

Re: Need advice about hacking and security

Source: <http://www.derkeiler.com/Newsgroups/comp.security.misc/2002-10/3596.html>

From: darlene (dlor60@hotmail.com)

Date: 10/30/02

From: dlor60@hotmail.com (darlene)

Date: 30 Oct 2002 08:21:00 -0800

unruh@string.physics.ubc.ca (Bill Unruh) wrote in message news:<apkobr\$dhc\$1@nntp.itservices.ubc.ca>...

> dlor60@hotmail.com (darlene) writes:

>

> J"Ron Ruble" <raffles2@att.net> wrote in message news:<3dbd2bef\$0\$1447\$1dc6e903@news.corecomm.net>...

> J> "darlene" <dlor60@hotmail.com> wrote in message

> J> news:83724cbc.0210280109.db1dc12@posting.google.com...

> JYou would think that would be enough, however, one of the individuals

> Jwho has been hacking/spying on my computer for so long is very

> Jarrogant (and sick?) I consciously created that new email account and

> Jblocked ALL unsolicited incoming mail and within a few hours received

> Jthe porno 'opt-in'. I've also received email addressed from myself,

> JTO myself which I obviously didn't send. I didn't know someone could

>

> It might be a good idea to look at the email to see who it really is

> from. Get the full headers, and look at the Received-From: lines which

> list the set of machines that the mail passed through. The first one

> (last of the received from lines) is probably the originating machine.

> It is terribly easy to spoof an email From: address and make it seem

> that email is From: anywhere.

>

> However, I strongly suspect that your computer is "rooted"-- ie the

> person has root priviledges on your system. The ONLY way to get them off

> is the procedure I outlined. Save only personal stuff, wipe, reinstall

> and update.

Don't understand what "root priviledges" are, however, I should add that this computer was given to me by an ex-employer who I believed to be a friend doing me a favor. If I can digress for a moment. Short story. ;) My old boss' business was acquired out of state two years ago and gave a few remaining employees their pc to keep. Generous offer, so I thought. I now recall for MY pc, a 'computer guy' came in and reconfigured it. Since I knew nothing about computers, my boss showed me some basics, said I can even use it as a journal (and I admit, for a while I did), and told me to keep it in my bedroom for security. Two years later I now know that he had delusions of us as a couple. In retrospect, I coincidentally received emails from this guy

at the exact times when things were down. I sent no response but thought...how did he know? It was like he was hoping I would 'rebound'. This guy contacted me this year saying he got out of his contract, was moving back to CA and wanted to see me. I said I was seeing someone and wished him well. He sent several more insistent emails and said he bought a house in my area, was studying my religion and asked me to meet him. Considering me had no contact since he sold his business, I found his actions a bit extreme. Sound suspicious? ;)

I have absolutely no idea what was given to me when I took this computer home. Now...if you were a stalker, cyber or otherwise who wanted to literally spy on someone via a computer, what would you put in their pc? What is the potential of privacy invasion I have sitting here in my room?

- >
- > *Jduplicate an email address. This 'person' enjoys flaunting its*
- > *Jcapabilities – After that incident this 'person' posted in a ng that*
- > *Jshe received an email from herself, just to let me know that it IS her*
- > *Jwho sent the letter, and in essence is letting me know she is one of*
- > *Jthe hackers.*
- >
- > ???
- >
- >
- > *JI don't know what a trojan is – I do know that I used Ad-aware*
- > *Jseveral months ago and found about 40 spyware components.*
- >
- > *You need to learn. A trojan (from Trojan horse) is a seemingly innocuous*
- > *or desired program which contains within it a nasty program to take over*
- > *your machine.*
- > *A virus is a small program which can "infect" computers via various*
- > *pathways. A worm is an active program which tries to tunnel into other*
- > *systems via various security holes. All have the end result of making*
- > *your computer completely open to the attacker.*
- >
- > *You still have not told us which operating system you use. Win 95 and 98*
- > *because of their total lack of security are especially vulnerable.*
- > *If you have not installed the security patches to your OS, you are*
- > *vulnerable, and if someone really is trying to get you, then you are*
- > *comprimised.*

Windows Me is the operating system. Are security patches software or is it turning on various security options on Windows?

- >
- > J>
- > J> *Get ready to back up all your data. You're likely*
- > J> *to need to wipe and reinstall your OS and all*
- > J> *applications to be sure you're secure.*
- >
- > JHuh? All of this is right over my head! firewall? OS? I'll look it
- >

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- > *OS=Operating System (Windows 95, Windows 98, Windows 2000, MacOX10,*
- > *are all examples of operating systems).*
- >
- > *Jup. Someone did suggest I re-install my software, but I thought it*
- > *Imay remove any proof of individuals tampering with my computer.*
- >
- > *It will but so what. You want to get on with your life, not spend your*
- > *effort and time trying to find out what happened I would assume. If not,*
- > *disconnect your computer, switch it off, and store it in a closet until*
- > *you figure out how to find out what happened, or you hire someone to do*
- > *it for you.*

Logical advice, yes, but if you knew the emotional strain put upon me because of all the harassment, I guess you would want to pursue some course of action. I haven't mentioned all of the things that have happened because of personal reasons but they are extremely severe.

On a sidenote, is it possible for someone to divert outgoing mail so it doesn't reach it's destination, or what are the possibilities in regards to tampering with email besides being read by others?

- >
- > *You could also use your CD burner to make a copy of everything on your*
- > *system for examination purposes.*

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