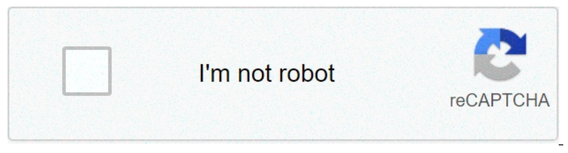

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How to remove secure pdf

By Marshal M. Rosenthal i flash drive image by jimcox40 from Fotolia.com USB flash drives are small, convenient storage drives. Place data such as pictures, photos and text on them quickly and efficiently and then carry it to another computer for copying to its hard drive. A USB flash drive that has security enabled in it must be ‘unlocked” before it can be used, which becomes difficult if the password has been lost. Because the security on the USB flash drive is rudimentary, a number of methods, from built-in software to optional programs, can remove the security so that the drive can be used. Plug the USB connector of the USB flash drive into a USB port on the PC. Right-click on the icon of the USB flash drive when it appears on the desktop of a Windows-based computer. Select “Format” from the pop-up menu. Follow the command prompts in the window that appears to format the USB flash drive. Click “Done” in the confirmation window when it appears. The USB flash drive can now be used because the security has been removed from its storage space. Plug the USB connector of the USB flash drive into a USB port on the Mac. Double-click on the Mac’s Disk Utility program, which comes free with the OS X operating system and is in the “Utilities” folder on the hard drive. Select the icon of the USB flash drive in the left column of the Disk Utility program’s main screen. Select the “Erase” tab at the top of the Disk Utility program’s main screen. Click on the “Format” check box on the right side of the Disk Utility program’s main screen. Select “Fat (32)\" from the drop down menu below the “Format” check box. Click “Format” at the bottom of the Disk Utility program’s main screen. Click “Format”, again, in the confirmation box that appears. Quit the Disk Utility program when the formatting is done. The USB flash drive can now be used because the security has been removed from its storage space. Download a password protection program to the computer’s desktop; for example, the free TrueCrypt password protection program (see the link in Resources). Double-click on the icon of the password protection program when it has fully downloaded. Follow the command prompts to install the program onto the computer’s hard drive. Restart the PC after the installation has been completed. Double-click on the password protection program to launch it. Wait for the password protection program to recognize the USB flash drive and display disc letters for the drives attached to the computer in the left column of its main program screen. Plug the USB connector of the USB flash drive into a USB port on the computer. Wait for a letter to appear in the left column of the password protection program’s main screen. Use the mouse to click once on this letter which represents the USB flash drive. Click on the “Volume” or “Volume Tools” button to open a new window. Click on the “Next” button in the new window. Erase the password in the “Password” column of the new window that appears. Erase the password in the “Confirm password” column. Click on the “Next” button to go to a new screen. Select “Traveler Disk Setup” from the drop down menu below “Tools” at the top of the password protection screen. Click on the “Open Explorer window for mounted volume” check box in the new window that appears. Click the “Create” button at the bottom of the window. Click the “OK” button on the confirmation window when it appears. Quit the password protection program. Drag the icon of the USB flash drive to the Trash or right-click on it and select “Eject” from the pop-up menu. Remove the USB flash drive from the computer’s USB port. Plug the connector of the USB flash drive back into the computer’s USB port. Double-click on the icon of the USB flash drive when it appears on the desktop to open its window now that the security password has been removed. Plug the USB connector of the USB flash drive into a USB port on the PC. Go to “Start” and select “Run” from the pop-up menu. Enter “regedit” into the text column that appears and press the “enter” key to run the registry editor. Press the “Browse” button on the registry editor’s main screen and navigate to the following path on the computer’s hard drive: “HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SYSTEM\CurrentControlSet\Control\StorageDevicePolicies” Click “OK” to close the window. Double-click on the “WriteProtect” text that is in the right column of the registry editor’s main screen. Enter “O” into the “Value Data box” in the window that appears. Click on the “OK” button to close the window. Quit the registry editor program. Restart the PC. Double-click on the icon of the USB flash drive that is on the desktop to open its window and access the files now that the security write protection has been removed. As an anti-theft measure, clothing stores affix certain items with security tags that will set off an alarm should you attempt to leave with the tag still on the garment. Some tags will also ruin a garment by spilling ink from the tag if you try to remove it yourself. This usually isn’t a problem, as long as the tag gets removed before you leave the store, but sometimes clerks can miss a tag at checkout—or you’ll receive a shipped-from-store item ordered online to find out whoever packaged it up left the tag on. Oops. If you’re in this situation, here’s what you can do about it.But first: This should go without saying, but don’t shoplift. It’s not a nice thing to do, and it’s illegal. This post is intended simply as a remedy to a situation we’ve all found ourselves in at one time or another. Use this information for good, people.The unfortunate reality is that there is no magic method to removing the security tags on clothing, which different in form and function. The best thing you can do is just go back to the store, explain what happened, present your receipt, and hope they believe you. If going back to the store is not an option or you can’t find your receipt, here are some alternative methods to try:Cut it off with a dremel or thin wire cutter. You’re probably not going to want to spend the money on a dremel if you don’t already have one, but if