

Digital Security Learning Table Workshop:

Protecting Your Online Accounts



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Four types of digital attacks we will cover today:

1. Receive threats and unfavorable comments
2. Compromised accounts
3. Doxing - <https://www.wired.com/2014/03/doxing>
4. DDOS (Distributed Denial of Service Attacks) - <https://progressivetech.org/blog/2016/10/25/ddos-freakout>

**Do you know of anyone
who has received these kinds of attacks?**

**If you experienced any of these attacks,
is your instinct to hide or fight back?**

Strategies

- Hide or Fight Back / Engage or Not Engage
- Open vs. Closed Organizing: The Trade-offs
- Separate personal from work or organizational accounts
- Organizational Culture: Support one another
- Legal / Law Enforcement
- Knowing your tech providers

Application of Strategies

| | Threats & Unfavorable Comments | Compromised Accounts | Doxxing | DDoS |
|--|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|---------|------|
| Hide or Fight Back | | | | |
| Open vs Closed Organizing | | | | |
| Separate personal from work accounts | | | | |
| Organizational Culture | | | | |
| Legal / Law Enforcement | | | | |
| Knowing your tech providers | | | | |
| Technologies | | | | |

Technologies

Account Management and Password Managers

In most cases only one thing protecting your digital data: a password

Review and disable old accounts everywhere on a regular basis.

Whenever possible, don't allow staff to share passwords to a shared account

- ✓ Give every new volunteer their own user accounts so you can disable them when they leave
- ✓ Delegate, e.g. https://blog.twitter.com/official/en_us/a/2015/introducing-tweetdeck-teams.html
- ✓ With email – forward email from your info account to the various people who should receive it

Use a password manager

- ✓ Use KeePass: <https://keepass.info/> - All operating systems, android, iPhone
- ✓ Use Browser function to save passwords – pro's and con's
- ✓ Use <https://www.lastpass.com> (last resort)

Technologies

Two-Factor Authentication (2FA)

- Requires both a password and another form of authentication, usually a 4 or 6 digit key sent to your cell phone via a text message or a cell phone application
- Makes it significantly harder to lose access to your resource
- Also makes it much more cumbersome to use

Consider the pro's and con's of accessibility (it creates a higher bar for adoption) versus privacy

Technologies

Upgrade Software

- Desktops and Laptops: Small organizations - make a policy to always shutdown and upgrade at end of every day. Large organizations should have IT staff to ensure this happens
- iPhones and Android phones: ensure you upgrade whenever prompted
- Web sites: biggest unexploited vulnerability on the left: WordPress and Drupal web sites

Technologies

Denial of Service attack and Deflect

<https://deflect.ca/>

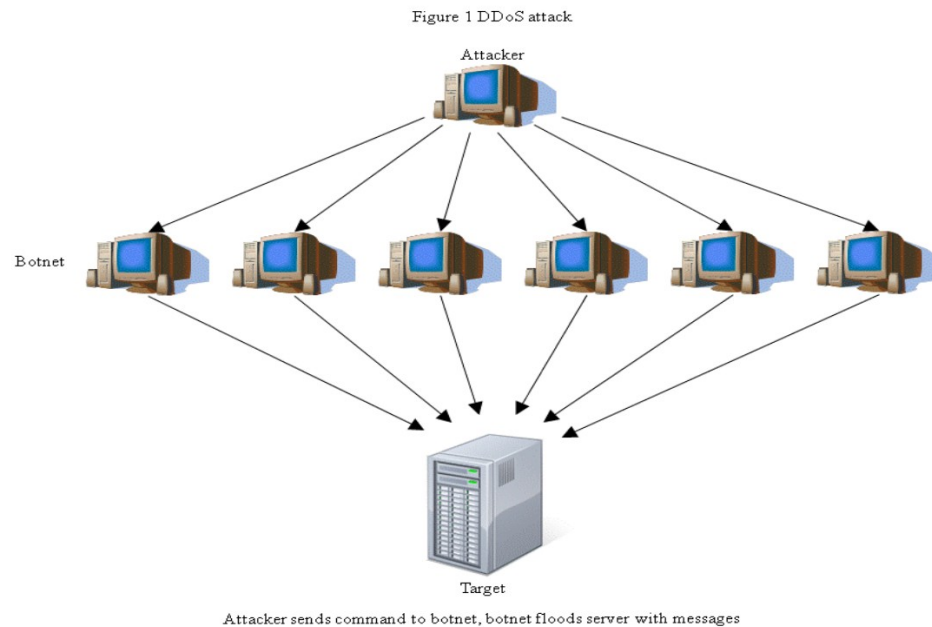


Image credit: <http://www.cs.wustl.edu/~jain/cse571-11/ftp/cyberwar/>

Technologies

Mobile – Turn off Bluetooth

<https://techcrunch.com/2017/09/12/new-bluetooth-vulnerability-can-hack-a-phone-in-ten-seconds/>

