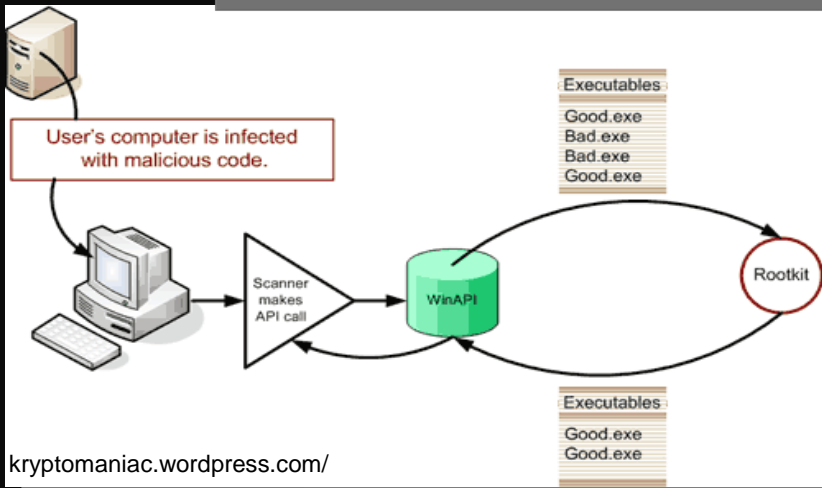


ROOTKIT



A rootkit is a piece of software that hides programs or processes running on a computer. It enables continued privileged access to a computer while actively hiding its presence from administrators by subverting standard operating system functionality or other application.

Malware frequently installs rootkits upon infection to hide its activity. A rootkit can hide keystroke loggers or password sniffers, which capture confidential information and send it to hackers via the Internet. It can also allow hackers to use the computer for illicit purposes (e.g., to launch a denial-of-service attack against other computers, or send out spam email) without the user's knowledge.



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So how do I protect my computer?

- ✓ Install software only from trusted sources. Non-essential programs should be locally installed for the user so that they do not have access to system spaces.
- ✓ A strong firewall will make it harder for an external attacker to make use of an infected computer.
- ✓ Regular scans of the computer will ensure any problems are nipped in the bud.