



Security Newsletter

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Nearly 1 Million Computers Still Vulnerable to "Wormable" BlueKeep RDP Flaw



Nearly 1 million Windows systems are still unpatched and have been found vulnerable to a recently disclosed critical, wormable, remote code execution vulnerability in the Windows Remote Desktop Protocol (RDP)—two weeks after Microsoft releases the security patch. If exploited, the vulnerability could allow an attacker to easily cause havoc around the world, potentially much worse than what WannaCry and NotPetya like wormable attacks did in 2017.

Dubbed BlueKeep and tracked as CVE-2019-0708, the vulnerability affects Windows 2003, XP, Windows 7, Windows Server 2008 and 2008 R2 editions and could spread automatically on unprotected systems. The BlueKeep vulnerability has so much potential to wreak havoc worldwide that it forced Microsoft to release patches for not only the supported Windows versions but also Windows XP, Windows Vista and Windows Server 2003, which no longer receive mainstream support from the company but are still widely used.

If fixing the flaw in your organisation is not possible anytime sooner, then you can take these mitigations: Disable RDP services, if not required. Block port 3389 using a firewall or make it accessible only over a private VPN. Enable Network Level Authentication (NLA) – this is partial mitigation to prevent any unauthenticated attacker from exploiting this Wormable flaw.

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GoldBrute Botnet Brute-Force Attacking 1.5M RDP Servers



While the end-goal of the group controlling the botnet is not clear, it appears that GoldBrute is currently using brute-force methods to attack about 1.5 million Remote Desktop Protocol servers that have exposed connections to the open internet.

A scan using the Shodan search engine shows that there are at least 2.4 million of these exposed Remote Desktop Protocol servers throughout the world. GoldBrute, however, seems to use its own list as part of the attacks and keeps expanding as that list grows.

While there is not an immediate connection between BlueKeep and GoldBrute, it doesn't mean that the group controlling the botnet could not use that vulnerability in the future.

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- [CVE-2019-0708 \(BlueKeep\) PoC](#)
- [Using osquery for remote forensics](#)
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- [Using Sysmon in Azure Sentinel](#)
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- You like to break things, then explain how to fix it? Be part of our **Cyber Security team**
- You prefer the blue team side? Check out our **Security analyst position**
- Interested in Governance, Risk and Compliance? Apply for our **Information Security Specialist role**

Kindred is one of the largest online gambling companies in the world with over 24 million customers across 100 markets. You can find all our open vacancies on our **career page**.

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