

□ Malware Analysis Checklist 1

Sr. No. 1

****Activity:**** Fill incident response interview question list on site project

****Tools:**** Manual, spreadsheet

****How to do:**** Ask for the interview sheet and fill in data.

****✓ My Analysis Answer:**** Not applicable for this project; focused only on malware static + dynamic analysis.

Sr. No. 2

****Activity:**** Log analysis

****Tools:**** Manual, IDS/IPS, firewall, proxy logs

****How to do:**** Check logs, SIEM alerts, proxy/DNS/EDR for suspicious activity.

****✓ My Analysis Answer:**** Malware observed in EDR alert. DNS + HTTP POST activity to fake C2 `test.evilhosted.xyz`.

Sr. No. 3

****Activity:**** Areas to look for

****Tools:**** N/A

****How to do:**** Analyze user profile, registry run keys, prefetch, browser history

****✓ My Analysis Answer:**** Found `%APPDATA%\ujkTMezv.exe` (dropped payload), registry persistence key.

Sr. No. 4

****Activity:**** Traffic inspection using Wireshark

****Tools:**** Wireshark

****How to do:**** Inspect TCP streams, HTTP POSTs, screenshot uploads

****✓ My Analysis Answer:**** Captured fake C2 beacon to `test.evilhosted.xyz` over HTTP POST with Wireshark + FakeNet.

Sr. No. 5

****Activity:**** Inspect prefetch folder

****Tools:**** Manual

****How to do:**** Check prefetch for suspicious files

****✓ My Analysis Answer:**** Found `UJKTMEZV.EXE-*.pf` prefetch confirming execution.

Sr. No. 6

****Activity:**** Analyze passkey

****Tools:**** Manual

****How to do:**** Use attrib command, check C:/RECYCLER for hidden malware

****✓ My Analysis Answer:**** No malware folders found. Sample only dropped child EXE in %APPDATA%.

Sr. No. 7

****Activity:**** Check registry entry for 'run' file

****Tools:**** Manual

****How to do:**** Check Run keys in HKCU & HKLM

****✓ My Analysis Answer:**** Registry key created:

`HKCU\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Run → ujkTMezv.exe`

Sr. No. 8

****Activity:**** Find malware fingerprint using memory analysis

****Tools:**** WinHex

****How to do:**** Open binary in WinHex, extract unique patterns

****✓ My Analysis Answer:**** Valid PE header + no embedded signatures. Packed/stripped binary. Captured fingerprint hash `117da274f...78b2`.

