-- Begin Transmission --

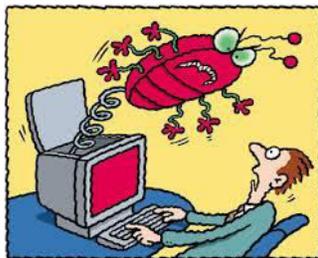# Drive-by download

A drive-by download is the infection of a computer with malware when a user visits a malicious website.

Reported Attack Page!

This web page at someinfecteddomain.com has been reported as an attack page and has been blocked based on your security preferences.

Attack pages try to install programs that steal private information, use your computer to attack others, or damage your system.

Some attack pages intentionally distribute harmful software, but many are compromised without the knowledge or permission of their owners.

Get me out of here!   Why was this page blocked?

Ignore this warning

DANGER
Website Hacked !

MALICIOUS WEBPAGE

Drive-by downloads occur without the knowledge of the user. Simply visiting an infected website may be sufficient for the malware to be downloaded and run on a computer.

Malware exploits vulnerabilities in a user's browser (and browser plugins) in order to infect their computer.

Hackers continually attack legitimate websites in order to compromise them, injecting malicious code into their pages.

Malicious webpage

links to

backlinks

Then, when a user browses that legitimate (but compromised) site, the injected code is loaded by his/her browser, which initiates the drive-by attack. In this manner, the hacker can infect users without having to trick them into browsing a specific site.

To defend against drive-by downloads, you should:

☑ Keep your Internet browser, and operating system up to date
☑ Use comprehensive security software on all your devices, like Sophos, and keep it up to date
☑ Use a safe search tool that warns you when you navigate to a malicious site

-- End of Transmission –

Information Security: It's a Shared Responsibility

REFERENCE(S):
📖 Sophos Ltd. (2012). *Threatsaurus: The A-Z of computer and data security threats.* Boston, USA | Oxford, UK
📖 https://blogs.mcafee.com/consumer/drive-by-download