

HI THIS IS URGENT PLZ FIX ASAP:  
Critical Vulnerabilities  
and Bug Bounty Programs



Kymerlee Price  
Senior Director of Researcher Operations  
Bugcrowd  
@Kym\_Possible

**bugcrowd**

# whoami?

- Senior Director of a Red Team
- PSIRT Case Manager
- Data Analyst
- Internet Crime Investigator
- Behavioral Psychologist



@kym\_possible



# Agenda

- Intro
- Red
- Blue
- tl;dr
- Questions

# What this talk isn't

- Determining if a bug bounty program is appropriate for your company
- Selling you a bug bounty program
- Recruiting you to be a bounty hunter





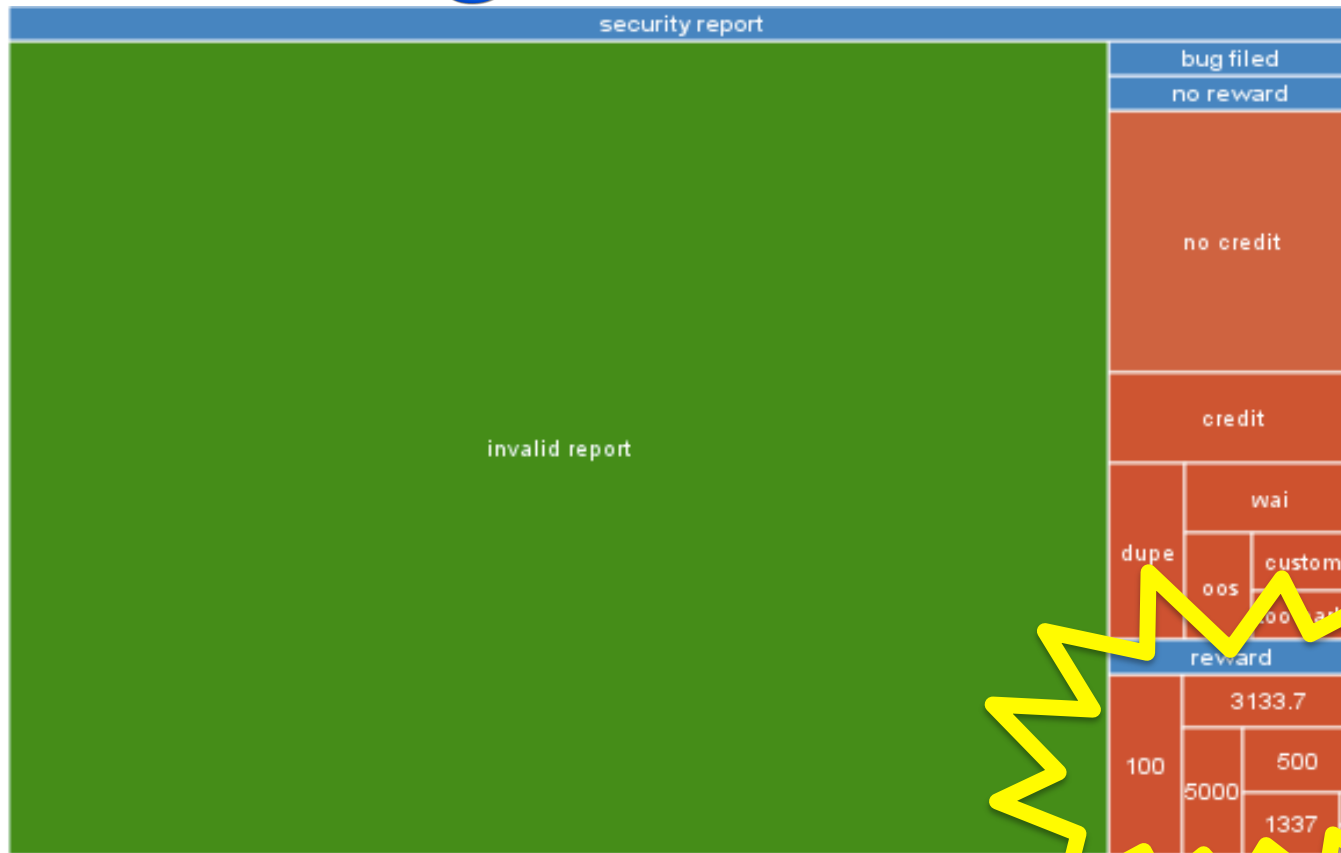
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Google