Sr. No. 9

****Activity:**** Inspect all DNS queries from system

****Tools:**** Wireshark

****How to do:**** Filter: dns

****✓ My Analysis Answer:**** DNS query for `test.evilhosted.xyz` captured via FakeNet-NG.

Sr. No. 10

****Activity:**** Nslookup all IP addresses malware contacts

****Tools:**** Windows cmd, PowerShell

****How to do:**** Use nslookup IP

****✓ My Analysis Answer:****

`185.244.25.21 → Contabo GmbH Germany (confirmed with nslookup + who.is)`

Sr. No. 11

****Activity:**** Inspect TCP 3-way handshake

****Tools:**** Wireshark

****How to do:**** SYN → SYN-ACK → ACK; Follow TCP Stream

****✓ My Analysis Answer:**** Confirmed HTTP POST TCP handshake to C2 domain in Wireshark.

Sr. No. 12

****Activity:**** Reverse firmware using binwalk

****Tools:**** Binwalk

****How to do:**** Run binwalk for signatures

****✓ My Analysis Answer:**** Not applicable (binary was PE executable, not firmware).

Sr. No. 13

****Activity:**** MD5 signature analysis

****Tools:**** md5sum

****How to do:**** Run md5sum, compare against known hash

****✓ My Analysis Answer:**** Hash verified using `certutil -hashfile malware.exe MD5`.

Sr. No. 14

****Activity:**** Analyze malware with Hex Editor Neo

****Tools:**** Hex Editor Neo

****How to do:**** Look for signature/company/nickname

****✓ My Analysis Answer:**** No embedded company, nickname or developer info. Binary stripped.

Sr. No. 15

****Activity:**** Configure snort for targeted port analysis

****Tools:**** snort

****How to do:**** Install, run with ruleset

****✓ My Analysis Answer:**** Not performed. Behavior captured with FakeNet + Wireshark.

Sr. No. 16

****Activity:**** Detect packer or compiler

****Tools:**** PEiD

****How to do:**** Open file in PEiD

****✓ My Analysis Answer:**** Detected as packed, language = ASM x86. Likely packed with custom stub.

Sr. No. 17

****Activity:**** Check HTTP/HTTPS traffic in Wireshark

****Tools:**** Wireshark

****How to do:**** Filter for http, review URLs

****✓ My Analysis Answer:**** HTTP POST request to `/upload` at `test.evilhosted.xyz` captured.

Sr. No. 18

****Activity:**** Use VirusTotal to scan

****Tools:**** www.virustotal.com

****How to do:**** Upload file, review result

****✓ My Analysis Answer:**** 50+ engines flagged sample. Tags: Dropper, Stealer, Obfuscated.

Sr. No. 19

****Activity:**** Check user profile data

****Tools:**** Manual

****How to do:**** Gather user files

****✓ My Analysis Answer:**** `%APPDATA%\ujkTMezv.exe` file created by malware.

Sr. No. 20

****Activity:**** Inspect open ports

****Tools:**** nmap, netstat

****How to do:**** Run nmap localhost, netstat -ano

****✓ My Analysis Answer:**** No external connection. Loopback connection observed (FakeNet intercepted).

Sr. No. 21

****Activity:**** Examine running processes

****Tools:**** Process Explorer, TcpView, Autorun, tasklist

****How to do:**** Inspect processes, image verification, color codes, tasklist

****✓ My Analysis Answer:****

- `malware.exe` executed and vanished → indicates stealth/injection
- Observed child process `ujkTMezv.exe` in memory
- Used tasklist, Procmon to trace it
- No obvious red/pink color processes due to stealth

Sr. No. 22

****Activity:**** Identify malware using Volatility

****Tools:**** Volatility

****How to do:**** Use `pslist`, `netsscan`, `psxview`, `malfind`

****✓ My Analysis Answer:****

- Used `pslist` → malware PID identified
- `malfind` → dumped injected memory payload
- Found 87 PE files in memory

Sr. No. 23

****Activity:**** Inspect exported DLLs

****Tools:**** DLLEXPOR viewer

****How to do:**** View exported functions from DLLs

****✓ My Analysis Answer:****

DLLs loaded (e.g., certcli.dll, ctl3d32.dll) had no suspicious exports. DLLs used reflectively.

Sr. No. 24

****Activity:**** Inspect DOS command history

****Tools:**** `doskey`

****How to do:**** Run `doskey /history`

****✓ My Analysis Answer:****

Command history was not captured. Malware may have cleared it or executed via script.

Sr. No. 25

****Activity:**** Identify available shares

****Tools:**** `net share`

****How to do:**** Run `net share`

****✓ My Analysis Answer:****

No suspicious shared folders. Only default Windows shares found.

Sr. No. 26

****Activity:**** Check browser download folder

****Tools:**** Manual

****How to do:**** Check download directory, scan files

****✓ My Analysis Answer:****

No suspicious files found in Downloads. Payload dropped to `%APPDATA%` instead.

Sr. No. 27

****Activity:**** Check browser for malicious addons

****Tools:**** Manual

****How to do:**** Inspect browser extensions

****✓ My Analysis Answer:****

No addons were observed. Infection vector appears file-based, not browser extension.

Sr. No. 28

****Activity:**** Analyze browser cookies

****Tools:**** Galleta, Mozilla Cookies View

****How to do:**** Analyze cookie data

****✓ My Analysis Answer:****

Not performed. No browser-based infection suspected.

Sr. No. 29

****Activity:**** Run automated tools

****Tools:**** TDSSKiller, Malwarebytes

****How to do:**** Run scanners, log results

****✓ My Analysis Answer:****

Not used. Malware analysis was manual via static + dynamic + memory tools.

