Week 05 Lab: Hands-on Updates and Device Security

Find your instructions in the file: “W05 Hands-on Device Updates Instructions.”

Fill out this worksheet as you complete the lab, then save it, and upload it to I-Learn as instructed. You may earn up to 60 points for this lab.

Task 1: Check and update devices’ operating systems

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| What is your laptop or desktop computer’s operating system (OS) and version? Also, if you have a mobile device such as a smartphone or tablet, what is its OS and version? (2 pts.) | I have Windows 11 Home version 22H2 on my laptop; and on my phone I have Android version 12 with build number SP1A.210812.016.G970U1UES7IVJ2 and security patch level of October 1 2022. |
| Did you find any available OS updates? If so, what are the software version names or numbers for the updated software? (1 pt.) | I did find an update for both my laptop and my phone, though for the laptop it wasn’t a version update, just the January 2023 update for .NET framework. My phon3 is still running Android version 12, but now has a build number of SP1A.210812.016.G970U1UES8IWA1 and is running the January 1 2023 security patch level. |
| What are the procedures for applying OS updates to your computer and other devices? (2 pts.) | For my phone, I navigate to the system settings, then scroll down to the software update tab and within that I can check for software updates, download them, and install them once downloaded. For my computer I go to settings then I click the Windows updates tab on the left, then I can check for updates and restart my pc once they are downloaded. |

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| If the OS on your computer or device was out of date, did you successfully update or upgrade? How long did it take? Explain. (2 pts.) | I would say the OS was not out of date on either; but on my phone it took maybe five minutes to download and update, and it seems it worked. For my Computer the update took less than two minutes to update, but with the download time it would be longer. My computer also updated successfully. |

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Task 2: Check for updates of your web browsers, apps, and other software packages

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| What web browsers are installed on your computer? (1 pt.) | Brave, Firefox and Edge |
| What browser extensions, add-ons, plug-ins, or extra features have been installed in your web browsers? Were these extra browser features installed by someone else, or did you install them yourself? (3 pts.) | Firefox has some plugins that are installed by default, including OpenH264 Video Codec and Widevine Content Decryption Module, again, not installed by myself. |
| Check your web browsers, extensions, etc. for updates. Are they up to date, or are there newer versions available? If you find updates available, do they fix any security vulnerabilities? (3 pts.) | Both Brave and Firefox are up to date, but Edge wasn’t, so I updated that but didn’t see anything about what the update actually did. Both the Firefox plugins were up to date. |

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| Did you successfully update your web browsers? Explain. (2 pts.) | Yes. I updated Edge. Chrome and Brave were up to date. |
| Did you successfully update the extensions, add-ons, plug-ins, etc. in your web browsers? Explain. (2 pts.) | No. No updates were necessary. |

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| What additional software applications, apps, etc. are installed on your computer? (List at least three.) Did someone else install them on your computer, or did you install them yourself? (3 pts.) | Adobe Acrobat — Installed by me.  Disney+ — Not installed by me.  LEGO® Star Wars™: The Complete Saga — Installed by me. |

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| Look for updated versions of the extra installed software you listed above. Are there any bug fixes, security patches, or new features provided by available updates? (3 pts.) | None for any of the ones listed. |

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| What are the procedures for updating the extra installed software you listed above? Did you successfully update your apps or extra software? Explain. (3 pts.) | For Acrobat I check for updates from an option in the help menu of the app. For Disney+ I checked for an update through the Microsoft Store. For LEGO® Star Wars™: The Complete Saga I checked through another app, Steam.  Ultimately, I did not successfully update any of them, as they were all up to date. |

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Task 3: Check your computer’s anti-malware and other security software and features.

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| What antivirus or threat protection software is installed? (If none was installed, what threat protection package did you select and install?) (4 pts.) | I have Windows Security on my computer. I think that is the Windows 11 version of Defender. |
| What are the procedures for keeping your antivirus or threat protection software up-to-date? Did you successfully update it? Explain. (4 pts.) | I’m not really sure, but I believe it updates automatically, as I have an update for the virus and threat protection software that was pushed out today (2/3/2023) at 6:56 AM, and it was updated today at 1:33 PM. I had no part in it, but it seems the update was successful. |

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| What other security software or features (such as host-based firewall, content filtering software, device health monitoring, etc.) are available on your computer? (4 pts.) | There is a firewall that is on for all networks I connect to. Device performance and health is also being monitored. There are also Family options, account protection settings, as well as app and browser control settings. |
| Did you find and successfully correct any problems with your computer’s security settings or features? Explain. (2 pts.) | Yes. In the app and browser control options there is an option for reputation-based protection that was off, so I turned that on. |

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Task 4: Examine the security of your devices’ network connections.

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| Does your computer or mobile device have a wired network connection method? If so, what type of technology and network cable does it use?  Does your computer have wireless network connection methods? If so, what type of technology does it use? (2 pts.) | My computer primarily uses Wi-Fi, and it uses a built in MediaTek Wi-Fi 6 MT7921 Wireless LAN Card. So it uses Wi-Fi 6. |
| If your computer has Ethernet or similar wired technology: how many places are there at your home, work, church, etc. where you are permitted to plug in your computer and use the internet?  If your computer has Wi-Fi wireless technology: how many places are there at your home, work, church, etc. where you are permitted to connect to a wireless access point? What SSIDs do you connect to, and what are the encryption settings for each of those SSIDs? (4 pts.) | So at my home, there are two access points, the primary router and an extension. They are seamless, and the SSID is NETGEAR25. The security type is WPA2-Personal. |

Task 5: Investigate other threat protection options.

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| Choose and answer any of the following:  What physical security features have you enabled on your computer and devices?  What other update options and threat protection options have you installed and enabled on your mobile devices?  What financial plans have you made in your personal or family budget, to provide money for future repairs, replacement, and updates to your computer and devices? (5 pts.) | I do have some physical security features on my devices. On my laptop there is a hard switch that disable the connection to the built-in camera. I also have a case and a screen protector on my phone. Whenever I take my laptop anywhere I keep it in a padded bag. |

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| Share any inspiration or enlightenment that came to your mind while you worked through this lab exercise. (8 pts.) | Well, it sure is a lot of work trying to keep a computer secure. Based off of my experience as I’ve gone through this lab, I think that one of the best ways to do so is to keep a small technological footprint. Don’t download excessive amounts of software was one thing that occurred to me, but the other was just to play it safe on the computer. |