

Table Of Contents

Table Of Contents ..... 1

[Home](#) > [Faq](#) > [Security](#)

## What is a rootkits?

Posted by [Vivek Gite](#) <[vivek@nixcraft.com](mailto:vivek@nixcraft.com)>

A rootkit is a:

- Set of software tools
- Used by a an intruder
- Installed by an intruder after gaining access to a computer system
- They hides:
  - Logins
  - Other processes
  - Files, and logs etc from user

Rootkits exist for a variety of operating systems such as Linux, Solaris and versions of Microsoft Windows. A computer with a rootkit on it is called a rooted computer.

4000+ howtos and counting! Want to read more Linux / UNIX howtos, tips and tricks? Subscribe to our [daily email](#) newsletter or [weekly newsletter](#) to make sure you don't miss a single tip/tricks. Alternatively, subscribe via [RSS/XML](#) feed.

Article printed from Frequently Asked Questions About Linux / UNIX: <http://www.cyberciti.biz/faq/>

URL to article: <http://www.cyberciti.biz/faq/what-is-a-rootkits/>

---

Copyright © 2006-2010 [nixCraft](#). All rights reserved. This print / pdf version is for personal non-commercial use only. More details <http://www.cyberciti.biz/tips/copyright>.