

## Assignment 2

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Tyler's Comp 8

Q1. ~~About~~ Explain malware with its types.

Malware short for 'malicious software', refers to any software intentionally designed to cause damage to a computer, server, network, or user.

- (1) Virus - Programs that replicate themselves by attaching to other files or programs and execute malicious actions when these files are activated.
- (2) Worms - Self-replicating malware that spreads across networks by exploiting vulnerabilities in operating systems or applications.
- (3) Trojans - Malware disguised as legitimate software or files to trick users into executing them. Once activated, Trojans can create backdoors for attackers, steal sensitive data or cause other malicious activities without the user's knowledge.
- (4) Ransomware - Encrypts files or locks users out of the system, demanding payments to restore access.
- (5) Spyware - Collects sensitive information from infected devices without the user's consent, such as login credentials.
- (6) Adware - Displays unwanted advertisements or redirects users to malicious software, websites, or downloads.



Q1 Explain & illustrate cross site scripting

Cross site scripting (XSS) is a vulnerability in a web application that allows a third party to execute a script in the users browser or behalf of the web application.

Cross site scripting is one of the most vulnerability present on web today.

The exploitation of XSS against a user can lead to various consequences such as account compromise, account deletion and many more.

Preventing XSS attacks, involves implementing proper input validation and output encoding techniques in web application.

This include filtering and sanitizing, uses input to remove or neutralize potentially malicious characters and encoding output to ensure it is treated as plain text.

Additionally using security mechanisms like content security policy can help mitigate the risks associated.

Depending on content there are two types of XSS

1) Reflected XSS

If the input has to be provided each time to execute such XSS is called reflected.

These attacks are mostly carried out by delivering a payload directly to victim.

2) Stored XSS

When response containing the payload is stored on the server in such a way that the script gets executed on every visit. An example of stored XSS is XSS in the comment thread.

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### Q3 Explain DOS attack

A Denial of service attack floods a target system or network with excessive traffic, rendering it inaccessible to legitimate users.

Attackers exploit vulnerabilities to overwhelm servers, routers or networks, disrupting services and causing downtime.

Common types include SYN flood, UDP flood and ICMP flood attacks.

DOS attacks aim to exhaust resources, leading to system crashes or slowdowns, impacting business operations and user experience.

Mitigation strategies involve implementing network security measures, such as firewalls and intrusion detection systems, to filter and block malicious traffic.