



# **Web Application Scanning (Beta)**

## Getting Started Guide

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# Table of Contents

<b>About this Guide .....</b>	<b>5</b>
About Qualys .....	5
Qualys Support .....	5
<b>Welcome to WAS .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Adding Users.....</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Get Started .....</b>	<b>16</b>
Let's go!.....	16
Add your web application settings .....	17
Get the latest security status from your dashboard.....	19
Manage Detections .....	20
Scanning using Selenium scripts.....	21



# About this Guide

Welcome to Qualys Web Application Scanning (WAS)! We'll help you get acquainted with the Qualys solutions for scanning your web applications for vulnerabilities using the Qualys Cloud Security Platform.

## About Qualys

Qualys, Inc. (NASDAQ: QLYS) is a pioneer and leading provider of cloud-based security and compliance solutions. The Qualys Cloud Platform and its integrated apps help businesses simplify security operations and lower the cost of compliance by delivering critical security intelligence on demand and automating the full spectrum of auditing, compliance and protection for IT systems and web applications.

Founded in 1999, Qualys has established strategic partnerships with leading managed service providers and consulting organizations including Accenture, BT, Cognizant Technology Solutions, Deutsche Telekom, Fujitsu, HCL, HP Enterprise, IBM, Infosys, NTT, Optiv, SecureWorks, Tata Communications, Verizon and Wipro. The company is also founding member of the [Cloud Security Alliance \(CSA\)](#). For more information, please visit [www.qualys.com](http://www.qualys.com)

## Qualys Support

Qualys is committed to providing you with the most thorough support. Through online documentation, telephone help, and direct email support, Qualys ensures that your questions will be answered in the fastest time possible. We support you 7 days a week, 24 hours a day. Access online support information at [www.qualys.com/support/](http://www.qualys.com/support/).

### WAS Community

To know more about latest features, discussions, documents and videos related to WAS, you can access [Qualys WAS Community](#) page.

# Welcome to WAS

Qualys Web Application Scanning (WAS) provides organizations with the ease of use, centralized management and integration capabilities they need to keep the attackers at bay and their web applications secure.

Qualys WAS is an automated scanner that uses fault injection tests to find vulnerabilities. It inserts specially crafted character strings into your application form fields. WAS then examines the responses from your web application to determine the existence of vulnerability. You can see what is sent and how your application responded in WAS's reporting capabilities.

Qualys WAS enables organizations to scan their web applications for vulnerabilities. It assess, track and remediate web application vulnerabilities. Qualys WAS enables organizations to assess, track and remediate web application vulnerabilities.

## Key Features

- Crawl web applications (Intranet, Internet) and scan them for vulnerabilities
- Fully interactive UI with flexible workflows and reporting
- Identify web applications' handling of sensitive or secret data
- Customize: exclude/allow lists, robots.txt, sitemap.xml and more
- Supports common authentication schemes
- View reports with recommended security coding practice and configuration

## Robust Scalable Scanning Capabilities

- Supports scanning HTML web applications with JavaScript and embedded Flash
- Comprehensive detection of custom web application vulnerabilities including OWASP Top 10 Vulnerabilities
- Differentiates exploitable fault-injection problems from simple information disclosure
- Profiles custom web application behaviors
- Configures scanning performance with customizable performance level

## Qualys Cloud Platform - Benefits for Users

New technologies implemented in the Java-based backend offer many benefits for users:

- UI with dynamic and interactive interfaces, wizards and new report templates to present scan data with a wide range of presentation options.
- We have integrated Unified Dashboard (UD) with WAS. UD brings information from all Qualys applications into a single place for visualization.
- Customizable template-driven reporting engine outputs reports in a variety of formats (html, pdf, encrypted pdf, ppt, xml, cvs).

- Fast searching of several extensive Qualys data sets related to web applications and detections using search tokens.
- Create and manage tags (static and dynamic) to group and organize web applications.

## REST API Scanning, CI/CD Integration, and More

We support Swagger version 2.0, allowing DevOps teams to streamline assessments of REST APIs and get faster visibility of the security posture of mobile application backends and Internet of Things (IoT) services. Additionally, a new native plugin for Jenkins delivers automated vulnerability scanning of web applications for teams using the popular Continuous Integration/Continuous Delivery (CI/CD) tool. In tandem, customers can now leverage the new Qualys Browser Recorder, a free Google Chrome browser extension, to easily review scripts for navigating through complex authentication and business workflows in web applications.

- Scanning of Swagger-based Representational State Transfer (REST) APIs - In addition to scanning Simple Object Access Protocol (SOAP) web services, Qualys WAS leverages the Swagger specification for testing REST APIs. Users need to only ensure the Swagger version 2.0 file (JSON format) is visible to the scanning service, and the APIs will automatically be tested for common application security flaws.

- Enhanced API Scanning with Postman Support - Postman is a widely-used tool for functional testing of REST APIs. A Postman Collection is a file that can be exported from the tool that clubs together related requests (API endpoints) and share them with other users. These collections are exported in JSON format. With the release of Postman Collection support in Qualys WAS, customers have the option to configure their API scans using the Postman Collection for their API.

