RAYAN AWAD FRIHAT

Technical & Network Security Engineer | Junior Cybersecurity Engineer | Junior SOC Analyst

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Technical & Network Security Engineer with hands-on experience in enterprise IT support, network administration, VoIP/PBX, infrastructure configuration, and system hardening. Currently working in a Technical & Network Security Engineer role at EJAF Technology, supporting Odoo ERP and infrastructure environments through network segmentation, access control, monitoring baselines, Linux/Windows hardening, PBX, and NVR/CCTV configuration. Building a focused career path toward Cybersecurity Engineering and SOC Analysis through practical labs and portfolio work involving SIEM, EDR, incident response, log analysis, threat hunting, and SOAR automation. Also pursuing the HTB Certified Defensive Security Analyst (CDSA) path and actively seeking opportunities across Technical Engineering, IT Support, Help Desk, Technical Support, Systems Administration, NOC, SOC, and junior cybersecurity roles.

TARGET ROLES

Technical Engineer | IT Support Specialist | Technical Support Specialist | Help Desk | System Administrator | NOC Analyst | Junior SOC Analyst | Junior Cybersecurity Engineer | Junior Security Operations / Blue Team

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- Cybersecurity & SOC: SIEM (Wazuh, Splunk Enterprise Security, Security Onion), EDR concepts and host isolation (CrowdStrike, Microsoft Defender for Endpoint), incident response and triage, log analysis, threat hunting, Sysmon, Atomic Red Team, vulnerability assessment (Nessus, Nmap).
- Security Automation & SOAR: Tines workflows, analyst-in-the-loop approvals, EDR host network isolation, incident escalation, Slack/email alerting, REST APIs, security automation, generative AI in security.
- Networking & Infrastructure: TCP/IP, DNS, VPN, firewalls, network segmentation, network troubleshooting, VoIP/PBX, CCTV/NVR, Windows Server, Linux administration (Ubuntu, Kali, CentOS), system hardening.
- IT Support: Hardware/software troubleshooting, workstation deployment and configuration, user accounts, operating systems, network connectivity, peripherals, technical documentation and knowledge-base procedures.
- Programming & Scripting: Python, Bash, SQL, C, JavaScript, React.js, REST APIs.
- Languages: Arabic (Native) | English (Professional Working Proficiency).

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Technical & Network Security Engineer

EJAF Technology Iraq | Erbil, Iraq | Full-time, Hybrid | Mar 2026 – Sep 2026

- Assist senior engineers in configuring and maintaining network security controls for enterprise Odoo ERP and infrastructure environments.
- Support system hardening procedures across Linux/Windows servers and network devices to reduce the enterprise attack surface.
- Configure and troubleshoot network infrastructure, IP PBX systems, and CCTV/NVR surveillance servers.
- Support access control, network segmentation, and system monitoring baselines in collaboration with the technical team.

Courses Instructor – IT & Cybersecurity Solutions

LearnUpscale | Remote | Contract | Mar 2026 – Present

- Design and deliver practical online curricula covering Python/C programming, operating systems, networking fundamentals, and core cybersecurity concepts.
- Mentor students through scripting exercises, Linux system concepts, network troubleshooting, and security logic.
- Guide learners through hands-on labs, code optimization, and practical problem-solving.

Information Technology Support Specialist

OFFTEC Arabia | Syria | Full-time, On-site | Aug 2023 – Nov 2024

- Provided end-user technical support for hardware, software, network connectivity, and operating system issues.
- Installed, maintained, and configured workstations, user accounts, and local network peripherals.
- Documented technical issues and resolution procedures in the internal knowledge base to improve support response efficiency.

Freelance IT & Cybersecurity Instructor

Self-Employed | *Remote* | *Aug 2022 – Jan 2026*

- Mentored IT Engineering students in Linux administration, network security, operating systems, and foundational security concepts.
- Guided learners through practical lab setups using Linux hardening, Cisco Packet Tracer, and troubleshooting tools.

Freelance Front-End Web Developer

Self-Employed | *Remote* | *Feb 2019 – Oct 2021*

- Developed responsive web interfaces using React.js and integrated REST APIs.
- Automated repetitive operational tasks using Python and Bash scripts to improve workflow efficiency.

CYBERSECURITY PROJECTS

Automated Incident Response & Host Containment Workflow (SOAR)

Independent Cybersecurity Project | *2025*

- Designed and deployed an automated incident response workflow using Tines SOAR and EDR integration to process security alerts.
- Implemented context-rich alerting through Slack and email to provide SOC visibility.
- Integrated analyst-in-the-loop prompts for containment approval.
- Automated host network isolation after analyst confirmation and validated containment through ICMP connectivity tests.

EDUCATION

B.Sc. in Information Technology Engineering – Cybersecurity Specialization

Syrian Virtual University (SVU) | Graduated Jan 2026

- Relevant coursework: Network Security & Cisco Networking, Ethical Hacking & Penetration Testing, Cryptography & Risk Management, Linux System Administration, Vulnerability Assessment.

CERTIFICATIONS & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Cybersecurity / SOC

- HTB Certified Defensive Security Analyst (HTB CDSA) — Hack The Box | **In Progress** | Expected Nov 2026
  - Completed: Incident Handling Process
  - Completed: Security Monitoring & SIEM Fundamentals
  - Completed: Windows Event Logs & Finding Evil
- Certified Cybersecurity (CORE) — Hackviser | Sep 2026
- Cybersecurity Fundamentals — Palo Alto Networks | Sep 2026
- Play It Safe: Manage Security Risks — Google / Coursera | Mar 2024
- Foundations of Cybersecurity — Google / Coursera | Nov 2023

Network / Security Infrastructure

- PAN-OS: Features — Palo Alto Networks | Sep 2026
- OCNA Wireless – Omada Certified Network Administrator — TP-Link | Jun 2026 – Jun 2029
- Connect and Protect: Networks and Network Security — Google / Coursera | Jul 2024
- The Bits and Bytes of Computer Networking — Google / Coursera | Nov 2025

Systems / IT Support

- System Administration and IT Infrastructure Services — Google / Coursera | Sep 2026
- Operating Systems and You: Becoming a Power User — Google / Coursera | Jun 2026
- Technical Support Fundamentals — Google / Coursera | Sep 2025
- Tools of the Trade: Linux and SQL — Google / Coursera | Nov 2024

Email Security

- Email Authentication Advanced — PowerDMARC | Sep 2026
- Email Authentication Fundamentals — PowerDMARC | Sep 2026

AI / Emerging Technology

- Claude Academy: Building Effective Human Agent Teams (Beta) — Anthropic | Sep 2026
- Claude Academy: AI Fluency: Framework & Foundations — Anthropic | Sep 2026
- Claude Academy: AI Capabilities and Limitations — Anthropic | Sep 2026
- Generative AI Primer — Vanderbilt University | Sep 2026