

The History of Hacking

Hacking as seen from an old school elder who experienced the advancement of computers, telecommunications, and Media ever since this technology was invented.

Mainframes

- IBM 360 – Fortran, Cobol, Batch processing
- Untrix and DEC
- Timesharing
- First viruses
- Definition (then) of hacking
- Only large corporations and Universities have them.

Mini-Computers

- Typically cost from \$75k - \$500k
- Only universities have them
- Exception was Alex Kamradt – had a BTI in his garage, running on HP2100 mini. Cost was \$120k.
- Ran only BASIC – My first time sharing system.

Computer antics and pranks

- First virus - “Catch me if you can”
- Hacking – in the true sense
- Pranks
- Stanford AI lab had blue box program.
- Altos system and Xerox research – basis for Mac GUI that Steve Jobs took.

Phone Phreaking 101

- What is a phone Phreak
- Why they do what they do
- How they have driven phone call costs way down
- Most are blind – giving them exceptional hearing.

Methods of Old School Phreakers

- Using “Mute” boxes – Withholding Supervision
- Loop arounds
- Demonstrators
- Party lines
- Blue Boxes
- Red Boxes

Why Phone Phreaking worked

- ATT's Decision to use in-band signaling was their downfall. VERY BAD IDEA
- First was 2600 “Pulse Dialing” - Enabled Joe Engressia to “Whistle a call”.
- Later – Multi-Frequency, 700, 900, 1100, 1300, 1500, 1700 – it's NOT DTMF.

What you can do with this power

- Anything an operator could do – plus more
- Tap phone lines
- Access inter-trunking routing codes
- Reaching “inward” operators
- Manual routing of calls – stacking tandems
(play part of Classic tandem stacking)

Arpa Net – early days

- Mid 60's to late 70's
- Modems and terminals not available
- Most hosts had guest accounts and little storage
- Most allows playing computer games, or offering academic related programs
- Gentlemen's Systems

Early BBS days

- DC Hays modems – 1980's
- BBS systems
- FidoNet very popular – Tom Jennings – I still see him at outdoor rave parties.
- Exchange of illegal hacking methods
- 8BBS busted – Bernard Klaat. Running on PDP-8

Online systems

- Comuserve – most expensive
- BIX
- Delphi
- WELL
- AOL
- Many others

Modern day hacking

- No longer for just fun and prestige
- Now taken over by spam cartels
- Hacktivism
- DDOS attacks
- Praying on innocence

Methods

- Social engineering – is most prevalent
- Trojans – dropped into unsuspecting users clicking on hostile links
- Hostile Javascript – WordPress themes most popular
- Facebook, Gmail, Twitter spam
- Botnets

Web attack Methods

- Phishing and Spam
- Cross site scripting
- SQL Injection
- Scanning
- Rootkits

Old hacker stories

- White house toilet paper crisis
- Santa barbara nuke crisis
- Taking over KLIV phone lines
- Oink Oink over police radios
- Berkeley riots and taking over their radio calls
- San Jose Free Radio pirate station

Questions and contact info

- “jdcrunchman” everywhere.
- jdcrunchman@gmail.com
- Skype, facebook, twitter, all the same.