- Jenkins plugin - The Qualys WAS Jenkins plugin empowers DevOps teams to build application vulnerability scans into their existing CI/CD processes. By integrating scans in this manner, application security testing is accomplished earlier in the SDLC to catch and eliminate security flaws thereby significantly reducing the cost of remediation compared to doing so later in the SDLC. [Download the plugin here](#).

- Qualys Browser Recorder – This new Chrome extension allows users to record web browser activity and save the scripts for repeatable, automated testing. Scripts are played back in Qualys WAS, allowing the scanning engine to successfully navigate through complex authentication and business workflows. The Qualys Browser Recorder extension is free and available to anyone (not just Qualys customers) via the [Chrome Web Store](#).



# Adding Users

It's easy to add users to your Qualys subscription and grant them access to WAS. You'll need a Manager role to do this.

## How do I add new users?

Use the New User work-flow provided in the Vulnerability Management application. Select VM/VMDR from the app picker and go to the Users section to create a new user. We'll walk you through the steps.

## Viewing users, their roles and permissions

The Qualys Cloud Platform UI shows you all the users in your subscription, their assigned roles and permissions to the various applications which are enabled for your account. You'll notice newly added sub-accounts (Scanners, Readers, Unit Managers, etc) are not granted access to WAS automatically.

## How to grant a user access to WAS?

Say you created a new user Christina Hans with the Scanner role and you want Christina to be able to scan web application for security risks using WAS.

View the new user's permissions for applications with Qualys Cloud Platform. Go to the Administration utility. You'll notice for the new user WAS application is not listed.

Administration ▾							
Users    Action Log							
<div> <div>User Management</div> <div>User Management</div> <div>Role Management</div> <div>Defaults</div> </div>							
<div> <div>Search for users by entering properties...</div> </div>							
Username	Modules	First Name	Last Name	Email Address	Last Update Date	Last Login Date	
<div>quays_ak1</div> <div>Unassigned Business Unit</div>	<div>ADMIN AM CA VM CM TP</div> <div>PC SAQ WAS WAF MD</div>	Alex	Kim	eschamp@qualys...	15 Jul 2017	15 Jul 2017	
<div>quays_ch</div> <div>Unassigned Business Unit</div>	<div>AM CA VM CM TP</div>	Christina	Hans	eschamp@qualys...	15 Jul 2017	—	

Edit the new user (select the user and pick Edit from the Quick Actions menu). Under Roles and Scopes the user is assigned SCANNER role for VM and/or PC scanning (depending on your subscription settings).

Qualys provides predefined WAS user roles to help you grant users WAS permissions easily. The predefined roles are WAS MANAGER, WAS SCANNER, WAS USER.

**User Edit: Christina Hans (quays\_ch)** Turn help tips: On | Off

**Edit Mode**

- User Details
- Profile Settings
- Roles And Scopes**
- Action Log
- Account Activity

**Edit role(s) and scope**

☐ Allow user full permissions and scope (The user will have full access to everything)

Each role grants you a set of permissions that will apply to the objects you have access to.

New role Search unassigned roles

Assigned roles	Unassigned roles
SCANNER	UNIT MANAGER
	WAF Manager
	WAS MANAGER
	<b>WAS SCANNER</b>
	WAS USER

**Edit Scope**

☐ Allow user view access to all objects (Other permissions are granted by the user's roles)

Define what assets the user can access by tags.

Global Scope

Unassigned Busine... X

Cancel Save

Quick Actions: View, Edit, Delete

Our user Christina has SCANNER role (for VM/PC) so we'll add WAS SCANNER role to her account. Select WAS SCANNER then pick View from the Quick Actions menu. You'll see WAS SCANNER permission groups and can drill down to see the role details. This role does not grant permissions to add/update/purge web applications for example.

**View role details**

View the permissions for this role

**Basic Information**

Name: WAS SCANNER

Description: WAS Scanner User

**Access method(s)**

UI Access Enabled

**Granted modules**

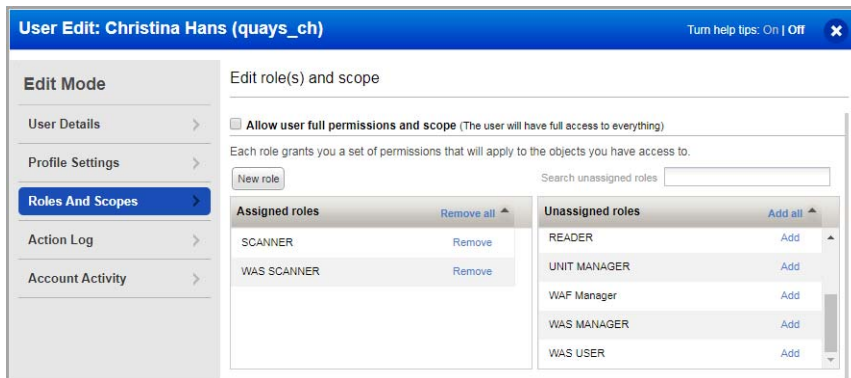
**WAS** Web Application Scanning

- WAS Configuration Permissions (12)
- WAS Schedule Permissions (3)
- WAS Scan Permissions (3)

