

Infection

```
/*
```

Code, compile, and execute the following code on a variety of operating systems (at the very least try a version of Linux and a version of Windows). Comment on your observations. Then comment on what you think the code is, what it does, how an attacker might use it, and what you might do to deal with such an attack.

```
*/
```

```
int main(int argc, char** argv)
{
    for (;;)
        system(argv[0]);
}
```

This snippet of code creates a for loop with no conditionals meaning it will create an infinite loop in which the program will repeatedly launch itself and will hog system resources slowing down the system and possibly causing it to crash. This type of program is sometimes referred to as a fork bomb and is used to create a denial-of-service attack. To deal with this sort of threat you could start by making sure you have the latest security updates. You could employ monitoring software that can limit the amount of resources being used by a single process and looks for abnormal or suspicious behavior. It is always a good practice to only download software from trusted sources and when unsure of a source limit the amount of access granted to it.