



The MOD

# Outlook

## Overview

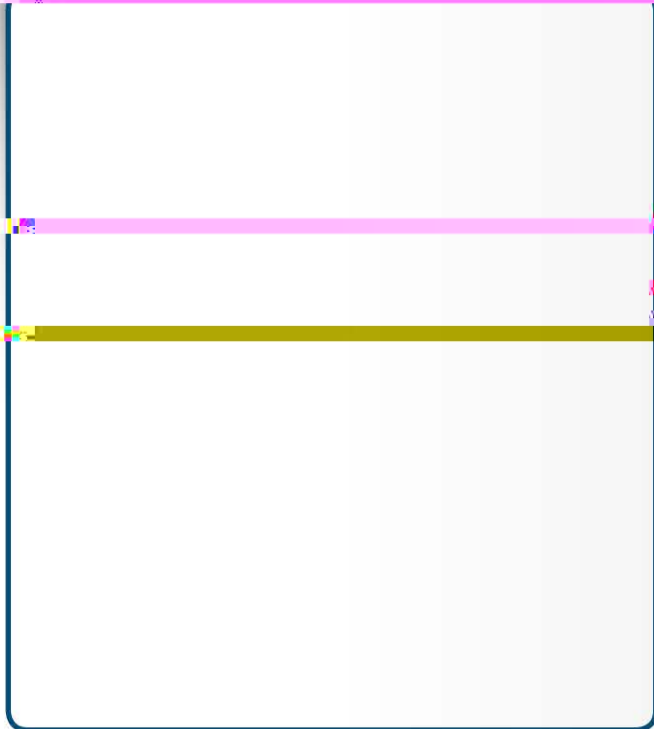
You may have heard of terms such as virus, trojan, ransomware, or rootkit when people discuss cyber security. All of these words describe the same thing, types of programs used by criminals to infect computers and devices. A common term used to describe all these different programs is the word malware. In this newsletter, we will explain what malware is, who creates it and why, and most importantly, what you can do to protect yourself against it.

### Guest Editor

Lenny Zeltser focuses on safeguarding customers' IT operations at NCR Corp and teaches malware combat at the SANS Institute. Lenny is active on Twitter as [@lennyzeltser](https://twitter.com/lennyzeltser) and writes a security blog at [zeltser.com](http://zeltser.com).

## What Is Malware?

Simply put, malware is software -- a computer program -- used to perform malicious actions. In fact, the term malware is a combination of the words malicious and software. Cyber criminals install malware on your computers or devices to gain control over them or gain access to what they contain. Once installed, these attackers can use malware to spy on your online activities, steal your passwords and files, or use your system to attack others. Malware can even deny



- On computers, use a standard account that has limited privileges rather than privileged accounts such as “Administrator” or “root.” This provides an additional protection by preventing many types of malware from being able to install themselves.

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