Close Edit

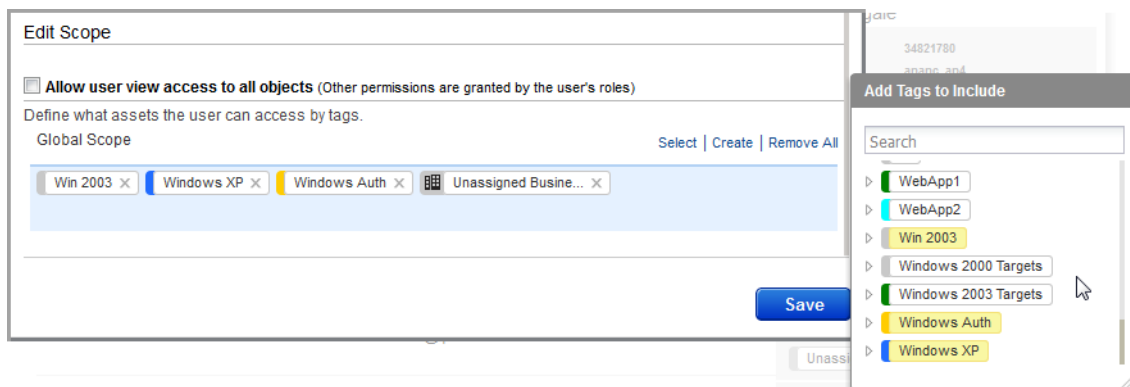
Click Close to edit user settings.

Click the Add link next to WAS SCANNER role to add it to the user's assigned roles. Assigned roles will look like this.

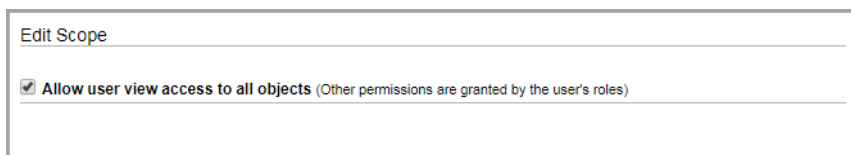


Update the Edit Scope section to grant the user access to web applications in your subscription. By default the user doesn't have access to any web applications or other WAS configurations. Choose one of the options.

Assign specific tags.



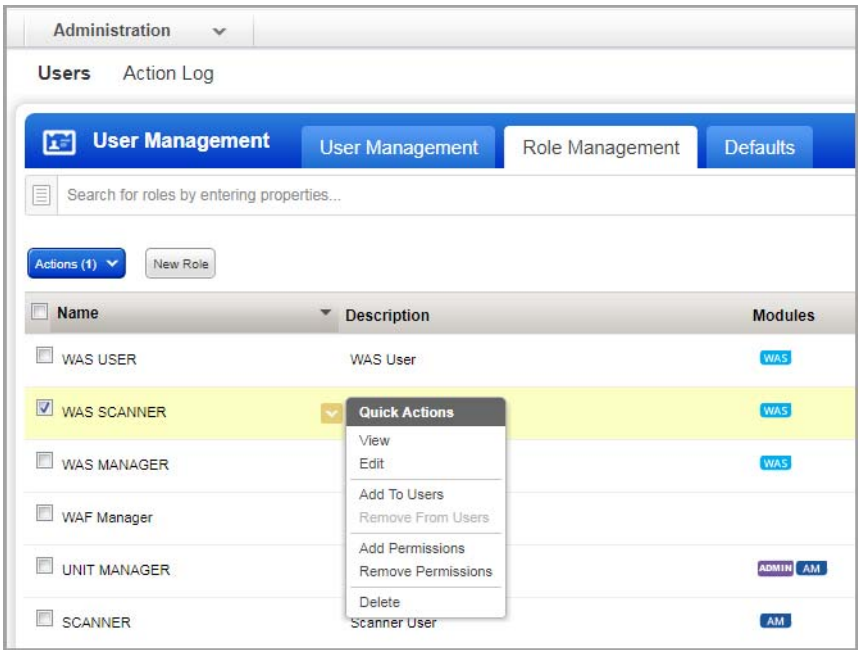
Grant full scope (i.e. all tags)



Click Save to save the user settings.

