Social Engineering

It is the manipulation technique that takes advantage of human errors to obtain private information, access or valuables. These "human hacking" scams tend to cause unsuspecting users to expose data, spread malware infections or give access to restricted systems. Attacks can occur online, in person and through other interactions.

Traits of this attack

- **Heightened emotions:** Emotional manipulation gives attackers the upper hand in any interaction. Emotions are used in equal measure to convince you.
- **Urgency:** Urgent opportunities or requests are another reliable tool in an attacker's arsenal, you may be motivated to compromise in the face of apparent serious problems that need immediate attention.
- **Trust:** Credibility is invaluable and essential for such an attack. At this point the attacker can create a profile for the victim to easily fall for.

Types of social engineering attacks

- Phishing attacks (Using another identity)
- Bait attacks (Using emotional enhancement)
- Access attacks (Using trust)
- Pretexting attacks (Using trust)
- Piggybacking attacks (Using trust)
- Reciprocity attacks (Using emotional enhancement)

Emotions they can use

- Fear
- Excitement
- Curiosity
- Anger
- Guilt
- Sadness