

Combating Denial of Service Attacks

In the world of IT denial of service (dos) attacks are attacks that greatly hinder a network by flooding it with useless traffic making it so that no legitimate traffic can be sent or received. This is extremely common place when it comes to online gaming because of people like Lizard Squad who have taken down multiple MMOs and networks such as PlaystationNetwork and Xbox Live. However, Lizard Squad is a group of black hat hackers who are extremely cocky and post who they are about to dos on Twitter, but black hat hackers make up only a small portion of the gaming community that actual commit these attacks. More often than not when a person suffers from a dos attack it is from a script kiddy or someone who knows very little about hacking but they have a program installed that was created by black hat hackers like Lizard Squad that does all of the work for them.

Denial of service attacks are illegal according to the Computer Fraud and Abuse Act of 1986 because if the attack is interstate in nature then it becomes a federal crime. While script kiddies are novices at hacking they are using scripts that were created by real hackers, but usually everyone looks down on script kiddies even other hackers. The problem with script kiddies is that they use dos attacks in order to gain notoriety from their peers and because of this they focus more on the amount of attacks that they can do where as an experienced hacker is aiming for quality in order to leave no trace. Plus, experienced hackers are not as likely to brag about dos attacks where as script kiddies are more likely to do so.

What I intend to do is show how easy it is to prevent a dos attack or back trace a dos attack on a network. Presently what corporations and private residents should focus on is their virtual security rather than physical security because after all this is the digital age and a huge portion of everyday life revolves around using the internet whether people realize it or not. Back tracing script kiddies should be easier than real hackers though because script kiddies more than likely are not using a botnet or a VPN in order to disguise their IP address and because of this back tracing them is way easier. While I cannot accurately give information on to how to combat something such as a botnet because back tracing to the host is virtually impossible due to the amount of zombie computers that are involved, I can provide information on how to handle script kiddies if the need ever arises.

In order to accomplish this project I will need to show how easy it is to back trace someone and get their IP address which can then be used to get a physical address. I also intend to show that while dos attacks are illegal to carry out the criminal charges that are attached to them are too lenient and should be beefed up in order to prove how serious of a crime hacking is. Plus, beefing up your networks security can be very beneficial when it comes to preventing dos attacks.

First, I will show how easy it can be to back trace an IP address of someone who is on a network which will probably take a week to 10 days at the most. After that I intend to show why criminal charges when it comes to hacking are way too lenient and should be updated since a large part of people's lives involve the use of the internet and this should take no more than two weeks to do. Finally, showing how beefing up security can be extremely beneficiary to both corporations and private residences alike because dos attacks can be very expensive to

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corporations and very annoying to people who are into gaming or social media. This last step should not take any more than a week in order to prove my point.