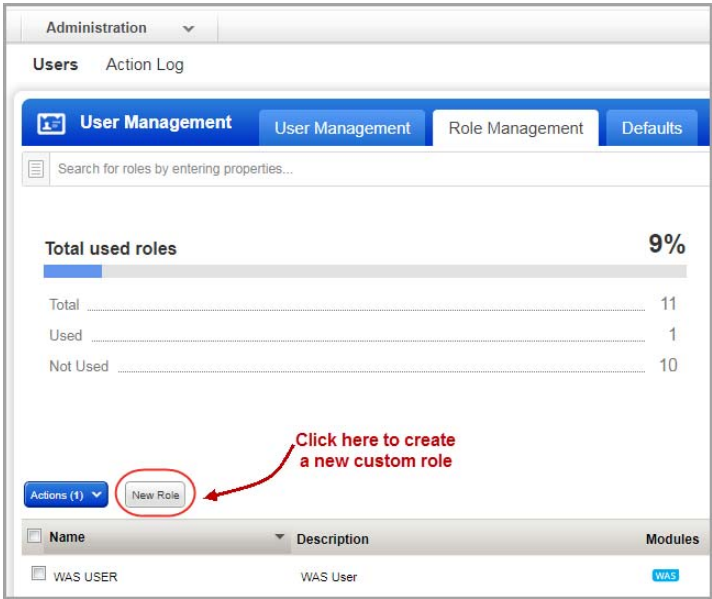
## Role Management

The Role Management section shows you all about the roles in your subscription.

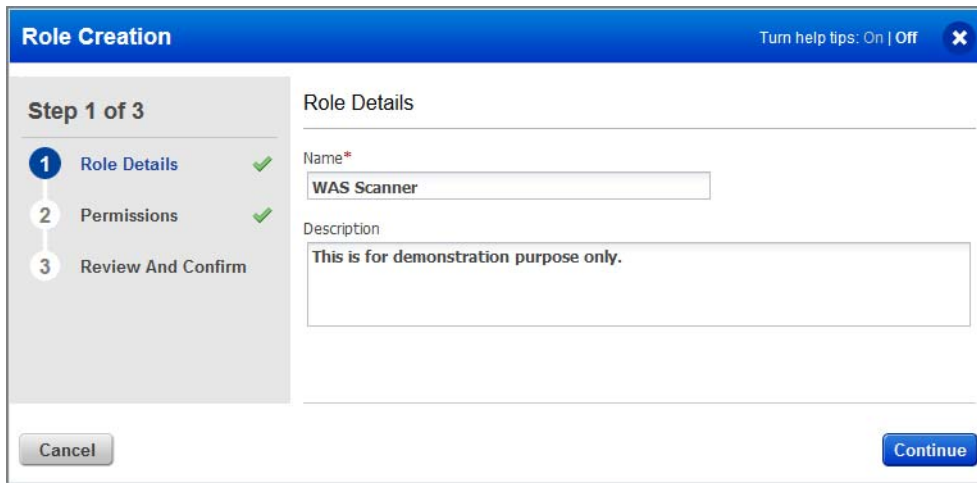


For each role you can view details and take actions to add to users, add permissions, remove permissions etc.

The New Role option lets you create a custom role with the exact permissions you want.



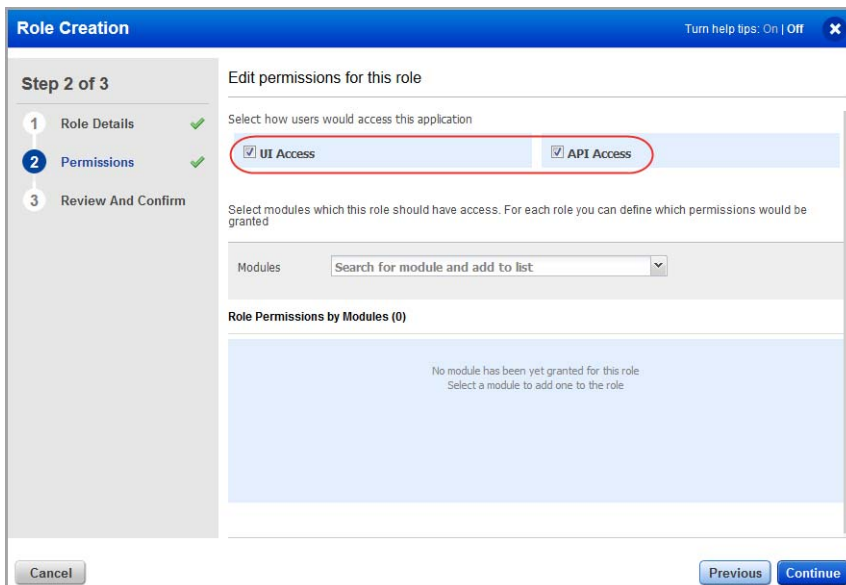
For example you can create role WAS Scanner.



The screenshot shows the 'Role Creation' dialog box at Step 1 of 3, 'Role Details'. The left sidebar shows three steps: 1. Role Details (active), 2. Permissions, and 3. Review And Confirm. The main area is titled 'Role Details' and contains two input fields: 'Name\*' with the value 'WAS Scanner' and 'Description' with the text 'This is for demonstration purpose only.' At the bottom, there are 'Cancel' and 'Continue' buttons.

