**DDoS Attack Types**

According to NSS Labs' [Distributed Denial of Service (DDoS) Prevention: Test Methodology report](https://www.nsslabs.com/reports/distributed-denial-service-ddos-prevention-test-methodology-v20), there are three primary categories of DDoS attacks:

* Volumetric
* Protocol
* Application

A volumetric attack is the simplest of the DDoS attack types. Its goal is to flood a target with as much traffic as possible to prevent it from operating normally. To be successful, the volumetric DDoS attack only needs to take up enough of the target's Internet connection capacity to affect legitimate operations; a really successful attack will be able to affect most or all of the target's clients. Some common examples of a volumetric attack are Internet Control Message Protocol (ICMP)/User Datagram Protocol (UDP) packet floods, Spoofed packet floods and malformed packet floods.