Technologies

Research yourself online & protecting your personal information

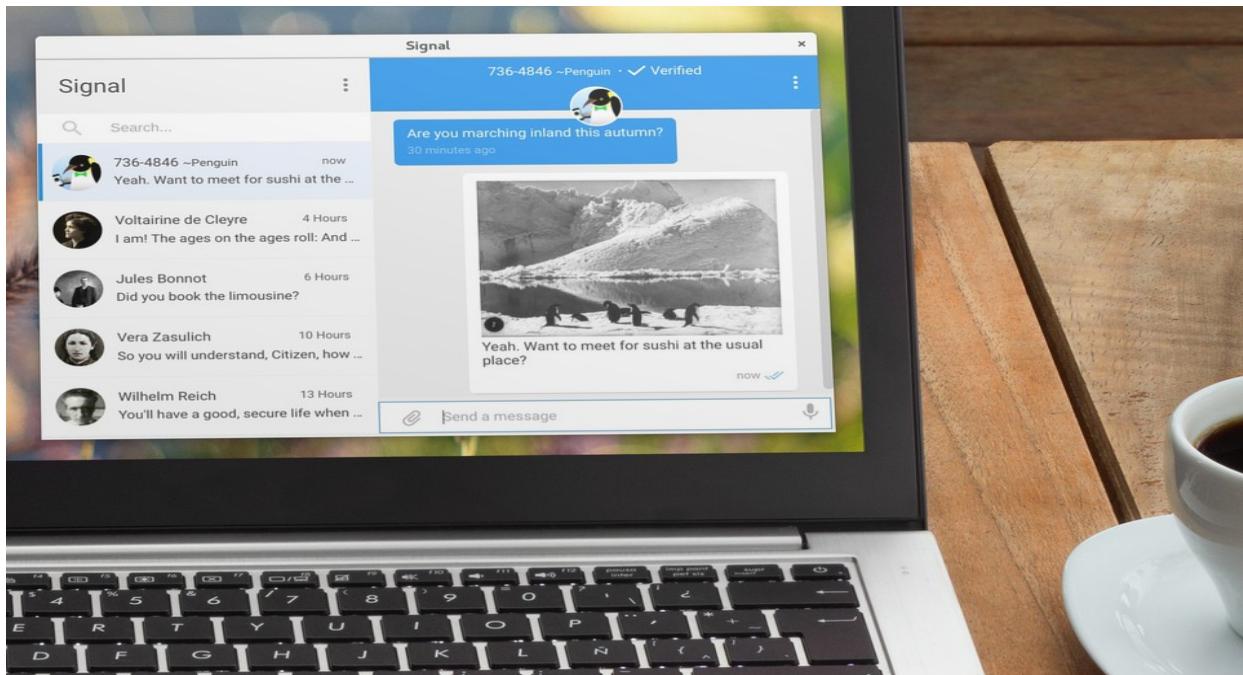
- Use google to research yourself online
- Check popular sites that aggregate data about people from online and offline sources, and OPT out if you can: e.g. Spokeo.com, Anywho.com (more resources on preventing doxxing: <https://onlinesafety.feministfrequency.com/en/#preventing-doxxing>)
- To protect anonymity online – use DuckDuckgo.com search engine or TOR browser
- Turn off geolocator especially when posting images on social media
- Encrypt communications to major websites using https: instead of http: (also see <https://www.eff.org/https-everywhere>)

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Set privacy settings on social media accounts

<https://identity.utexas.edu/everyone/how-to-manage-your-social-media-privacy-settings>
And see: <https://www.takebackthetech.net/social-media-privacy>

- Facebook groups are not secure:
<https://ssd.eff.org/en/module/facebook-groups-reducing-risks>
- Another option for group collaboration – Signal Desktop:
<https://support.signal.org/hc/en-us/articles/214507138>



<https://signal.org/blog/>

Discussion, Questions & Wrap-Up