KEYLOGGER

Keylogger definition

- 	A keylogger (or keystroke logger) is a type of spyware that monitors and records what you type on your computer or mobile phone. Keylogging software or hardware can be used to monitor activity for legal or illegal purposes.

How keyloggers work

Keyloggers work by recording the interactions a user has with their keyboard, allowing someone to access a log of every email, instant message, search query, password, username, or other keyed sequences that a user types.

Types of keyloggers

Software –Based Keylogger

1. Kernel level

2. Application programming interface level

3. Screen level

4. Browser level
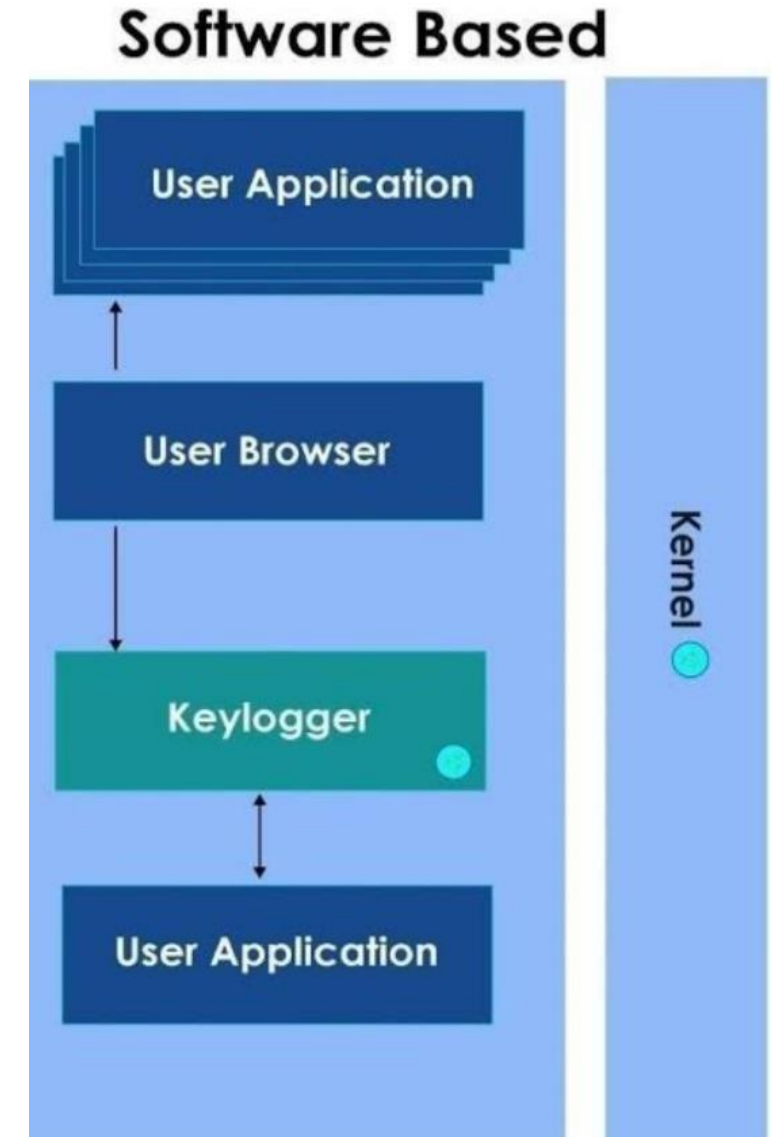
Hardware-based keyloggers

1. Keyboard
2. Physical drive
3. Third-party recording
4. Acoustic

What are keyloggers used for?

Legal vs. Illegal Keylogger Uses

Legal Keylogger Use	Illegal Keylogger Use
✓ Parental control	✗ Identity theft
✓ IT assistance and troubleshooting	✗ Stalking or voyeurism
✓ Device monitoring as approved in a user agreement	✗ Installation on a device owned by someone else

Keylogging examples

Legal keylogging uses	Illegal keylogging uses
User experience data monitoring	Account information theft
Parental control to monitor and **protect children's online activity**	Collecting sensitive information
Recording usage on a personal device owned by the keylogger user	Monitoring when consent was explicitly denied via a legally binding contract
Network, software, or hardware troubleshooting	Capturing credit card information and PIN details

The threats of keyloggers

1. Identity theft

2. Data ransom

3. Virtual or physical stalking

4. Voyeurism and eavesdropping

5. Credit card and other banking or financial fraud

6. The exposure of sensitive personal information

How to protect yourself from keyloggers

Protect Yourself From Keylogging

Recognize these six pointers to protect yourself from malicious keyloggers.

Enable two-factor authentication

Don't download unknown files

Consider a virtual keyboard

Use a password manager

Install antivirus software

Consider voice-to-text conversion software