

LULZSEC

HACKTIVISM AND LULZ



WHAT IS HACKTIVISM?

FOR REAL

Hackers who defend a political or a social-justice cause, usually to leave a message.



LULZSEC

THE GROUP

LulzSec (or Lulz Security) back in 2010 was a black hat computer hacking group of six or seven. Black hat means that it was considered

CRIMINAL

They did a lot, including infiltrating the PlayStation Network in 2011 and hacking the CIA.

BUT...

LULZSEC

MOTIVATION

They claimed to do everything
for lulz, fun and shenanigans.

This is actually their logo →



LULZSEC

50 DAYS OF LULZ

In 2011, the group started an operation of defacing multiple websites of high-profile government agencies, news websites and corporations.

Only after, they concluded the operation with a statement called “50 days of lulz” published on Pastebin.



We are Lulz Security, and this is our final release, as today marks something meaningful to us. 50 days ago, we set sail with our humble ship on an uneasy and brutal ocean: the Internet. The hate machine, the love machine, the machine powered by many machines. We are all part of it, helping it grow, and helping it grow on us.

LULZSEC

THE MESSAGE

PASTEBIN

API TOOLS FAQ + paste Search...

50 Days of Lulz

A GUEST JUN 25TH, 2011 484,623 0 NEVER ADD COMMENT

SHARE TWEET

Not a member of Pastebin yet? [Sign Up](#), it unlocks many cool features!

text 4.71 KB | None | 0 0

raw download clone embed print report

```
1. . /$$      /$$      /$$$$$$$  
2. . | $$      | $$      /$$__  $$  
3. . | $$      /$$| $$ /$$$$$$$$$| $$ \_ / /$$$$$$ /$$$$$$$  
4. . | $$      | $$| $$| ____ /$$| /$$$$$ /$$__  $$ /$$____/  
5. . | $$      | $$| $$| $$ /$$$$/ \_ $$| $$$$$$| $$  
6. . | $$      | $$| $$| $$ /$$/_/ /$$ \ \ $$| $$____/| $$  
7. . |$$$$$$$| $$$$/| $$ /$$$$$$$| $$$$/| $$$$/| $$$$.  
8. . |_____| \_____| __|_____| \_____| \_____| \____/  
9. //Laughing at your security since 2011!  
10.  
11. -- .-'''-.  
12. . ) ( )  
13. . ( ) ( )  
14. . / )  
15. . ( _ _ )          0_,-._  
16. . ( _ )_          |_..-./  
17. . ( )           |lulz..\  
18. . ( __ )         |__--./
```

LULZSEC

THE MESSAGE

- 44.
45. Again, behind the mask, behind the insanity and mayhem, we truly believe in the AntiSec movement. We believe in it so strongly that we brought it back, much to the dismay of those looking for more anarchic lulz. We hope, wish, even beg, that the movement manifests itself into a revolution that can continue on without us. The support we've gathered for it in such a short space of time is truly overwhelming, and not to mention humbling. Please don't stop. Together, united, we can stomp down our common oppressors and imbue ourselves with the power and freedom we deserve.
- 46.
47. So with those last thoughts, it's time to say bon voyage. Our planned 50 day cruise has expired, and we must now sail into the distance, leaving behind - we hope - inspiration, fear, denial, happiness, approval, disapproval, mockery, embarrassment, thoughtfulness, jealousy, hate, even love. If anything, we hope we had a microscopic impact on someone, somewhere. Anywhere.
- 48.
49. Thank you for sailing with us. The breeze is fresh and the sun is setting, so now we head for the horizon.
- 50.
51. Let it flow...
- 52.
53. Lulz Security - our crew of six wishes you a happy 2011, and a shout-out to all of our battlefleet members and supporters across the globe
- 54.
55. -----
- 56.
57. Our mayhem: <http://lulzsecurity.com/releases/>
58. Our chaos: <http://thepiratebay.org/user/LulzSec>
59. Our final release: http://thepiratebay.org/torrent/6495523/50_Days_of_Lulz
- 60.
61. Please make mirrors of material on the website, because we're not renewing the hosting. Goodbye. <3

SO WHO DID THEY HACK?

ATTACK OF THE LULZ

They left an archive of internal company data in a seed on ThePirateBay that they got from:

- * [fox.com](#) (to get data on the X-Factor applicants)
- * AOL
- * AT&T
- * Disney
- * EMI
- * Sony
- * The U.S. Senate
- * “FBI being silly” (bringing down an FBI-affiliated website)
- * [hackforums.net](#)
- * [nato-bookshop.org](#)
- * U.S. Navy
- * and more more more



twitter.com/LulzSec

twitter.com/LulzSec

ASCII DEFACING

THE TRADEMARK TRACE

LulzSec left their ASCII art on the websites of hacked victims, starting with Sony in 2011.

It included a boat.



WHY

SO WHAT DID THEY SAY ABOUT THEIR REASONS?

The group tried to uncover and make fun of glaring gaps in security.

They obtained sensitive information like corporate emails and passwords and credit card numbers and posted them online to ridicule posh corporate officials.

They did it BECAUSE THEY COULD.

"We don't like the US government very much. Their boats are weak, their lulz are low, and their sites aren't very secure.

In an attempt to help them fix their issues, we've decided to donate additional lulz in the form of owning them some more!

This is a small, just-for-kicks release of some internal data from Senate.gov – is this an act of war, gentlemen? Problem?"

HOW

HOW THE LULZ DID THEY DO THAT?

- 1. In 2011, website security was still on the slow rise.**
- 2. Lots of companies exposed their source code by not minimizing or encrypting anything, which left them open to manipulation using non-complicated scripts.**
- 3. Databases often stored plain-text user-related data and were open to simple SQL injections.**
- 4. ...**
- 5. PROFIT**

WHAT NOW?

ARE THEY ALIVE?

So the group officially disbanded itself in 2011, after posting “50 days of lulz”, but then did one more hack.

Eventually, some members of the group were arrested.

Now, some of them, reportedly, are employed as ethical hackers.



CONCLUSION

HOW DID IT AFFECT THE WORLD OF WEB?

Difficult to say.

Experts say this prompted companies to invest more in infrastructure and cybersecurity specialists.

This also probably increased overall cybersecurity paranoia for some time.

But, mostly, it provided some great entertainment.