you do, it’s a method eHow endorses. They note that a standard wire cutter won’t work, because they’re often too thick to get into the innards of the security tag. So, get a thin one. Ultimately, however, the dremel will probably be more effective, but it’s definitely the costlier option. This is tip is more aimed at people who happen to have one of these items already, or perhaps a friend with an impressive tool collection.You can use a strong magnet to remove certain types of sensors. This post reveals how to spot them, and this video shows you how to make it work. Another eHow article offers a better solution for some tags—use rubber bands! Basically, you wrap the rubber band around the pin until it loosens, then pull the tag out. Full instructions here.Do not attempt to freeze the garment and remove an ink tag. Advice to freeze the garment and remove an ink-containing tag through brute force is pretty common online, but it probably isn’t a great idea. A few sites advise that this ink is treated with anti-freeze, meaning it will still stain your clothing even after a night or two in the freezer. Another similar alternative is to wrap a plastic bag around the tag and rip it off, but there’s a high margin for error with this method, too. Just hit it in the right place.This article was originally published in August 2011 by Adam Dachis and updated on March 1, 2021 by Joel Cunningham to add additional methods and revise and correct old advice. Last week, I was talking to a colleague about companies that monitor employees’ online and computer usage. He retold a tale about a female coworker who had announced she was leaving the organization. One day, he looked over at her workspace and saw that the cursor was moving around the desktop on its own. Folders were opening. Files, opening. Files, closing. Someone on the IT team was managing her desktop and computer files remotely. An eerie, intrusive experience. (He turned off her monitor and tried to think nothing more of it.)Shortly after that conversation, I was talking to a friend who’d left one of his previous employers because of a falling out with the GM. Even though he was on fine footing with the company’s founder, the GM had it out for him. When he got the sense that she was snooping around on his computer after hours, he began to leave Easter eggs for her: Word documents that contained text like “I know you’re reading this,” fake file folders with provocative names, and so forth.That’s one way to deal with smaller-scale, grassroots surveillance, but how can employees work assured that more organized efforts won’t cramp their work style? An article taken from CIO magazine has some hints. It’s not just that you monitor employees (which I find somewhat questionable in most cases, granted), it’s how you do so. Something to ponder.[via George’s Employment Blawg] Frank Figliuzzi, former FBI assistant director, offers a crash course on protecting your company from ransomware, deep fakes, and other cybersecurity threats. Cyber security is the practice of protecting computer systems, networks, and data by using a variety of different strategies and tools. Many large companies hire entire teams devoted to maintaining cyber security, whereas smaller organizations often rely on third-party vendors to provide cyber security services. Like physical security, cyber security must be constantly monitored to minimize risk to business resources and assets. History of cyber security Cyber security has been a major topic in the technology industry for several decades. Before computers Many cybercrime techniques that are common today are rooted in pre-computer threats. For example, phone phreaking was a technique used to infiltrate phone lines in the 1950s, 60s, and 70s. Phone phreaks would study the tone patterns used to route long distance calls and then reverse engineer devices that mimicked the tones to evade expensive long distance call charges. The goal of phreaking was less nefarious than that of today’s cybercriminals, but the tactics are similar. Early computers In the late 1960s, IBM invited high school students to access their new APL network. The students were free to explore the computer system, and they quickly used what they learned to push past the parts of the system that were readily accessible. Once the students successfully hacked the system, IBM realized it needed to create a defensive strategy to protect the safety of their system. Thus the beginning of ethical hacking was born. Formal computer security started with the ARPANET, a precursor to the internet. In 1971, Bob Thomas, a researcher at the Advanced Research Projects Agency (ARPA), developed a program called Creeper. Although it wasn’t inherently malicious, this program would self-replicate across the ARPANET and leave a message that read “I’M THE CREEPER; CATCH ME IF YOU CAN.” Ray Tomlinson, another ARPA researcher, later developed a similar program called Reaper. Reaper’s purpose was to delete any instance of Creeper in the ARPANET. Creeper and Reaper are the first known examples of a computer worm and an antivirus program, respectively. The beginning of computer security As computers entered the commercial market, so too did commercial cyber security products. Several consumer-grade antivirus software manufacturers launched in 1987, including Ultimate Virus Killer (UVK) for Atari ST and McAfee VirusScan. 