**Timeline: Evolution of Cybersecurity**

| **Year** | **Event & Significance** |
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| 1960s | **ARPANET** (Advanced Research Projects Agency Network) laid the foundation for cybersecurity concerns. |
| 1971 | **Creeper Virus**, the first self-replicating program, was created. |
| 1983 | The term **Computer Virus** was coined. |
| 1986 | **Brain Virus**, the first PC virus, emerged. |
| 1988 | **The Morris Worm**, one of the first major cyber incidents, spread widely. |
| 1991 | The first **antivirus software** was developed. |
| 1995 | The **Internet boom** increased online security threats. |
| 1998 | The term **"Cybersecurity"** was officially used. |
| 2000 | The **ILOVEYOU Virus** caused massive damage worldwide. |
| 2003 | The **SQL Slammer Worm** infected thousands of servers in minutes. |
| 2004 | **PCI DSS (Payment Card Industry Data Security Standard)** was introduced. |
| 2010 | **Stuxnet**, a sophisticated cyber weapon, was discovered. |
| 2013 | **Target Data Breach** affected millions of users. |
| 2016 | **DNC Email Leak** influenced global politics. |
| 2020 | **COVID-19 Pandemic** led to a rise in cyber threats. |
| 2021 | **Colonial Pipeline Ransomware Attack** disrupted fuel supply. |
| 2023 | The rise of **AI & machine learning** in cybersecurity. |

**Key Takeaways**

* **Regulations & Standards:** GDPR, PCI DSS, and other policies improved security practices.
* **Technological Advancements:** AI and machine learning now play a crucial role in cybersecurity.
* **Continuous Threat Evolution:** Cyberattacks have grown more sophisticated, requiring proactive defence strategies.