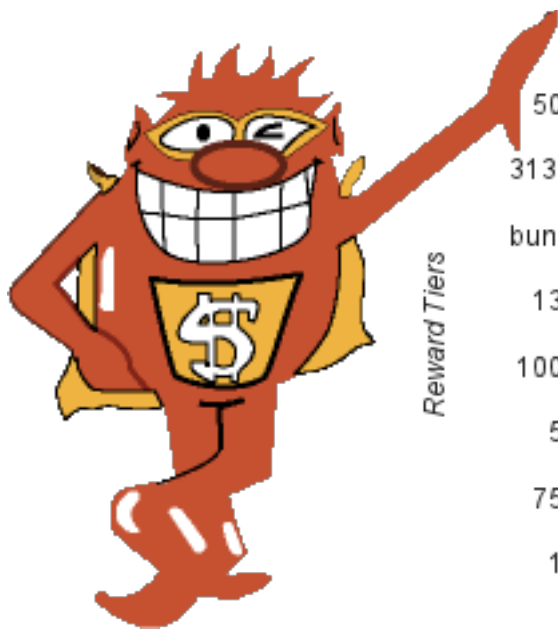
# Google VRP 2014



<https://sites.google.com/site/bughunteruniversity/behind-the-scenes/charts>

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# Google VRP 2014

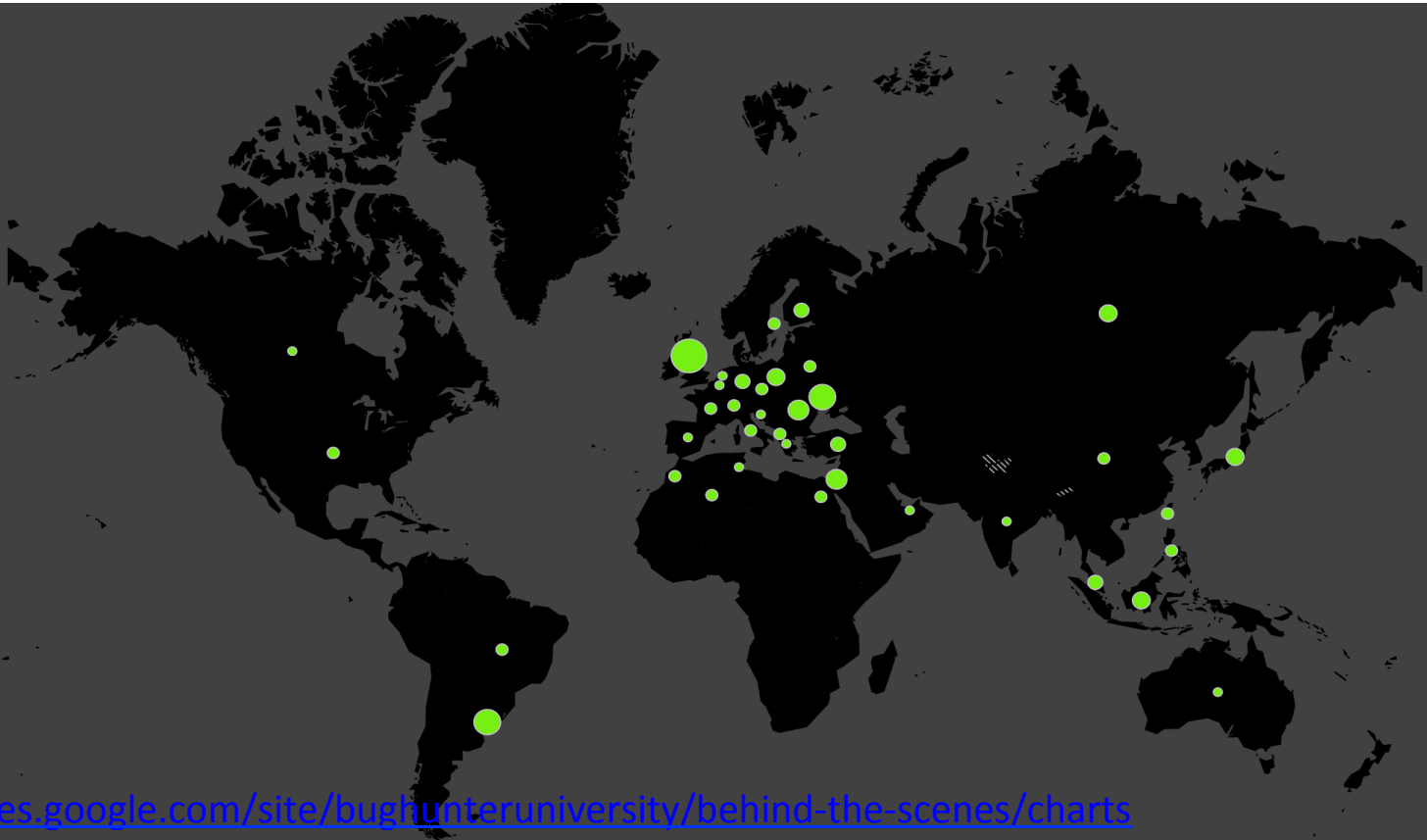


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# Google VRP 2014



<https://sites.google.com/site/bughunteruniversity/behind-the-scenes/charts>

# Google VRP 2014



Payouts



Bugs found per active researcher

<https://sites.google.com/site/bughunteruniversity/behind-the-scenes/charts>



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# facebook 2014

## Submissions:

- 17,011 submissions – 16% increase YoY
- 61 high severity bugs – 49% increase YoY.
- Minimum reward: \$500

## Geography:

- 65 countries received rewards – 12% increase YoY
- 123 countries reporting bugs

<https://www.facebook.com/notes/facebook-bug-bounty/2014-highlights-bounties-get-better-than-ever/1026610350686524>



# facebook 2014

## Payouts:

- \$1.3 million to 321 researchers.
- Average reward in \$1,788.

A green diamond-shaped graphic containing text.

Top 5  
earned  
**\$256,750**

## Top 5 Countries:

• India – 196 valid bugs	\$1,343	\$263,228
• Egypt – 81 valid bugs	\$1,220	\$98,820
• USA – 61 valid bugs	\$2,470	\$150,670
• UK – 28 valid bugs	\$2,768	\$77,504
• Philippines – 27 valid bugs	\$1,093	\$29,511

**\$619,733**



# GitHub





# GitHub 2014

- 73 vulnerabilities identified and fixed
- 1,920 submissions
- 33 researchers earned \$50,100 for 57 bugs
- Minimum reward: \$200
- Doubled maximum bounty payout to celebrate

