

Cybersecurity Evolution Timeline

Here's the structured content for the timeline:

1. Early Cybersecurity Events (1970s - 1990s)

- **1971 – Creeper Virus**
 - The first known computer virus, created as an experimental program.
 - Led to the development of the first antivirus program, "Reaper."
- **1988 – Morris Worm**
 - One of the first large-scale internet worms, causing significant disruptions.
 - Led to the creation of the Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT).
- **1999 – Melissa Virus**
 - Spread through email attachments, infecting thousands of systems.
 - Highlighted the dangers of social engineering attacks.

2. The Rise of Cyber Threats (2000s)

- **2001 – Code Red Worm**
 - Exploited a Microsoft IIS vulnerability, affecting over 350,000 computers.
 - Showed the need for timely software patches.
- **2010 – Stuxnet**
 - Targeted industrial control systems, marking the rise of cyber warfare.
 - Raised awareness about cybersecurity in critical infrastructure.

3. Major Data Breaches and Ransomware (2010s - 2020s)

- **2013 – Yahoo Data Breach**
 - Exposed 3 billion user accounts, one of the largest breaches in history.
 - Increased focus on encryption and multi-factor authentication.
- **2017 – WannaCry Ransomware**
 - Exploited a Windows vulnerability, affecting over 200,000 computers globally.
 - Highlighted the importance of cybersecurity updates and backups.
- **2020 – SolarWinds Supply Chain Attack**
 - A sophisticated cyberattack that compromised major corporations and government agencies.
 - Showed the risks associated with supply chain security.

QUESTIONS OF INTEREST