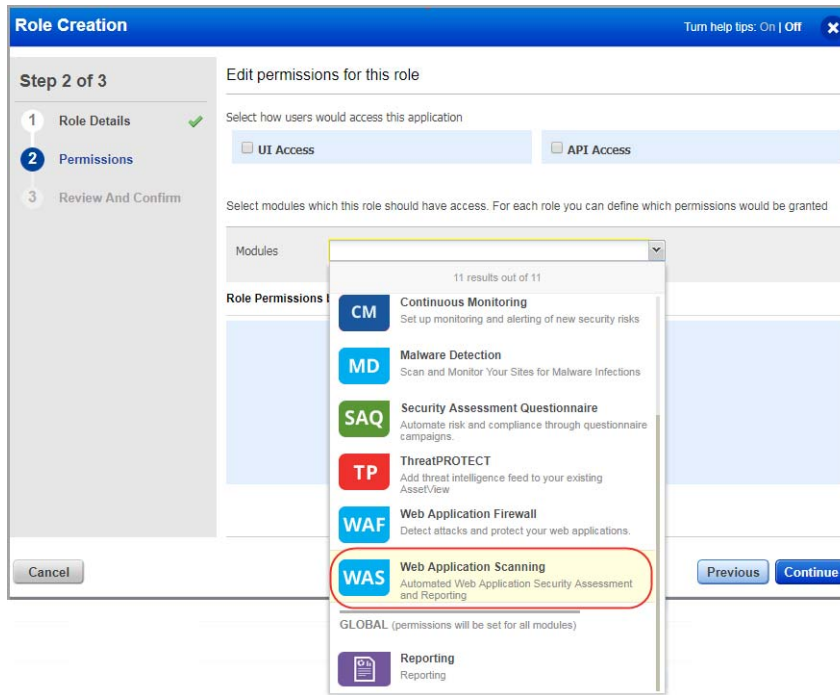
Grant the role access to UI and/or API.

In the role details, choose the access methods for the user.

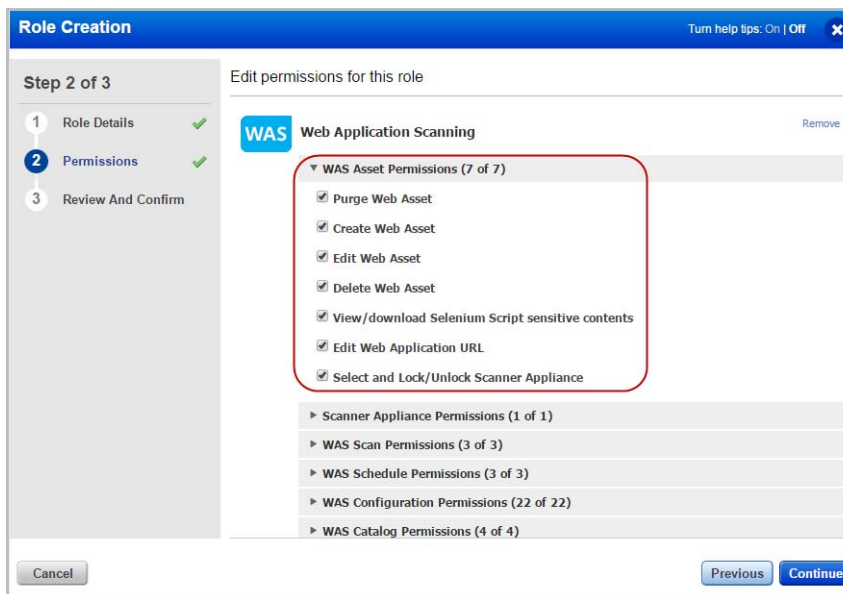


The screenshot shows the 'Role Creation' dialog box at Step 2 of 3, 'Permissions'. The left sidebar shows three steps: 1. Role Details, 2. Permissions (active), and 3. Review And Confirm. The main area is titled 'Edit permissions for this role' and contains two sections. The first section, 'Select how users would access this application', has two checkboxes: 'UI Access' and 'API Access', both of which are checked and circled in red. The second section, 'Select modules which this role should have access. For each role you can define which permissions would be granted', has a 'Modules' search bar with the text 'Search for module and add to list'. Below this is a section titled 'Role Permissions by Modules (0)' which is currently empty, showing a message: 'No module has been yet granted for this role. Select a module to add one to the role.' At the bottom, there are 'Cancel', 'Previous', and 'Continue' buttons.

Grant the role access to the WAS app. In the Permissions section add select the WAS app from the menu provided.



Grant the role permissions within the WAS app.



Edit the user account and assign role.



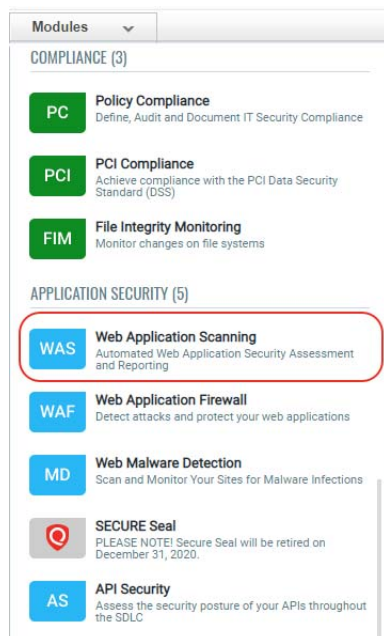
# Get Started

Qualys WAS is the most powerful web application scanner available.

