving default admin passwords enabled, detailed error messages revealing system info.
-

5. Cross-Site Scripting (XSS)

- **Description:** Malicious JavaScript is injected into a website, affecting users who visit it.
 - **Impact:** Account hijacking, session theft, phishing attacks.
 - **Example:** `<script>alert('XSS Attack!')</script>` executing on a victim's browser.
-

6. Insecure Deserialization

- **Description:** Untrusted data is deserialized, allowing attackers to execute malicious code.
 - **Impact:** Remote code execution, privilege escalation.
 - **Example:** Tampering with serialized session tokens to gain admin access.
-

7. Cross-Site Request Forgery (CSRF)

- **Description:** Tricks authenticated users into performing actions without their consent.
 - **Impact:** Fund transfers, password changes, unauthorized actions.
 - **Example:** Hidden form submission forcing users to transfer money.
-

8. Insufficient Logging & Monitoring

- **Description:** Lack of proper logs and alerts makes it difficult to detect and respond to attacks.
 - **Impact:** Attackers remain undetected for a long time, increasing damage.
 - **Example:** No logs of failed login attempts or unauthorized API access.
-

9. Server-Side Request Forgery (SSRF)

- **Description:** Attackers make a vulnerable server send requests to internal systems or third-party services.
 - **Impact:** Internal network access, cloud metadata exposure, remote file inclusion.
 - **Example:** Fetching internal resources like `http://localhost/admin`.
-

10. Broken Access Control

- **Description:** Users can access restricted areas due to improper authorization checks.

- **Impact:** Unauthorized data modification, privilege escalation.
 - **Example:** Changing user roles via API (`PUT /user/1 {"role": "admin"}`).
-

How to Protect Your Web Applications?

- ✓ **Use parameterized queries** to prevent SQL injection.
- ✓ **Implement strong authentication** (MFA, secure password storage).
- ✓ **Encrypt sensitive data** in transit and at rest.
- ✓ **Validate user inputs** to prevent XSS & injection attacks.
- ✓ **Use secure headers** like `Content-Security-Policy` (CSP).
- ✓ **Enforce least privilege access** to users and services.
- ✓ **Enable proper logging & monitoring** for attack detection.

Would you like help scanning your web application for vulnerabilities? 