MALWARE

What is **Malware**? As a catch-all term, these are the the top 10 and how they work.

TROJANS

10

It takes its name from the ancient trojan horse and tries to blend in with other applications to open up a backdoor. This allows access to a host of undetectable malicious software.

WORMS

9

There are several types of malicious computer worms. They propagate themselves to carry a payload of malware, such as a viruses, that can spread to other programs or systems.

PHISHING

8

These are emails that are essentially con jobs in that someone has to convince you they are credible and can be trusted. They try to trick you in to a reply or to click on a link or an attachment used for identity or financial theft or fraud.

KEYLOGGERS

7

This is an insidious form of spyware. As you enter sensitive data onto your keyboard the, keylogging software is hard at work logging everything that you type, including usernames and passwords.

BACKDOORS

6

Backdoors are where unauthorized users are able to bypass normal security measures and gain high level user access on a computer system, network or software application to steal personal and financial data, install additional malware and hijack devices.

5

EXPLOITS

An exploit is a piece of code or a program that takes advantage of any application or system vulnerabilities in an attempt to attempt to install and execute malware.

4

ADVANCED PERSISTENT THREAT (APT)

As the name suggests, this malware uses continuous, clandestine and sophisticated hacking techniques to sneak its way into a system and remain for a prolong time to monitor it and persistently steal data.

3

DISTRIBUTED DENIAL OF SERVICE (DDOS)

These are cyber attacks that aim to bombard and overwhelm websites and online services with more traffic and requests than they can accommodate, which causes them to crash.

2

BOTNETS

A botnet is a network of infected computers that are controlled as a single entity by a bad actor. The criminal can have all the computers in the infected network carry out the same instructions at the same time.

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RANSOMWARE

This the number one malware and arguably the worst. It locks users out of their devices or blocks access to files until a sum of money or ransom is paid. It is considered a data breach in certain industries.

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