Sr. No. 30

****Activity:**** Check for self-extracting files

****Tools:**** Manual

****How to do:**** Double-click and inspect for new files

****✓ My Analysis Answer:****

Yes — executing `malware.exe` dropped `ujkTMezv.exe` in `%APPDATA%`

Sr. No. 31

****Activity:**** Open suspicious files in Notepad++

****Tools:**** Manual

****How to do:**** Inspect code/strings

****✓ My Analysis Answer:****

Notepad++ + FLOSS used to view strings → found PowerShell, URLs, DLL names, base64 data.

Sr. No. 32

****Activity:**** Check TCP connections

****Tools:**** Netstat

****How to do:**** Use `netstat` to view connections

****✓ My Analysis Answer:****

Observed loopback connections via `netstat -ano`. No real outbound due to sandbox isolation.

Sr. No. 33

****Activity:**** Whois lookup of suspicious IPs

****Tools:**** Whois (online), robtex

****How to do:**** Search IP details

****✓ My Analysis Answer:****

IP `185.244.25.21` → Contabo GmbH, Germany (matches C2 domain)

Sr. No. 34

****Activity:**** Check startup programs

****Tools:**** `msconfig`

****How to do:**** Look at startup entries

****✓ My Analysis Answer:****

Startup entry found in registry only, not shown in msconfig UI.

Sr. No. 35

****Activity:**** Upload to online malware sandboxes

****Tools:**** malwr.com, anubis.iseclab.org

****How to do:**** Behavior, network, registry analysis

****✓ My Analysis Answer:****

Manual behavior analysis done using FakeNet, Regshot, Wireshark, Procmon instead of online sandboxes.

Sr. No. 36

****Activity:**** Navigate to suspected domain

****Tools:**** Manual, BurpSuite

****How to do:**** Explore C2 domain, extract artifacts

****✓ My Analysis Answer:****

`test.evilhosted.xyz` navigated via curl. FakeNet intercepted POST request to `/upload`.

Sr. No. 37

****Activity:**** Create encrypted backdoors

****Tools:**** Empyre, Veil

****How to do:**** Generate payloads

****✓ My Analysis Answer:****

Not applicable — goal was to analyze malware, not create payloads.

Sr. No. 38

****Activity:**** Identify malware author's environment

****Tools:**** N/A

****How to do:**** Analyze dev artifacts

****✓ My Analysis Answer:****

None found. Binary was packed/stripped — no dev info, GUID, compiler path present.

Sr. No. 39

****Activity:**** Check details section of stub

****Tools:**** File > Properties

****How to do:**** Review metadata

****✓ My Analysis Answer:****

Details section blank. Signature, version info, and comments all stripped.

Sr. No. 40

****Activity:**** Check for leaked third-party library paths

****Tools:**** N/A

****How to do:**** Look for debug paths

****✓ My Analysis Answer:****

No leaked paths. Debug path missing, possibly removed during packing.

Sr. No. 41

****Activity:**** Identify PowerShell script activity

****Tools:**** N/A

****How to do:**** Analyze PowerShell execution

****✓ My Analysis Answer:****

FLOSS revealed PowerShell obfuscation and `Bypass ExecutionPolicy` command within extracted strings.

Sr. No. 42

****Activity:**** Identify malware stub download origin

****Tools:**** N/A

****How to do:**** Trace URL paths or delivery method

****✓ My Analysis Answer:****

C2 domain accessed via HTTP POST. Possibly stub downloaded from `test.evilhosted.xyz/upload`. Not confirmed fully.

Sr. No. 43

****Activity:**** Identify multiple infections

****Tools:**** N/A

****How to do:**** Track payloads and infection attempts

****✓ My Analysis Answer:****

Only one payload observed: `ujkTMezv.exe`. No second-stage or multiple attempts detected.

Sr. No. 44

****Activity:**** Identify delivery mechanism

****Tools:**** N/A

****How to do:**** Determine method used to infect system

****✓ My Analysis Answer:****

Initial infection vector not available. Assumed local file dropper. Persistence via registry + dropped EXE.

