**MAN IN THE MIDDLE (MITM) ATTACK**

**What Is a Man-in-the-Middle Attack?**

A man-in-the-middle attack is a type of cyberattack where a malicious actor inserts him/herself into a conversation between two parties, impersonates both parties and gains access to information that the two parties were trying to send to each other. A man-in-the-middle attack allows a malicious actor to intercept, send and receive data meant for someone else, or not meant to be sent at all, without either outside party knowing until it is too late. Man-in-the-middle attacks can be abbreviated in many ways, including MITM, MitM, MiM or MIM.

**Key Concepts of a Man-in-the-Middle Attack**

Man-in-the-middle is a type of eavesdropping attack that occurs when a malicious actor inserts himself as a relay/proxy into a communication session between people or systems.

A MITM attack exploits the real-time processing of transactions, conversations or transfer of other data.

Man-in-the-middle attacks allow attackers to intercept, send and receive data never meant to be for them without either outside party knowing until it is too late.

**Example of Attack:**

1-Jack and Jill are two victim users who were asking their key.

2-They try to send the key to each other but Peter (MITM)intercept to their conversation.

3- Peter instead send his own key to jack.

4-Moneys goes to Peters account instead of Jill.

**How do I avoid these types of attacks?**

Make sure “HTTPS” is always in the URL bar of the websites you visit.

Be wary of potential phishing emails from attackers asking you to update your password or any other log in credentials. Instead of clicking in the link provided in the email, manually type the website in questions address into the URL bar of your browser and proceed from there.

Never connect to public Wi-Fi routers directly if possible. You can use a Virtual Private Network (VPN), or you can use a browser plug-in such as HTTPS Everywhere or ForceTLS.

Since MITB attacks primarily use malware for execution, you should have a comprehensive Internet security solution such as Norton Security installed on your computer, and be sure to keep the program up to date.

Be sure that your home network is secured. Change all of the default usernames and passwords on your home router and any other equipment.