

How can I stay up-to-date on computer (especially software) security? [closed]

Asked 16 years, 3 months ago Modified 12 years, 7 months ago

Viewed 1k times



8



As it currently stands, this question is not a good fit for our Q&A format. We expect answers to be supported by facts, references, or expertise, but this question will likely solicit debate, arguments, polling, or extended discussion. If you feel that this question can be improved and possibly reopened, [visit the help center](#) for guidance.

Closed 11 years ago.

I recently bought and read a box set of books on security ([Building Secure Software: How to Avoid Security Problems the Right Way](#), [Exploiting Software: How to Break Code](#), and [Software Security: Building Security In](#)). Although I think that the contents of these books will be useful for years to come, the authors do acknowledge that the world of computer and software security changes very quickly. What are some ways that I could stay on top of the latest happenings in these areas?

security

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edited May 21, 2012 at 18:13



Gilles 'SO- stop being evil'

107k ● 38 ● 215 ● 260

asked Sep 21, 2008 at 15:42



Thomas Owens

116k ● 99 ● 317 ● 436

15 Answers

Sorted by:

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I follow [Schneier on Security](#) in my RSS reader.

8

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answered Sep 21, 2008 at 15:52

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Sklivvz

31.1k ● 24 ● 118 ● 174



-
- 1 As long as Bruce Schneier keeps blogging and writing books, I think the security world will be better off. The day he stops will be a sad day indeed. – [Thomas Owens](#) Oct 3, 2008 at 23:45
-

Love it indeed - read it at the top of my list - but he doesnt really deal with technical issues so much anymore. Except



3

Listen to the security now podcast, on twit. After then depending on the OSes you are using you should subscribe their security mailing lists, or rss feed.



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answered Sep 21, 2008 at 16:08

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[macarthy](#)

3,079 ● 2 ● 24 ● 24



3

The Register's [Security](#) section. RSS available. (I am a big fan of El Reg.)



Also, and it might be a little lightweight for a coder, but the [Security Now!](#) podcast with Steve Gibson and Leo Laporte is decent.



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answered Sep 21, 2008 at 16:09

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[Stu Thompson](#)

38.9k ● 19 ● 111 ● 156

Top tip about The Register. I'm a bit of a security wonk, but I didn't have that in my RSS reader. I do now. Thanks! - AJ :)
– [AJ](#). Sep 23, 2008 at 9:00



If you can afford it (or convince your employer to pay), go to at least one conference a year. As a last resort, there's

2



always Defcon, which takes place on a weekend and is only \$100. It's not as professional as, say, Black Hat, but it's better than nothing.



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answered Sep 21, 2008 at 16:11



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raldi

22.1k ● 33 ● 78 ● 86



[RISKS](#) is not security-specific, but some interesting security-related topics are discussed there.

2



[BUGTRAQ](#) is a full-disclosure security mailing list that is worth skimming. (Every time a vulnerability is disclosed in a piece of software that ships with most Linux distributions, there is a barrage of disclosures from all of the various distributions. This negatively affects the signal-to-noise ratio unless you're using one of those distributions.)



Some security-related blogs that may be interesting (in addition to Schneier on Security which has already been linked): [...And You Will Know me by the Trail of Bits](#), [DoxPara Research \(Dan Kaminsky\)](#), [Matasano Chargen](#), Microsoft's [Security Development Lifecycle](#), ZDNet's ["Zero Day"](#).

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answered Sep 21, 2008 at 16:21

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bk1e

24.3k ● 6 ● 57 ● 65



2

OWASP (<http://www.owasp.org>) provides a very nice RSS feed, mostly aggregated from many different sources.



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answered Sep 21, 2008 at 18:45



AviD

13.1k ● 7 ● 64 ● 93



1

Oh, don't forget the incredibly interesting hackers' conferences by the [CCC](#). The conferences' names have a fixed pattern. The last one was 24c3, the next one will be 25c3. They are held in Berlin, Germany, and are one of the biggest convergence points in hacker and security culture on this planet.



You will find videos and mp3 transcripts of the last conferences at [Chaos Radio](#).

Just in case you can't make the trip, the talks are usually broadcasted via live streams. Recordings get published weeks after the event.

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answered Sep 23, 2008 at 9:23



xmjx

1,153 ● 1 ● 7 ● 18



For web security I subscribe the the following Feeds:
Some are updated regularly, some aren't.

1

[DanchoDanchevOnSecurity](#)

[Internet Storm Center](#)

[The Register \(enterprise security\)](#)

[US-CERT Cyber Security Bulletins](#)

[Zero Day](#)

[ha.ckers.org](#)

and one of my newest adds [Stack Overflow: tagged Security](#)

or you can just add all to your iGoogle hope page: [My iGoogle Security Page](#)

I'm sure there are more interesting feeds out there if you're more application centric.

Regardless, feeds or visiting sites is the only way to really stay completely on top of things. Conferences are great, and fun to go to, but you'll get the same information an hour later via the web; usually with the added bonus of having several points of view to help you understand the topics.

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edited May 23, 2017 at 12:19



Community Bot

1 ● 1

answered Oct 3, 2008 at 19:00



Invalid Character

203 ● 1 ● 5 ● 15



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Then there is the ACM's [SIGSAC](#) and the ACM's [Transactions on Information and System Security](#). Being a member of the [ACM](#) is generally recommended by the authors of the Practical Programmer.

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answered Sep 23, 2008 at 9:20



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xmxj

1,153 ● 1 ● 7 ● 18



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[Security Now!](#) is not bad (I listen each week).

It often contains good explanations of underlying technologies (e.g. how does a router know where to send an IP packet?), although I do think it does go on a bit.

If you want a more hardcore podcast, then try [Paul "dot com"'s Security Weekly](#).

It's really for penetration testers, but I can't help thinking that if a penetration tester knows about it then so should I.

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edited Oct 3, 2008 at 15:22

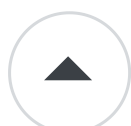
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answered Sep 23, 2008 at 9:05



AJ.

13.7k ● 21 ● 53 ● 63



A blog I enjoy (apart from Schneier on Security) is [Light Blue Touchpaper](#) - a collective blog by the computer

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security research department at Cambridge University (led by the wonderful [Ross Anderson](#)).



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answered Oct 4, 2008 at 17:25



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[Hamish Downer](#)

17k ● 17 ● 92 ● 85



IEEE has "[Security and Privacy](#)" as a magazine - it is pretty good.

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answered Nov 2, 2008 at 3:57



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[Jonathan Leffler](#)

752k ● 145 ● 946 ● 1.3k



I use many of the other mentions mentioned above (Schneier as mentioned), however I've found Slashdot honestly gives me the best "heads up" as to the new attack vectors coming in. It's not always timely, and mostly just a general overview, but it's good at posting vectors I never thought of.

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answered Jan 3, 2009 at 15:03



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[tekiegreg](#)

1,707 ● 6 ● 25 ● 42



Consider attending a local OWASP chapter meeting.

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answered May 4, 2009 at 10:33

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McGovernTheory

6,654 ● 5 ● 42 ● 75



For software security and especially web application security [OWASP Moderated AppSec News](#) is a great RSS feed. Good signal / noise ratio. It should be enough to be up to date.

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answered May 4, 2009 at 10:49

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dr. evil

27.2k ● 37 ● 134 ● 202