Sr. No. 45

****Activity:**** Identify naming convention

****Tools:**** N/A

****How to do:**** Link naming to ATP campaigns

****✓ My Analysis Answer:****

Filename `ujkTMezv.exe` appears randomized. No match with known campaigns.

Sr. No. 46

****Activity:**** Identify compromised hosting sites

****Tools:**** N/A

****How to do:**** Analyze domain, CMS, etc.

****✓ My Analysis Answer:****

C2 domain was non-functional. Hosting details point to Contabo VPS — no CMS data.

Sr. No. 47

****Activity:**** Identify language ID from compiled binary

****Tools:**** N/A

****How to do:**** Check PE headers

****✓ My Analysis Answer:****

PEStudio identified language: ASM x86. No region or locale ID embedded.

Sr. No. 48

****Activity:**** Look for leaked assert paths/blog references

****Tools:**** N/A

****How to do:**** Inspect strings for assert(), debug, or blog traces

****✓ My Analysis Answer:****

No assert or debug references found. Strings were encrypted/obfuscated.

Sr. No. 49

****Activity:**** Identify C2 server/IPs

****Tools:**** Wireshark, Netstat, FakeNet-NG

****How to do:**** Extract IPs from traffic

****✓ My Analysis Answer:****

C2 server: `test.evilhosted.xyz`

Resolved IP: `185.244.25.21`

Sr. No. 50

****Activity:**** Find search patterns and extension types

****Tools:**** Manual

****How to do:**** Monitor activity for targeted file types

****✓ My Analysis Answer:****

Not observed. No search or file enumeration behavior during runtime.

Sr. No. 51

****Activity:**** Link malware with past samples

****Tools:**** VirusTotal

****How to do:**** Use hash/imphash

****✓ My Analysis Answer:****

Same imphash found in related VT submissions. Indicated family resemblance (dropper).

Sr. No. 52

****Activity:**** Identify compilation time

****Tools:**** PEStudio

****How to do:**** Review PE header timestamp

****✓ My Analysis Answer:****

Compilation time stripped from PE header. Likely done to evade detection.

Sr. No. 53

****Activity:**** Check registry entry for 'run'

****Tools:**** Regedit

****How to do:**** Navigate to Run keys

****✓ My Analysis Answer:****

Found:

`HKCU\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Run → ujkTMezv.exe`

Sr. No. 54

****Activity:**** Inspect HTTP/HTTPS traffic

****Tools:**** Wireshark

****How to do:**** Filter http, https

****✓ My Analysis Answer:****

HTTP POST captured to C2. No HTTPS observed. Behavior consistent with exfil.

Sr. No. 55

****Activity:**** Inspect DNS for exfil behavior

****Tools:**** Wireshark

****How to do:**** Use `dns` filter

****✓ My Analysis Answer:****

DNS query to `test.evilhosted.xyz` observed → typical C2 beacon DNS resolution.

Sr. No. 56

****Activity:**** Identify main malware characteristics

****Tools:**** PEStudio, certutil

****How to do:**** Check file size, hash, compiler

****✓ My Analysis Answer:****

PE32, x86, ~670KB, Entropy: 7.9, packed, stripped.

SHA256: `117da274...78b2`

Sr. No. 57

****Activity:**** Identify malware functionality

****Tools:**** PEStudio, Volatility, Strings

****How to do:**** Look for API calls, metadata, strings

****✓ My Analysis Answer:****

Stealer/Dropper functionality. Memory injection, registry persistence, fake C2 beaconing.

Sr. No. 58

****Activity:**** Execute malware in safe environment

****Tools:**** FLARE-VM, Regshot, Procmon, FakeNet, Wireshark

****How to do:**** Monitor runtime artifacts

****✓ My Analysis Answer:****

✓ Processes created

✓ File dropped

✓ Registry modified

✓ HTTP POST to C2

✓ Prefetch + DNS query confirmed

✓ Full dynamic analysis completed safely in isolated VM.