Note: The new WAS UI supports only the Web Applications and Detection features. The guide gives overview of these features. For detailed information on web application and detections functions, see WAS Online Help. We will navigate you to our Classic WAS UI version for the features that are not available in the new WAS UI.

## Let's go!

Just log in and select Web Application Scanning from module picker.

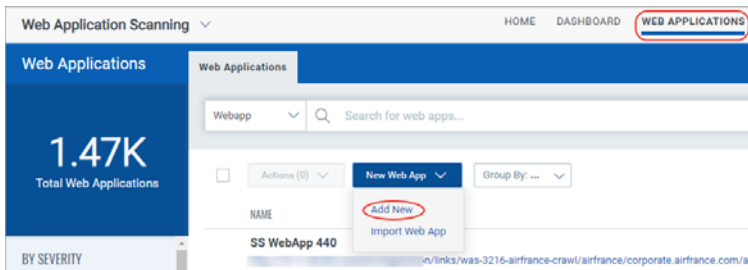


Click **Switch to new WAS view!**





Start by telling us about the web application you want to scan - just click **Web Applications > New Web App**.



## Add your web application settings

The web application name and URL are required when adding a web app from scratch..

Want to scan your external site for malware? Just turn on Malware Monitoring and we'll perform automatic daily malware scans.

A screenshot of the 'Add New: Web Application' form. The form is titled 'Add New: Web Application' and has a progress indicator 'STEPS 1/5'. The 'Basic Info' section is active, showing fields for 'Name' (filled with 'My Web Application'), 'Web Application Url (Swagger file URL)' (filled with 'https://mywebapp.com'), and 'Custom Attributes' (a table with 'Username' and 'jdoe'). There is also a 'Tags' section with a 'Select Tags' button and a list of tags including '100 Webapp'. At the bottom are 'Cancel' and 'Next' buttons.

Your web application appears in the Web Applications tab, where you can edit the application settings.

A screenshot of the 'Web Applications' tab in the dashboard. It shows a table of web applications with columns: NAME, VULNERABILITIES, # LINKS, LAST SCANNED, LAST UPDATED, and TAGS. The table lists three applications: 'Documentation', 'SS WebApp 427', and 'Web Application - Demo'. The 'Documentation' application has a Medium vulnerability and 1 link. The 'SS WebApp 427' application has a Medium vulnerability and 7 links. The 'Web Application - Demo' application has a High vulnerability and 894 links. The table is filtered to show 1 - 50 of 1468 items.

## Why use authentication?

Using authentication allows our service to access to all parts of your web application during the crawling process. This way we can perform more in-depth assessment of your web application. Some web applications require authenticated access to the majority of their functionality. Authenticated scanning can be configured for HTML forms like login pages and server-based authentication (HTTP Basic, Digest, NTLM, or SSL client certificates). Just go to the Authentication tab, select New Record and configure an authentication record with access credentials. Form and server authentication may be combined as needed - we'll monitor the session state to ensure an authenticated scan remains authenticated throughout the crawl.

## Do I need to provide authentication details?

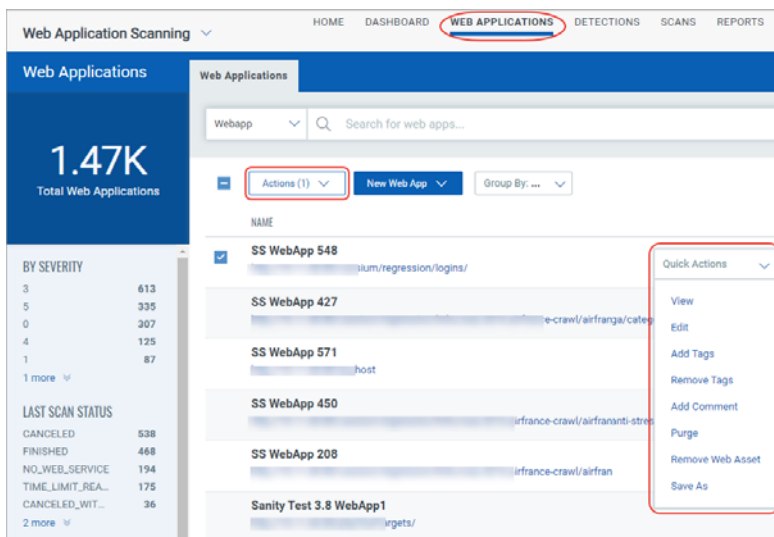
Is authentication needed to access the functionality of this web application? If yes be sure to select an authentication record.

## Tell me about the option profile

An option profile is a set of scan configuration options. We recommend “Initial WAS Options” to get started. Editing options in the profile allows you to customize crawling and scan parameters.

