DAILY ASSESSMENT FORMAT

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FORENOON SESSION DETAILS
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Presented to

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For successfully completing a free online course
Introduction to Cyber Security

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Report

Computer security, cybersecurity or information technology security is the protection of computer systems and networks from the theft of or damage to their hardware, software, or electronic data, as well as from the disruption or misdirection of the services they provide. For this reason, there is a need for an effective security strategy that will not only guard these systems effectively from such attacks but also detect them before they occur. In simple terms, cyber security is the exercise of protecting computer systems from attacks. Such attacks are usually aimed at gaining unauthorized access, destroying, altering, disrupting, and gaining control of information or operations to extort money from victims. Some aspects of cyber security include network, systems, applications, information, and operational security.

1. **Formal Education**

While it is not cast in stone that you have a degree to pursue a career in cybersecurity and honestly not many started at this point, employers still have some value attached to a bachelor's degree.

With a bachelor's degree in cybersecurity or a degree in a related field like computer science or information technology, you will have started your career on a high note and with an added advantage.

1. **Experience**

The one challenge that the cyber security field faces is a wide skills gap. This has resulted in high demand for professionals and a talent pool that does not fit the skills requirements. Skills are best acquired through learning and doing.

It is possible to gain some experience through self-learning even without a formal educational background in a related field. However, you will need deep interest, passion, and a lot of patience to achieve your goals. Secondly, you must learn the basics before getting to the practical.

1. **Certifications**

In cybersecurity, certifications matter a great deal. Certifications are skill-specific. They are one way of achieving specific goals, especially if you want to sharpen specific skills in cybersecurity or curve your career path.

Certifications like the ones listed below are good and can help you boost your skills at any point in your career.

- CISSP (Certified Information Systems Security Professional)
- CISM (Certified Information Security Manager)
- CEH (Certified Ethical Hacker)
- CCSP (Certified Cloud Security Professional)

Cyber Security Job Market Trends

- Demand for generalist job roles relating to cybersecurity is fading off gradually and being replaced by specialized roles.
- Regulated industries like financial institutions, government operations, retail trade, energy, healthcare, are among those with higher career prospects in the cyber security field. This is due to the legal security regulations that bind their operations thanks in part to the fact that they handle massive consumer information.

- Cloud security is among the IT security fields with high demand as more data and operations move to both public and private cloud platforms.
- While it is possible to opt into the information security without a strong educational background, the job market values education and experience. After the education qualification and work experience, 35% of employers are likely to use certifications as a criterion for acquiring the best skills.
- Employers are already warming up to the idea of including security clearance in their list of requirements. 10% of cybersecurity posts need a security clearance. 10% of these roles, however, take time to be filled.
- With the Fortune 500 companies setting the pace, the information security employment landscape is transforming rapidly as more women take up senior positions.