

Indicator Type	Trigger / Metric	Example Keywords / APIs	Explanation / Notes
Network API	Count of network-related APIs	socket, connect, send, recv, inet_pton, htons	High count indicates possible network communication for C2 or data exfiltration.
Suspicious API	Count of APIs often misused by malware	system, exec, popen, CreateProcess, fork	APIs enabling arbitrary execution, command injection, or control flow manipulation.
Persistence API	Count of registry/cron/startup modification APIs	SetWindowsHookEx, RegSetValue, crontab	Indicates attempts to persist across reboots.
Dynamic Loading / Injection	Count of APIs for loading external modules or code	LoadLibrary, dlopen, CreateRemoteThread, VirtualAlloc	Used for code injection or loading external modules at runtime.
Suspicious Strings	Count of suspicious keywords or patterns in strings	"password", "cmd.exe", "Decoded string", "exec"	Could be hard-coded passwords, commands, or encoded payloads.
Base64 Blobs	Count of Base64-encoded strings	Any string matching Base64 regex: <code>[A-Za-z0-9+/=]{20,}</code>	May hide malicious payloads or configuration data.
Hex Blobs	Count of large hexadecimal blobs	Strings like <code>0x90, 0x90, 0xCC...</code>	Often used for embedded binaries or shellcode.
High Entropy Blobs	Count of high-entropy regions in code/data	Any sequence with Shannon entropy > 7.5	Indicates obfuscation, encryption, or compressed payloads.
Obfuscation Matches	Number of matched obfuscation patterns	Control flow flattening, variable masking patterns	Detects obfuscation tricks to evade analysis.
Network Indicators (IPs/URLs/Domains)	Count or list of IPs, URLs, and domains	192.168.1.100, malicious.com	Helps detect C2 servers, phishing endpoints, or malware communication targets.