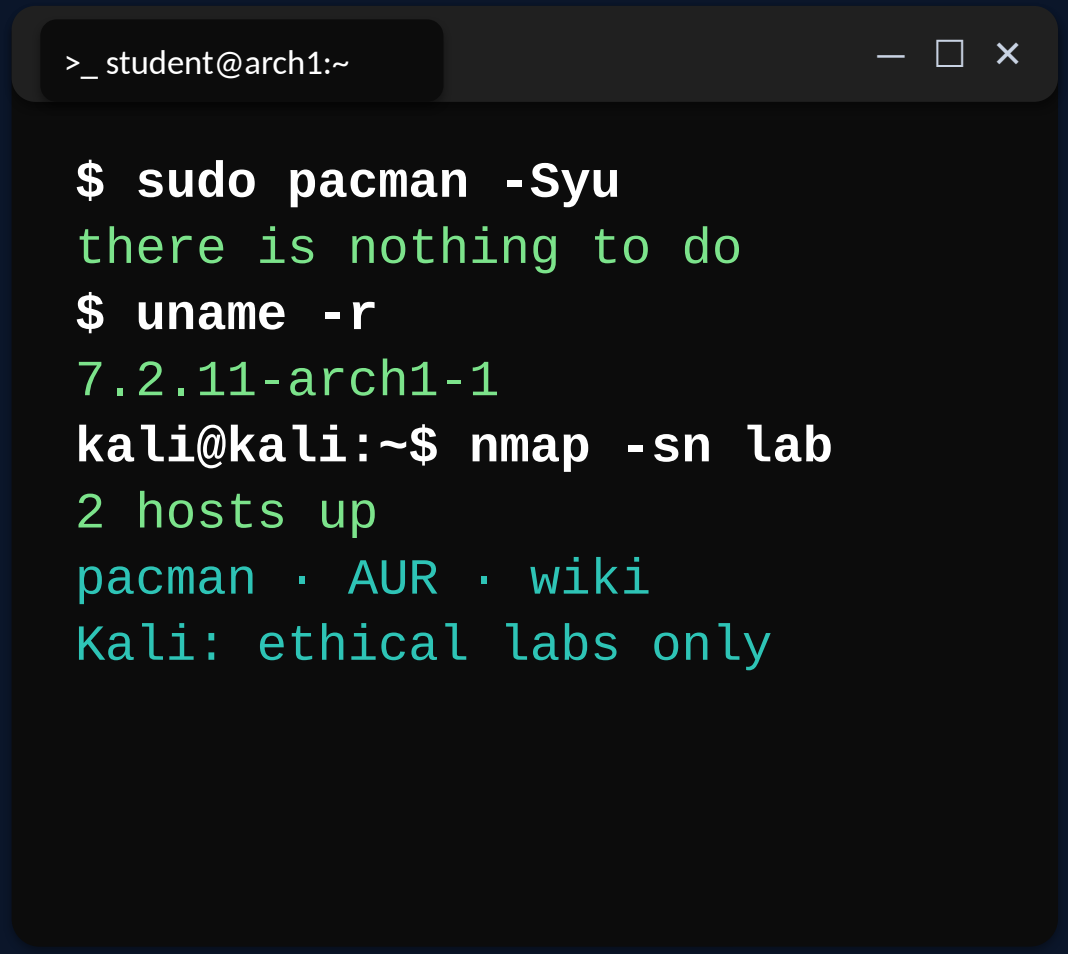


LESSON 7 OF 12

Arch & Kali Linux

Rolling · pacman · AUR · Security Lab

Kali Linux: Purpose, Ethics, Law & Editions

Full Course · Arch 2026.11 · Kali 2026.3 (Nov 2026)

What You Will Learn in Lesson 7

- What Kali is for — and what it is not for
- A short history: BackTrack to Kali 2026.3
- The law: unauthorized access is a crime
- How professionals work: authorization, scope, rules of engagement
- Legal ways to practice: labs, CTFs, bug bounty programs
- Kali editions: installer, live, VM, WSL, cloud, ARM, NetHunter, Purple
- Choosing the right edition for your lab

