

ANY.RUN Details How Threat Actors Use Obfuscators to Mask Malware

DUBAI, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES, February 14, 2024 /EINPresswire.com/ -- [ANY.RUN](#), a cloud-based sandboxing service, published [its first article](#) in the series on the use of malware obfuscators, software tools that scramble code to make it difficult to understand and reverse engineer.

Malware obfuscation is a technique used by threat actors to hide the true nature and intentions of malicious software.

Modern malware often employs obfuscation techniques to hinder analysis and detection. This creates a significant challenge for security researchers who need to understand the code's functionality and potential harm. This article series aims to equip individuals with the knowledge to tackle obfuscated code with confidence.



Obfuscation techniques include:

The series starts by taking readers through the creation of a simple obfuscator written in .NET. This hands-on approach provides a clear understanding of the basic techniques used, including:

- **String obfuscation:** Hiding strings within separate functions with complex names.
- **Character splitting:** Splitting strings into individual characters for further obfuscation.
- **Character replacement:** Replacing characters with their numerical values to mask their meaning.
- **Complex expressions:** Utilizing complex mathematical expressions to represent characters.
- **Code shuffling:** Shuffling code blocks while maintaining functionality.

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The article then demonstrates how seemingly complex obfuscation can be bypassed using various methods, such as:

- ████████████████ ███ ████████████████: Pausing code execution at key points to inspect variables and memory.
- ██████████ ████████: Analyzing memory snapshots to reveal hidden strings and data.
- ██ ████████: Utilizing specialized software like De4dot to reverse engineer obfuscated code.

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The first article marks the introduction to a series. In upcoming installments, the authors will explore advanced obfuscation techniques used in real-world malware and strategies for extracting meaningful insights from obfuscated code.

Learn more in [ANY.RUN's blog post](#).

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