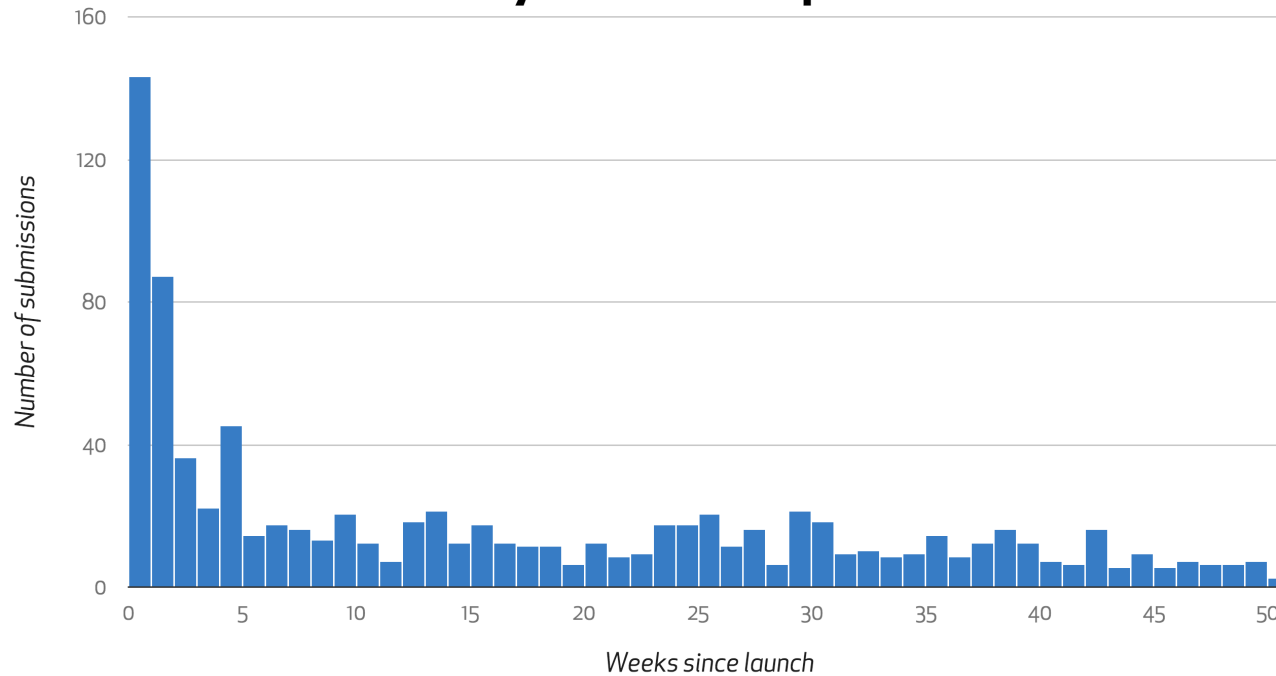


<https://github.com/blog/1951-github-security-bug-bounty-program-turns-one>



# GitHub 2014

## Bounty submissions per week



<https://github.com/blog/1951-github-security-bug-bounty-program-turns-one>

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# Microsoft

# Microsoft 2014

## **Online Services: O365 and Azure**

- 46 rewarded submissions since launch in late Sept 2014
- Reward amounts to each researcher not published
- Program offers minimum \$500 up to \$15,000

<https://technet.microsoft.com/en-us/security/dn469163.aspx>

**bugcrowd**



# Microsoft 2014

## Mitigation Bypass

Name	Company	Amount	Year	Donation to Charity
Ivan Fratric (@ifsecure)	Google, Inc	\$25,000	2015	
Yu Yang (@tombkeeper)	Tencent's Xuanwu Lab	\$10,000	2015	
AbdulAziz Hariri (@abdhariri) Brian Gorenc (@maliciousinput) Simon Zuckerbraun (@HexKitchen)	HP's ZDI	\$125,000	2015	Concordia University Montreal Khan Academy Texas A&M University
Zhang Yunhai (@f0rgetting)	NSFOCUS Security Team	\$50,000	2014	
James Forshaw (@tiraniddo)	Context Security	\$100,000	2013	
Fermin J. Serna (@fjserna)	Google, Inc	\$25,000	2013	
Yu Yang (@tombkeeper)	NSFOCUS Security Team	\$100,000	2013	

<https://technet.microsoft.com/en-us/security/dn469163.aspx>



**bugcrowd**

**bugcrowd**

## **bugcrowd** 2013-present

- 37,227 Submissions, of which 7,958 contained valid vulnerabilities
- Paid 3,611 submissions, resulting in a total of \$722,539.02 paid to 564 unique researchers

Top 10 reward earning researchers  
received 25% of all rewards

**\$168,569**

## **bugcrowd** 2013-present

- Identified 729 high priority vulnerabilities across 146 programs
- Vulnerabilities ranged in both type and priority, with an average of almost 5 high or critical priority vulnerabilities per program.