What Kali Is For — and Not For

Kali is for	Kali is not
Authorized penetration tests and vulnerability assessments	A daily desktop or a beginner's first Linux
Security learning in your own lab, CTFs, certifications	A tool to access other people's accounts or devices
Digital forensics (forensic boot mode doesn't touch disks)	Anonymous by default (it is not Tails)
Defensive work: Kali Purple (SOC, IDS, SIEM)	A replacement for patching and good defenses
Researchers, students, red, blue and purple teams	'Hacking' tools that work without skill and permission

A Short History of Kali

Year	Milestone
2006–2012	BackTrack (based on Ubuntu/Slackware) — the predecessor
2013	Kali Linux 1.0 by Offensive Security, rebuilt on Debian
2016	Kali Rolling: continuous updates from Debian testing
2019.4	Xfce becomes the default desktop; 'Undercover' mode
2020.1	Non-root default user (kali); single installer image
2022–2023	Kali Purple (defensive) introduced; NetHunter expands
2026.3	Oct 2026: Linux 7.1, refreshed build scripts, 6 new tools, desktop updates

The Law: Unauthorized Access Is a Crime

Place	Example law
United States	Computer Fraud and Abuse Act (CFAA); state computer-crime laws
United Kingdom	Computer Misuse Act 1990
European Union	Directive on attacks against information systems; national laws
Afghanistan & region	National penal and cybercrime laws — check your own country
Everywhere	Scanning, guessing passwords or intercepting traffic WITHOUT permission can be illegal
Note	This is general information, not legal advice — ask a lawyer for your situation

How Professionals Work

Element	What it contains
Written authorization	Signed by the system OWNER (not just an employee); who, what, when
Scope	Exact IP ranges, domains, apps in scope — and what is out of scope
Rules of engagement	Allowed techniques, testing hours, no-DoS, data handling, stop conditions
Contacts	Emergency contact if something breaks; how to report critical findings now
Data handling	Encrypt evidence, minimize personal data, delete after the engagement
Report	Findings, risk, evidence, and how to fix — the real product of a test

Legal Ways to Practice

Option	Examples
Your own lab	Kali + intentionally vulnerable VMs on a host-only network (lesson 11)
Vulnerable apps	DVWA, OWASP Juice Shop, WebGoat, Metasploitable 2/3
Online labs	TryHackMe, Hack The Box, PortSwigger Web Security Academy, OffSec Proving Grounds
CTF competitions	picoCTF (beginners), CTFtime.org calendar, school and university CTFs
Bug bounty programs	HackerOne, Bugcrowd, Intigriti — ONLY inside each program's published scope
Free training	MyWebUniversity, OWASP, SANS Cyber Aces, vendor docs

Kali Editions

Edition	Best for
Installer (+ NetInstaller)	Bare metal or a custom VM install; choose desktop and tool sets
Pre-built VM images	VirtualBox, VMware, QEMU/KVM, Hyper-V — fastest start (user/pass: kali/kali)
Live USB (+ persistence)	Carry Kali; forensic mode; optional encrypted persistence
WSL (Windows)	Kali inside Windows; Win-KeX for a desktop
Cloud & containers	AWS/Azure images; docker.io/kalilinux/kali-rolling
ARM	Raspberry Pi and other boards
NetHunter	Android phones (lesson 12)
Kali Purple	Defensive / SOC lab edition (lesson 11)

Summary and Homework

- Kali: authorized testing, learning, forensics, defense — not a daily desktop
- BackTrack → Kali (2013) → rolling (2016) → non-root (2020) → 2026.3
- Unauthorized access is a crime (CFAA, Computer Misuse Act, local laws)
- Professionals: written authorization, scope, rules of engagement, report
- Practice legally: own lab, DVWA/Juice Shop, TryHackMe/HTB, CTFs, bug bounties in scope
- Homework: read one bug bounty program's scope page; download the Kali VM image for your hypervisor

Thank You! 🙏

Free videos & PDFs: www.MyWebUniversity.com

Slides for this lesson: MyWebUniversity.com/presentations

YouTube: @MyWebUniversity · @MyWebUniversity-Dari

Wahidullah Lutfy — Founder and Director of IT of MyWebUniversity, and CS teacher

Book: The Direct Path to Linux Ubuntu (Amazon · Barnes & Noble)

Learn it, then pass it on.