



# Securosis

*Presents*

## Pragmatic Database Security: Security Program Development

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# Outline

- Problem Space
- Use Cases
- Program Outline
- Recommendations



*How do I create a database security program?*



- All security is reactive
- When someone complains
- Squeaky wheels -- reduce security
- Head's down, silo-ed approach
  - DBA's, security, operations and audit all have different priorities
- When you fail an audit

# When working without a plan

...

# Use Case: Large Financial

- Many different types of databases
- Management segregated by database type/geography
- DBA in charge of security
- Security group understands security
- The two groups don't talk
- Security expectations not consistent
- No configuration standard

# Use Case: Mid-sized Enterprise

- We know that we're under attack
- Hackers? Crazy foreign governments? Does it matter?
- They are after the data



- ISP gave us PCI checklist
- Don't understand requirements
- Said our databases were vulnerable
- DBA says we are patched



# Use Case: Small Enterprise

# Use Case: Large Health Care

- Many different types of databases
- HUGE data volumes.
- Do security tools scale?
- How do we set configuration standards across groups/systems?
- How do we tell which users are accessing data?



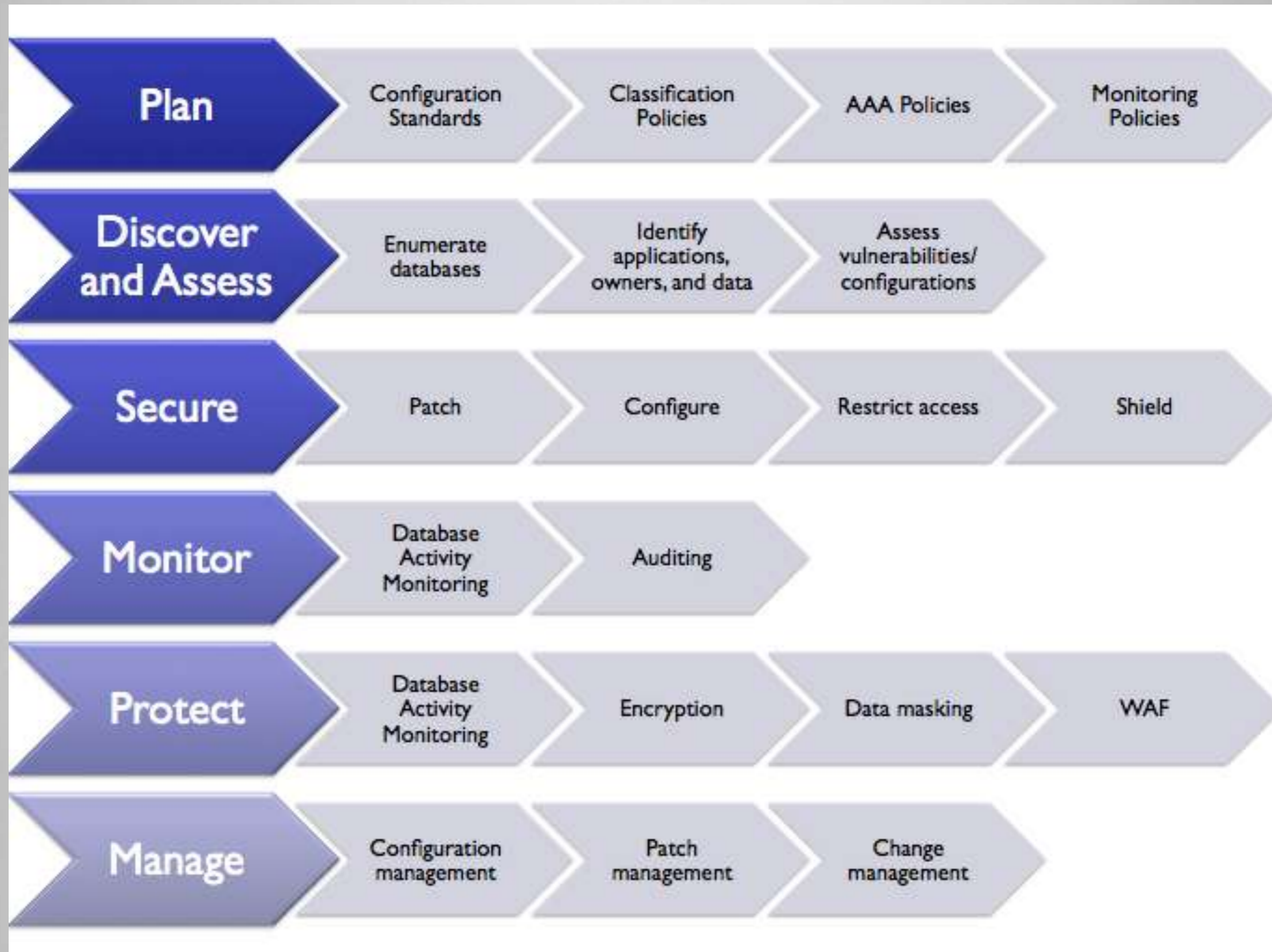
*Trouble is most firms do not  
have policies, procedures  
or defined responsibilities*