# P1 and P2 Defined

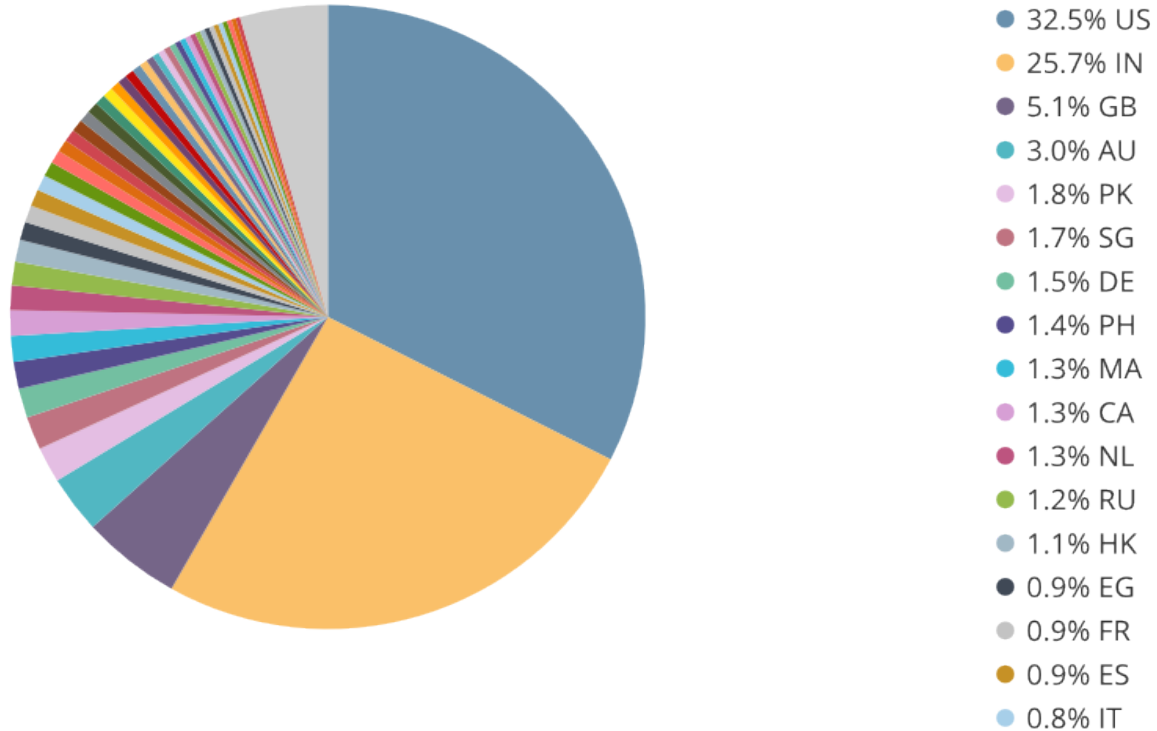
- P1 – CRITICAL

Vulnerabilities that cause a privilege escalation on the platform from unprivileged to admin, allows remote code execution, financial theft, etc. Examples: Vertical Authentication bypass, SSRF, XXE, SQL Injection, User authentication bypass

- P2 – SEVERE

Vulnerabilities that affect the security of the platform including the processes it supports. Examples: Lateral authentication bypass, Stored XSS, some CSRF depending on impact

