

# **My Research On: How Malicious Browser Extensions Can Harm Users**

Malicious browser extensions may look useful, but they can cause serious security and privacy issues.

## **1. Steal Login Credentials**

- Capture usernames and passwords
- Access saved browser passwords
- Perform session hijacking

## **2. Track Browsing Activity**

- Monitor websites visited
- Collect search history
- Track online behavior for data selling

## **3. Inject Advertisements**

- Display unwanted pop-ups
- Redirect to fake shopping or phishing websites
- Replace legitimate ads with malicious ones

## **4. Modify Web Content**

- Change search engine results
- Redirect traffic to scam websites

- Inject malicious scripts into webpages

## 5. Install Malware

- Download hidden malicious files
- Act as a gateway for spyware or ransomware

## 6. Excessive Permissions Abuse

If an extension has permissions like:

- “Read and change all website data”
- “Access browsing history”
- “Manage downloads”

It can misuse these permissions to compromise user privacy.