**Timeline: Evolution of Cybersecurity**

**1960s – Early Security Measures**

* **Mainframe computers** introduce initial security concerns.
* **Access control methods** emerge to protect sensitive data.

**1970s – Birth of Computer Viruses**

* The **"Creeper" program** demonstrates self-replication.
* Early **antivirus solutions** begin to develop.

**1980s – Rise of Cybercrime**

* The **"Morris Worm"** spreads, exposing system vulnerabilities.
* The **Computer Fraud and Abuse Act (1986)** introduces legal measures.

**1990s – Internet Boom & Online Threats**

* Cyberattacks target **personal and financial data**.
* **Firewalls and intrusion detection systems** become widespread.

**2000s – Growth of Cybersecurity**

* Viruses like **"ILOVEYOU" and "MyDoom"** disrupt systems.
* Stronger defences, **encryption, and cybersecurity awareness** increase.

**2010s – Data Breaches & Regulations**

* **Yahoo, Equifax, and others** experience massive data breaches.
* **GDPR and stricter data protection laws** emerge.

**2020s – AI & Next-Gen Security**

* **AI-driven threats and ransomware** escalate.
* Organizations adopt **Zero Trust and AI-based security measures**.

**Conclusion:**

Cybersecurity has evolved from basic access control to AI-driven defence strategies. Continuous adaptation is crucial in combating evolving threats.