# Who finds these bugs?







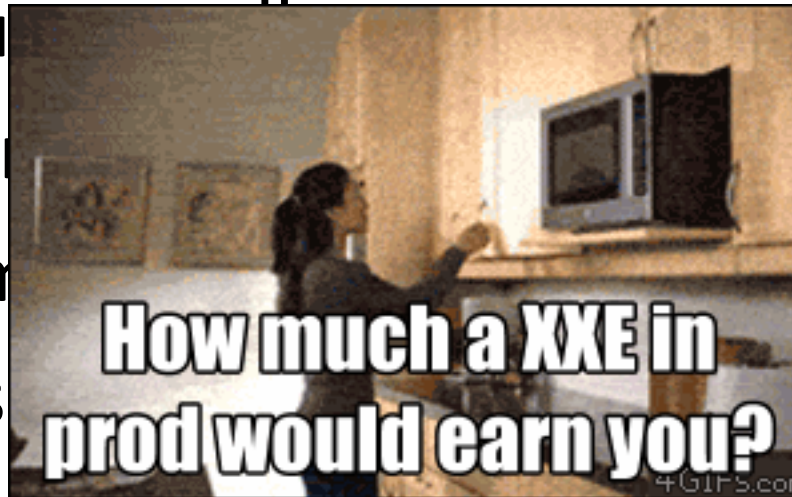
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# Google

- XXE in production exploited using Google Toolbar button
- Reported in 2007
- Fredrik Almqvist
- Google resolved within 20 minutes



# facebook

- Reginaldo Silva reported an XML external entity vulnerability within a PHP page that would have allowed a hacker to change Facebook's use of Gmail as an OpenID provider to a hacker-controlled URL, before servicing requests with malicious XML code.

# facebook

- Laxman Muthiyah identified a way for a malicious user to delete any photo album owned by a user, page, or group on Facebook. He found this vulnerability when he tried to delete one of his own photo albums using the graph explorer access token.





**SIMPLE**



**BootData Information Disclosure (XSSI)**

**darkarnium**

100%

submitted this 24 days ago

- Cross-domain Information Disclosure



## Taking over A Team Account from less privilege role

cliffordtrigo

33%

submitted this 4 months ago

- Elevation of privilege

- Elevation of privilege





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# Rapid triage & prioritization

I'm sorry for the unkind  
words I spoke out of  
hunger.

- Submission framework & expectations
- ~~Eloquence of written communication~~
- Clear in and out of scope documentation



your  cards  
someecards.com

### Attributes of a Good Report

- Detailed steps in your message explaining how to reproduce the bug. This should include any links you clicked on, page user IDs, etc. Images and video can be helpful if you also include written explanations.
- Clear descriptions of any accounts used in your report and the relationships between them. Please do not use the same accounts to avoid confusion.
- Quality before quantity. Many of our highest-paid reports had just a few lines of precise, clear explanations.
- If you send a video, consider these tips:
  - Keep it short by showing only the parts necessary to demonstrate the bug once. (Remove or redo mistakes that might recording.)
  - Record at a resolution where text or URLs are readable (at least 480p; 1080p is usually not necessary).
  - Provide commentary or instructions in your messages or video description instead of typing on-screen during the video.
  - Setting Facebook to English while recording steps helps us quickly identify what features you use.
  - If a large amount of text appears in your video, please include a copy in your messages as well.
  - Keep the video private either by uploading it as an attachment or posting it privately online (such as with a hidden link you send to us).

### Reward Guidelines

P1 - CRITICAL Vulnerabilities that cause a privilege escalation on the platform from unprivileged to admin, allows remote code execution, financial theft, etc. Examples: Remote Code Execution, Vertical Authentication bypass, XXE, SQL Injection, User authentication bypass.

→ P1 = \$1000

P2 - HIGH Vulnerabilities that affect the security of the platform including the processes it supports. Examples: Lateral authentication bypass, Stored XSS for another user, some CSRF depending on impact.

→ P2 = \$500

P3 - MED Vulnerabilities that affect multiple users, and require little or no user interaction to trigger. Examples: Reflective XSS, Direct object reference, URL Redirect, some CSRF depending on impact.

