

# Common Cyber Threats

## Malware:

A malware attack is where malicious software is installed on a user's device without their knowledge and can cause harm in many ways. This type of attack is frequently used to steal personal, financial or business information. Types of malware include viruses, ransomware, spyware and Trojan horses.



## Phishing:

Phishing occurs when an attacker attempts to steal user data, including login credentials and sensitive information, such as passwords or credit card numbers. Most phishing attacks arrive by email but can be conducted by social media, text message or phone. Attackers usually try to disguise themselves as a trusted entity to trick a user into clicking a malicious link, leading to malware being installed on their device.

## Ransomware:

Ransomware is a type of malware (malicious software) which encrypts the victim's files and prevents or limits them from accessing critical data or computer systems. The attackers will then demand a ransom in exchange for decrypting the files and can threaten to publish the data if the ransom is not paid. In many cases, if the ransom is not paid by a specific deadline given by the attackers, the victim will never gain access to their files, or the ransom fee will increase.