- What do you have?
- What are you accountable for?
- What do you not know?
- Chicken or the Egg:  
Monitoring vs. Assessment



# Where do I start?

# Database Security Program



*Which is not a  
pragmatic way to  
start*

- Do what's cheap and easy first
- Find some tools:
  - Assessment
  - Discovery
  - Monitoring
- Discover what you have
- Then figure out what to do



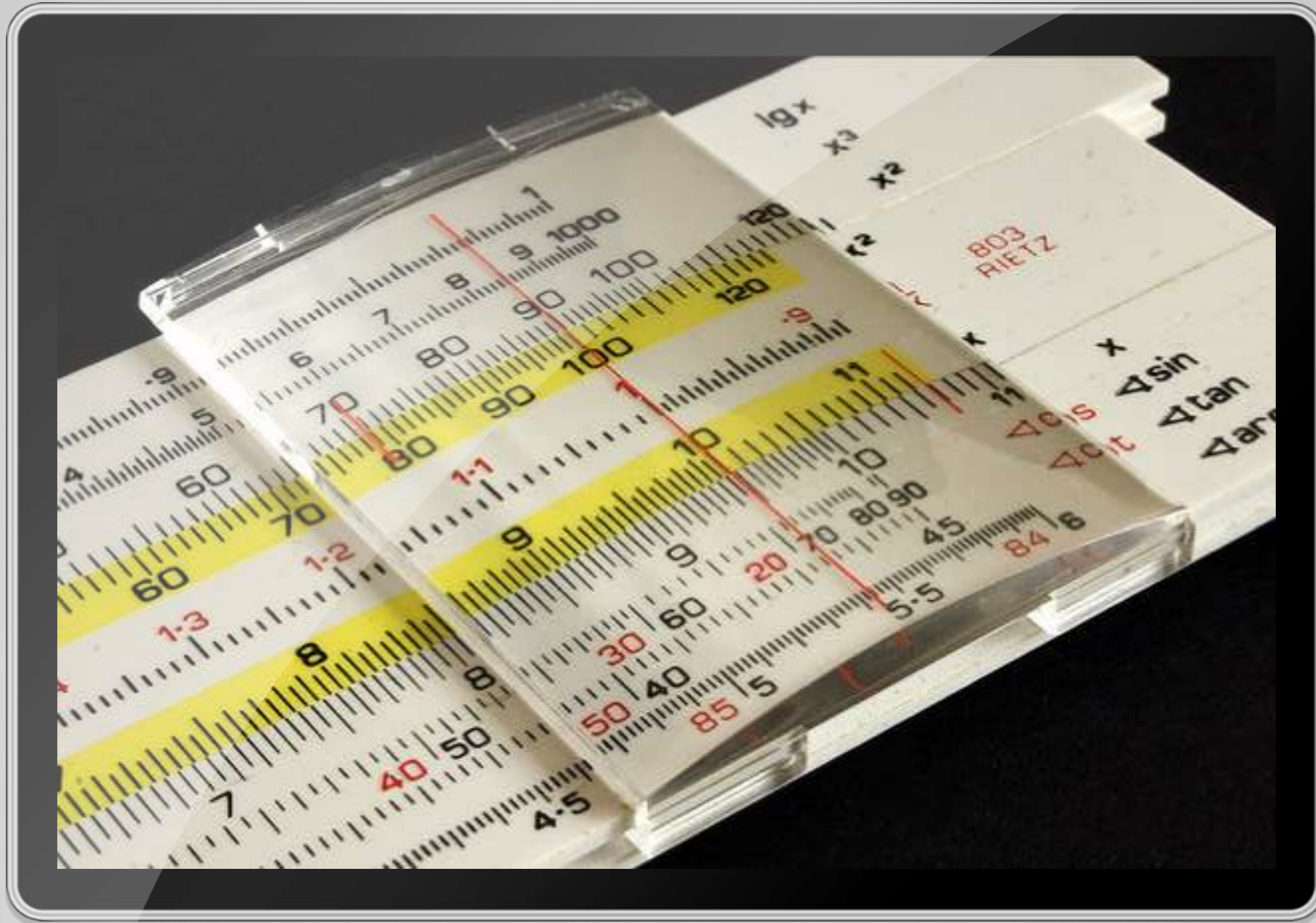
# Let's make this easier ...

