***ABSTRACT***

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***Introduction:***

**Steganography**  is the practice of concealing a file, message, image, or video within another file, message, image, or video. The word *steganography* comes from New Latin *steganographia*, which combines the [Greek](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Greek_language) words *steganós* (meaning "covered or concealed", and *-graphia*  meaning "writing

The first recorded use of the term was in 1499 by [Johannes Trithemius](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Johannes_Trithemius) in his *[Steganographia](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Steganographia" \o "Steganographia)*, a treatise on cryptography and steganography, disguised as a book on magic. Generally, the hidden messages appear to be (or to be part of) something else: images, articles, shopping lists, or some other cover text. For example, the hidden message may be in [invisible ink](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Invisible_ink) between the visible lines of a private letter. Some implementations of steganography that lack a [shared secret](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shared_secret) are forms of [security through obscurity](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Security_through_obscurity), and key-dependent steganographic schemes adhere to [Kerckhoffs's principle](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kerckhoffs%27s_principle" \o "Kerckhoffs's principle).

***Advantages :***

The **advantage of steganography**, over cryptography alone, is that messages do not attract attention to themselves. Plainly visible encrypted messages—no matter how unbreakable—will arouse suspicion, and may in themselves be incriminating in countries where encryption is illegal.

***Disadvantages:***

Huge number of data, huge file size, so someone can suspect about it. If this technique is gone in wrong hands like hackers, terrorist, criminals then this can be very much dangerous for all.

***Conclusion:***

To hide confidential information **steganography** can be effectively used. The objective of any **Steganographic** method is to hide maximum secret information which is immune to external attacks and also should not convey the fact that the cover medium is carry secret information.