## Take actions on Web Applications

Take action against individual applications using the **Quick Actions** menu. Select or hover a web application and click the arrow to view the options in the **Quick Actions** menu. Use the Quick Actions menu to view, edit the details of web assets, add tags and remove tags from web assets, purge scan data of web assets. You can also remove web assets from the subscription and other associated modules and create a new web asset with the same configurations using the Save as option. You can take action against multiple web applications using the **Bulk Actions** menu.



## Good to Know

What vulnerability checks are tested? We'll scan for all vulnerability checks (QIDs) listed in the KnowledgeBase unless you configure your option profile to do limit the scan to certain vulnerabilities (confirmed, potential and/or information gathered). We constantly update the KnowledgeBase as new security information becomes available. Click KnowledgeBase on the top menu.

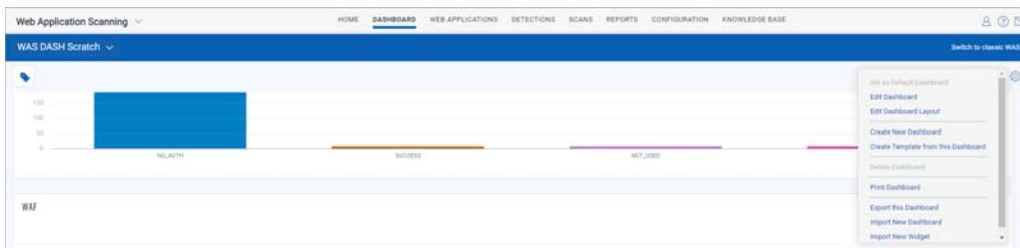
What is Severity? Each QID is assigned a severity level by our service: confirmed vulnerability (red), potential vulnerability (yellow) and information gathered (blue).

## Get the latest security status from your dashboard

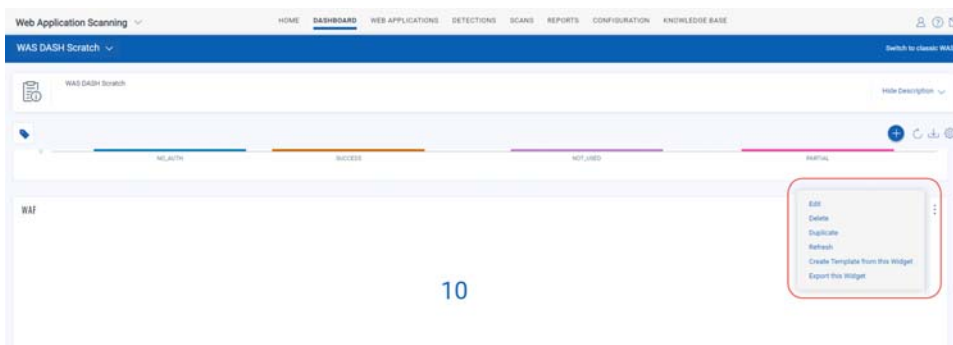
Your dashboard gives you security status at a glance and it's always up to date. Dashboards help you visualize your web applications and their detections. We have integrated Unified Dashboard (UD) with WAS. UD brings information from all Qualys applications into a single place for visualization. UD provides a powerful new dashboarding framework along with platform service that will be consumed and used by all other products to enhance the existing dashboard capabilities.

Click the gear icon at the top right to create, edit, print a Dashboard. You also have an option to add widgets with search queries to see exactly what you're interested in. You can also export and import Dashboard and Widget configurations to a file in a json format allowing you to share them between accounts or within the Qualys community.

Create multiple dashboards and switch between them for different views of your data.



From the Widget menu, you can edit, delete, duplicate, refresh, and export a widget. You also have an option to create a template from a widget.



## Adding widgets

- 1) Start by clicking the Add Widget button on your dashboard.
- 2) Pick one of our widget templates - or create your own.
- 4) Click the gear icon at the top right and from the menu you can also import configurations to a file in a json format, allowing you to share the widgets between accounts or within the Qualys community.

Tips:




- Wondering how we created the widgets on the default dashboard? Choose widgets menu> Edit to see the settings.

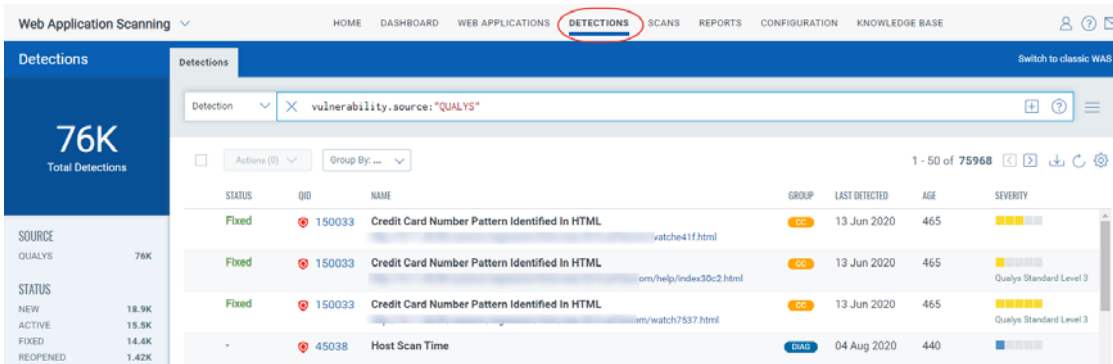
## Manage Detections

Manage all your detections in one place. The detections tab acts as a central area for application security vulnerability detections, management and information. We list all your findings (Qualys, Burp, and Bugcrowd) in the Detections tab.

