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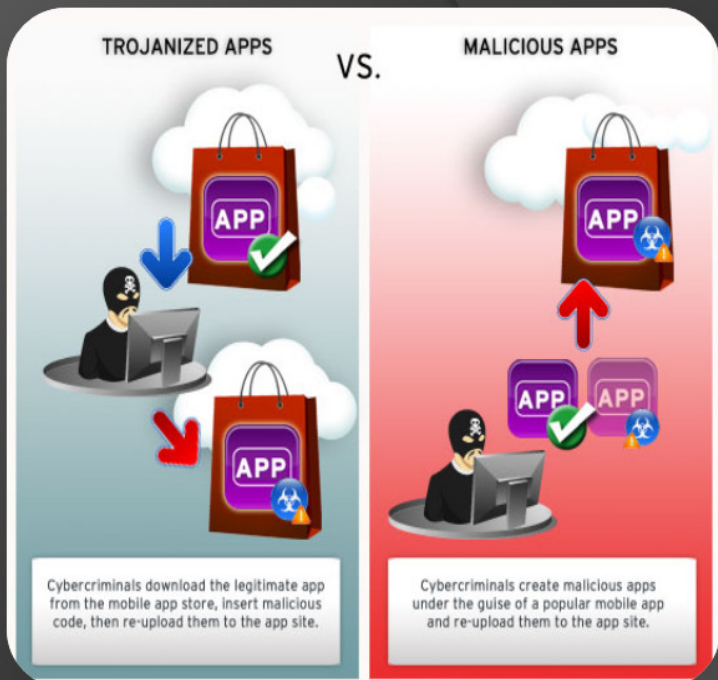
Mobile Apps: New Frontier of Cybercrime – Part 1

Mobile Apps : New Frontier for Cybercrime



Due to the growing usage of mobile devices worldwide, web threats are no longer limited to conventional PCs. App stores now serve as the sites for software download, while mobile apps serve as programs we download onto our mobile devices.

It's a shift in platform but with the same threat scenario. Users who download from app stores may end up downloading malware instead. Because of this, mobile apps have become the new frontier for threats.



What are mobile apps and why are they so popular?

The demand for mobile applications increase with the growth in mobile device usage. Mobile applications, or mobile apps, are software created for smartphones and tablets.

Currently, consumers can choose among the thousands of apps found in the *Android Market*, the *iTunes App Store*, *Nokia Ovi Store*, *Blackberry App World*, *Samsung Apps*, and *Windows Phone Marketplace*. Mobile apps have grown popular because they are designed for various purposes to cater to mobile users' specific needs – from entertainment and education, to practical use. Apps make things more convenient and fun for the ordinary smartphone user.



How do consumers use mobile apps?

Google's *Android* platform and *Apple* segmented their apps into several categories to make downloading apps simple and easy. Apps are usually categorized into the following: Games, Entertainment, Social Networking, Travel, Productivity/Education, Utilities and Weather.

Apple categorized its mobile apps into **11 categories**, while the *Android Market* expanded their categories into **27 types**. Because of its immense popularity, the "games" category has its own subcategory, which includes arcade-type games, action, puzzles, and more. Other app providers like the *Blackberry App World* and the *Nokia Ovi Store* also segmented apps into different categories.

To be continued...

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Information Security: It's a Shared Responsibility

REFERENCE(S): [Mobile Apps - New Frontier of Cybercrime](#)

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