

❖ **Stages of Social Engineering:**

- Prepare.
- Establish trust.
- Use persuasion tactics.
- Disconnect from the target.

❖ **Preventing Social Engineering:**

- Implementing managerial controls.
- Staying informed of trends.
- Sharing your knowledge with others.

❖ **Common Social Engineering Attacks:**

- **Baiting**: tempts people into compromising their security.
 - **Quid pro quo**: trick someone into believing that they'll be rewarded in return for sharing access, information, or money
 - **Phishing**: the use of digital communications to trick people into revealing sensitive data or deploying malicious software.
 - **Tailgating (piggybacking)**: unauthorized people follow an authorized person into a restricted area.
 - **Watering hole**: a threat actor compromises a website frequently visited by a specific group of users.
- ❖ **Potentially Unwanted Application (PUA)**: type of unwanted software that is bundled in with legitimate programs which might display ads, cause device slowdown, or install other software.

❖ **Phishing kit:** A collection of software tools needed to launch a phishing campaign.

❖ **Phishing kit tools:**

- Malicious attachments.
- Fake data-collection forms.
- Fraudulent web links.

❖ **Phishing security measures:**

- Anti-phishing policies.
- Employee training resources.
- Email filters.
- Intrusion prevention systems.

❖ **Malware:** software designed to harm devices or networks.

❖ **Types of malware:**

- **Virus:** malicious code written to interfere with computer operations and cause damage to data and software.
- **Worm:** can duplicate and spread itself across systems on its own.
- **Trojan:** looks like a legitimate file or program.
- **Adware:** used to display digital advertisements in applications.
- **Spyware:** used to gather and sell information without consent
- **Scareware:** employs tactics to frighten users into infecting their own device.
- **Fileless Malware:** uses legitimate programs that are already installed to infect a computer.
- **Rootkit:** provides remote, administrative access to a computer. Spread by a combination of two components: a dropper and a loader:
 - **Dropper:** a type of malware that comes packed with malicious code which is delivered and installed onto a target system.
 - **Loader:** a type of malware that downloads strains of malicious code from an external source and installs them onto a target system.
- **Botnet (Robot Network):** a collection of computers infected by malware that are under the control of a single threat actor, known as the “bot-herder.”
- **Ransomware:** threat actors encrypt an organization's data and demand payment to restore access.
- **Crypto-jacking:** installs software to illegally mine cryptocurrencies.

❖ **Signs of Crypto-jacking:**

- Slowdown.
- Increased CPU usage.
- Sudden system crashes.
- Fast draining battery.
- Unusually high electricity costs.

❖ **Web-based Exploits:** malicious code or behavior that's used to take advantage of coding flaws in a web application.

❖ **Cross-Site Scripting (XSS):** an injection attack that inserts code into a vulnerable website or web application.

❖ **Types of XSS attacks:**

- **Reflected:** when malicious script is sent to a server and activated during the server's response.
- **Stored:** when malicious script is injected directly on the server.
- **DOM-based:** when a malicious script exists in the webpage a browser loads.

❖ **SQL Injection:** an attack that executes unexpected queries on a database.

❖ **SQL Injection categories:**

- **In-band:** uses the same communication channel to launch the attack and gather the results.
- **Out-of-band:** uses a different communication channel to launch the attack and gather the results.
- **Inferential:** when an attacker is unable to directly see the results of their attack. Instead, they can interpret the results by analyzing the behavior of the system.

❖ **Injection prevention ways:**

- **Prepared Statement:** a coding technique that executes SQL statements before passing them onto the database.
- **Input sanitization:** programming that removes user input which could be interpreted as code.
- **Input validation:** programming that ensures user input meets a system's expectations.

❖ **Threat Modeling:** the process of identifying assets, their vulnerabilities, and how each is exposed to threats.

❖ **Threat model steps:**

- Define the scope.
- Identify threats.
- Characterize the environment.
- Analyze threats.
- Mitigate risks.
- Evaluate findings.

❖ **PASTA (Process for Attack Simulation and Threat Analysis):** a popular threat modeling framework that's used across many industries.

❖ **PASTA Stages:**

- Define business and security objectives.
- Define the technical scope.
- Decompose the application.
- Perform a threat analysis.
- Perform a vulnerability analysis.
- Conduct attack modeling.
- Analyze risk and impact.