We have filters in the left pane to enhance the search and quickly locate the detection type. In addition to the common filters, use the search tokens to build complex search expression to find detections specific to your requirement. For example, to view BURP findings with age greater than 10 days, enter this search express in the search bar: vulnerability.source:"BURP" and vulnerability.age>10.

You can distinguish the finding type with the icon displayed in the list.

-  - Qualys detections
-  - Burp issues
-  - Bugcrowd submissions

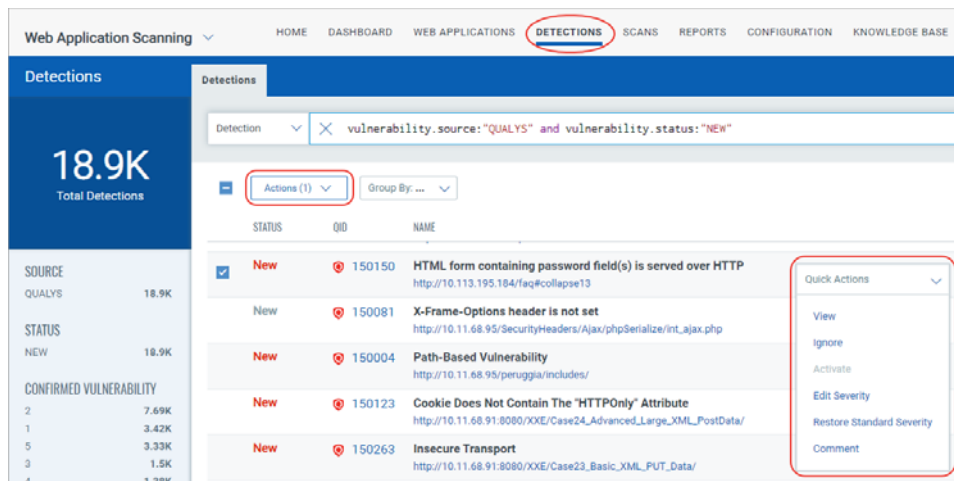


The screenshot displays the 'Detections' tab in the Qualys Web Application Scanning (WAS) interface. The top navigation bar includes 'HOME', 'DASHBOARD', 'WEB APPLICATIONS', 'DETECTIONS' (highlighted with a red circle), 'SCANS', 'REPORTS', 'CONFIGURATION', and 'KNOWLEDGE BASE'. The left sidebar shows '76K Total Detections' and a 'SOURCE' filter for 'QUALYS'. The main table lists detections with columns for STATUS, QID, NAME, GROUP, LAST DETECTED, AGE, and SEVERITY. The first three rows show 'Credit Card Number Pattern Identified in HTML' with QID 150033, detected on 13 Jun 2020, with an age of 465 days and a severity of 'Qualys Standard Level 3'. The fourth row shows a 'Host Scan Time' with QID 45038, detected on 04 Aug 2020, with an age of 440 days and a severity of 'Qualys Standard Level 3'.

STATUS	QID	NAME	GROUP	LAST DETECTED	AGE	SEVERITY
Fixed	150033	Credit Card Number Pattern Identified in HTML	CC	13 Jun 2020	465	Qualys Standard Level 3
Fixed	150033	Credit Card Number Pattern Identified in HTML	CC	13 Jun 2020	465	Qualys Standard Level 3
Fixed	150033	Credit Card Number Pattern Identified in HTML	CC	13 Jun 2020	465	Qualys Standard Level 3
-	45038	Host Scan Time	SDAS	04 Aug 2020	440	Qualys Standard Level 3

## Take actions on detections

Take action against individual detections using the **Quick Actions** menu. Select or hover a detection and click the arrow to view the options in the **Quick Actions** menu. Use the Quick Actions menu to edit, ignore, and reactivate ignored detections. You can also edit and restore the severity level of the detections, add comments to the detections. You can take action against multiple detections using the **Bulk Actions** menu.



## Scanning using Selenium scripts

You can use Qualys Browser Recorder (QBR) to create a Selenium script. QBR is a free browser extension (for Google Chrome browser) to record & play back scripts for web application automation testing. QBR allows you to capture web elements and record actions in the browser to let you generate, edit, and play back automated test cases quickly and easily. It also allows you to select a UI element from the browser's currently displayed page and then select from a list of Selenium commands with parameters. You can use these scripts in WAS to help the scanner navigate through the complex authentication and business workflows in a web application.

A common authentication mechanism used by web applications is single sign-on (SSO). This introduces complexity and can cause some confusion when it comes to authenticating and scanning with Qualys WAS. With use of QBR, you could simplify authentication mechanism for the scanner. For detailed steps, refer to our [blog article](#).