Find some tools ...  
Discover what you have ...  
Determine what you need to  
do.



- Database discovery
- Data discovery
- Assessment
- Monitoring

What tools are at your disposal?



# Assessment



# Assessment tools provide:

- Configuration assessment
- Patch assessment
- Data & database discovery
- Catalog features
- Advise on security best practices
- Usually show roles/permissions



- What queries?
- What applications?
- What are users doing?
- What's failing?

# Monitoring



- Which users have access
- User permissions
- Group account access
- Roles
- Admin account setup
- SOD: platform vs. database
- Public access

# Identity Management

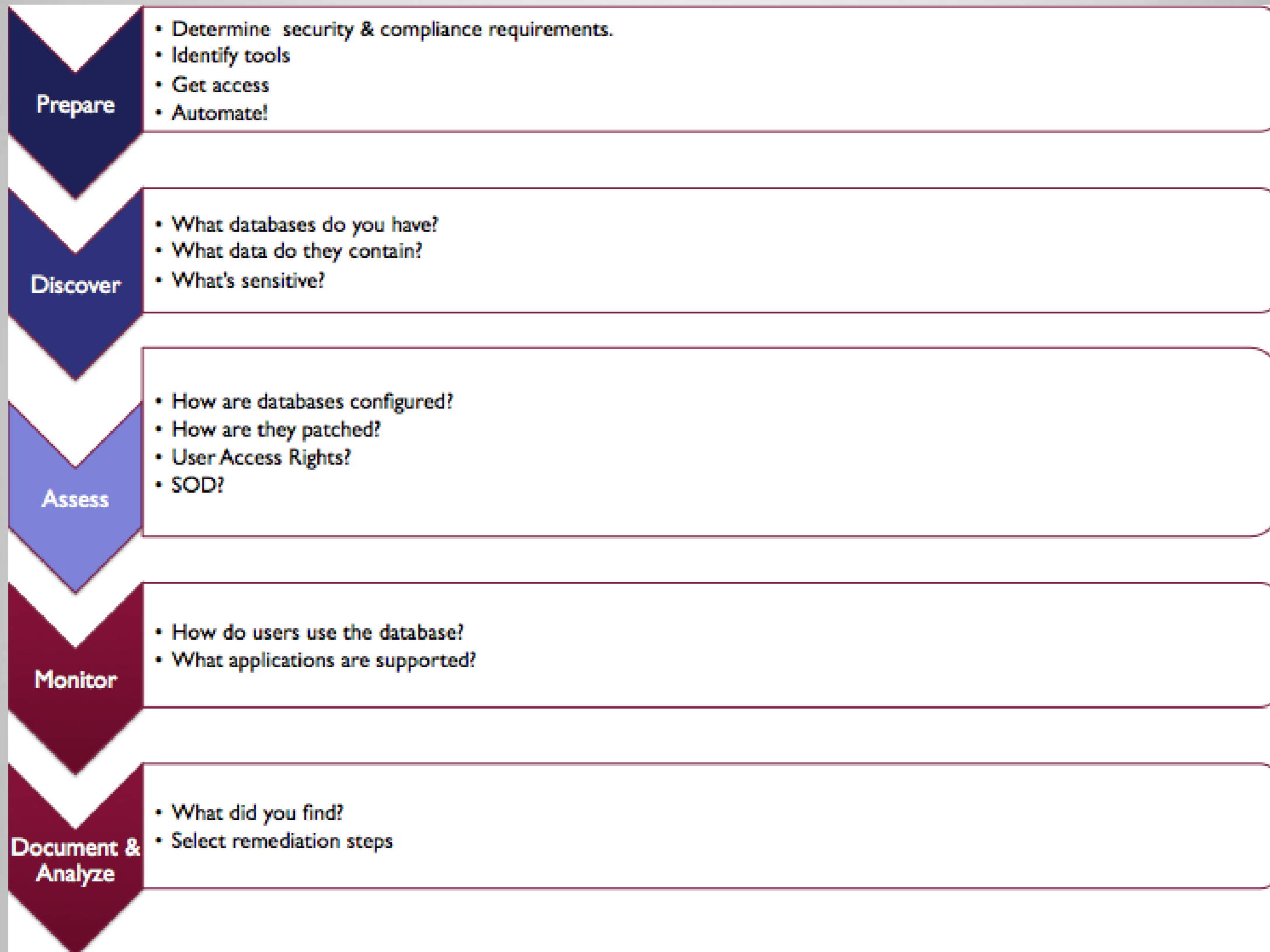
*Now that you know what you  
have, it's time to determine  
what to fix.*

- Answer these questions:
  - What are the security requirements?
  - What are the compliance requirements?
  - What's the distance between where we are and where we need to be?



# What is your “Risk”

# Planning Process



*The tools you used to discover  
and plan are the same one's  
you'll use to implement policies.*

# *Recommendations*





Your success depends on  
your ability to prioritize

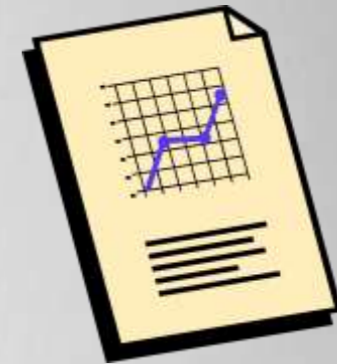
# Plan For:



Identity and Access



Monitoring



Metrics



Compliance



Encryption



Assessment



Threat Modeling

- Your data center is always changing, and thus your risk is always changing.
- Iterative process
- Those changes impact the security posture, and thus the risk faced by an organization.
- Change is happening faster than ever.



# Constant Change



Operations, Security  
and Compliance need  
to be aligned

- You will need to continuously monitor and audit.
- You cannot keep pace with changes w/o help.
- You're not a security researcher.



# Automate!



- Do what's cheap and easy first
- Show value of:
  - Assessment
  - Discovery
  - Monitoring
- Once you get executive buy-in, things get easier.
- That means budget and help

# Start with quick wins!

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