→ P3 = \$250

P4 - LOW Issues that affect singular users and require interaction or significant prerequisites (MitM) to trigger. Examples: Common flaws, Debug information, Mixed Content.

→ P4 = \$50

P5 - BIZ ACCEPTED RISK Non-exploitable weaknesses in functionality and "won't fix" vulnerabilities. Examples: Best practices, mitigations, issues that are by design or deemed acceptable business risk to the customer such as use of CAPTCHAS, Code Obfuscation, SSL Pinning, etc.

→ P5 = Kudos Points only



# Rapid triage & prioritization

- Clear the queue daily
- Dealing with Duplicates



# Is it worth the hassle?

“In Mortal Combat terms, it is a ‘Fatality’ ”

“If we get nothing else from the bounty, this vuln was worth the whole program alone. Due to the critical nature of the issue, we immediately patched the Prod servers this evening to close this exploit. We are also reviewing all logs since we don't delete them yet to identify any instance where this ever happened in the past.”

bla

## Non-qualifying vulnerabilities

**New!** Visit our [Bug Hunter University](#) page dedicated to common non-qualifying findings and vulnerabilities.

Depending on their impact, some of the reported issues may not qualify. Although we review them on a case-by-case basis, here are some of the common low-risk issues that typically do not earn a monetary reward:

- **Cross-site scripting vulnerabilities in "sandbox" domains (read more.)** We maintain a number of domains that leverage the [same-origin policy](#) to safely isolate certain types of untrusted content; the most prominent example of this is *\*.googleusercontent.com*. Unless an impact on sensitive user data can be demonstrated, we do not consider the ability to execute JavaScript in that domain to be a bug.
- **Execution of owner-supplied JavaScript in Blogger.** Blogs hosted in *\*.blogspot.com* are no different from any third-party website on the Internet. For your safety, we employ spam and malware detection tools, but we do not consider the ability to embed JavaScript within your own blog to be a security bug.
- **URL redirection (read more.)** We recognize that the address bar is the only reliable security indicator in modern browsers; consequently, we hold that the usability and security benefits of a small number of well-designed and closely monitored redirectors outweigh their true risks.
- **Legitimate content proxying and framing.** We expect our services to unambiguously label third-party content and to perform a number of abuse-detection checks, but as with redirectors, we think that the value of products such as Google Translate outweighs the risk.
- **Bugs requiring exceedingly unlikely user interaction.** For example, a cross-site scripting flaw that requires the victim to manually type in an XSS payload into Google Maps and then double-click an error message may realistically not meet the bar.
- **Logout cross-site request forgery (read more.)** For better or worse, the design of HTTP cookies means that no single website can prevent its users from being logged out; consequently, application-specific ways of achieving this goal will likely not qualify. You may be interested in personal blog posts from [Chris Evans](#) and [Michal Zalewski](#) for more background.
- **Flaws affecting the users of out-of-date browsers and plugins.** The security model of the web is being constantly fine-tuned. The panel will typically not reward any problems that affect only the users of outdated or unpatched browsers. In particular, we exclude Internet Explorer prior to version 9.
- **Presence of banner or version information.** Version information does not, by itself, expose the service to attacks - so we do not consider this to be a bug. That said, if you find outdated software and have good reasons to suspect that it poses a well-defined security risk, please let us know.

Monetary rewards aside, vulnerability reporters who work with us to resolve security bugs in our products will be credited on the [Hall of Fame](#). If we file an internal security bug, we will acknowledge your contribution on that page.

# How to reduce noise

- Stop rewarding bad behavior
- Don't create bad behavior
  - Reward consistently
  - Reward fairly
  - Fix quickly
  - Again with the documentation





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# conclusions

- Bug bounties successfully generate high severity and high quality vulnerability disclosures, delivering real value that improves security for companies of all sizes.
- Crowdsourcing engages skilled researchers around the world that you may not have heard of.



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