1987 also saw the first cases of malware in the wild with the notable Vienna and Cascade viruses. The rise of the internet With the rise of the internet, cyber security took on a whole new meaning. Cyber criminals developed new viruses and malware to target computers and networks in record numbers. To make matters worse, widespread adoption of email software in the late 1990s provided an unprecedented opportunity to launch cyber attacks with no real protections in place. One of the fastest spreading and largest scale viruses was the Melissa virus, which targeted Microsoft Outlook users in 1999. In total, damages caused by the Melissa virus were estimated to exceed $80 million. As more data entered the digital realm in the 2000s, the stakes for protecting said data rose exponentially for businesses of all sizes. Especially as software, interconnected networks, and databases replaced manual processes, cybercrime organizations introduced new types of threats like zero day and denial of service (DoS) attacks. Modern cyber security Today’s cyber security best practices are constantly evolving to address new threats. Despite high profile hacks and data breaches that make the news on a regular basis, cyber security companies introduce new cutting-edge solutions to address these threats each day. Cloud security tools help engineers tackle the challenge of monitoring systems and data that are not maintained on-premises. Similarly, SecOps professionals have placed a greater emphasis on personal security best practices, like password health and privacy controls. Read More: Top Cybersecurity Startups Computer security CIA Triad Image: f5 The CIA Triad is a concept in cyber security that helps security engineers evaluate an organization’s security posture and develop policies accordingly. It is not related to the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency, but instead represents the three goals of cyber security. Ultimately, the CIA concept helps make sure an organization’s data is usable and protected. Confidentiality The first part of the CIA triad is Confidentiality. This component focuses on who has access to what information and what they’re able to do with it. Confidentiality usually involves segmenting data into specific groups and authenticating users’ identities before they can gain access. Integrity The second part of the CIA triad is Integrity. This component seeks to protect data from modification or other forms of tampering by unauthorized sources. Integrity usually involves activity logging and data backup/recovery. Availability The third part of the CIA triad is Availability. This component ensures that the appropriate data is available to authorized users whenever they need it. Availability usually involves maintaining software updates, monitoring network bandwidth, and creating/updating business continuity plans. Types of cyber security Cyber security can apply more narrowly to the various subsections of technology. Application security Application security applies to the various software tools businesses use to complete day-to-day tasks. Usually, developers of these applications are responsible for addressing any security vulnerabilities, but the businesses that use them are also responsible for deploying any and all updates as they become available. Otherwise, a cybercriminal would be able to exploit the vulnerabilities and gain access to sensitive information. The largest categories of application security tools are security testing and application shielding products. These tools help probe applications for errors or weaknesses in the code and create defensive measures against common threats. Information security Information security applies to an organization’s data. Using the CIA Triad principles above, businesses use a wide range of tools in addition to organization-wide policies to maintain information security. These policies address the technical measures that protect data internally as well as the security measures that protect the physical location where the data is stored. Network security Network security applies to the hardware and software used to create corporate networks. It works in tandem with endpoint security to prevent unauthorized access to and misuse of the devices and applications that live on an organization’s network. Network security often involves three phases: protection, detection, and response. Protection refers to the configuration of network settings as well as those of each device or application on the network. Detection refers to the constant monitoring of network activity to identify anomalies and concerning patterns. Last but not least, response refers to the procedures and automated reactions in place that address potential issues. Network security tools include vulnerability scanning applications, identity and access management (IAM) software, virtual private networks (VPNs), and user and entity behavior analytics (UEBA) tools. Endpoint security Endpoint security applies to all of the end user devices that exist on a corporate network. The most common endpoints include smartphones, laptops, desktops, tablets, and IoT devices. Endpoints pose the largest threat to an organization’s cyber security because they are the most difficult to monitor effectively without disrupting productivity. Endpoint security solutions include endpoint protection platforms (EPPs) and endpoint detection and response (EDR) software. Internet security Internet security applies to platforms that are accessed via the internet and devices that use the internet to complete certain tasks. The majority of cyber security threats come from online activities, which makes internet security one of the most important variables in the cyber security ecosystem. Internet security tools include password managers, firewalls, and antivirus software. Cyber security threats As cyber security measures evolve to address new cyber threats, new cyber threats emerge to evade established security tools. Below are some of the most common threats security engineers face. Viruses A virus is a malicious program or piece of code that spreads to a computer from a host file or document. When the computer issues a command that activates the virus, it attaches itself to other programs on the device. It can also spread to external devices on the computer’s network. Viruses can cause a computer to behave incorrectly, and in more extreme circumstances, they can corrupt or destroy data and cause permanent damage to the device or network. Worms A worm is a type of malware that replicates itself across a computer network. Worms operate autonomously, meaning they don’t need a host file to gain control over a computer’s resources. This type of threat finds vulnerabilities in a computer’s operating system to install itself. From there, the worm makes copies of itself and finds additional holes in the device until it can gain access to the network and cause similar problems as a virus would. Phishing Phishing is a form of social engineering that targets victims through email, telephone, SMS, and social media. A phishing attacker’s goal is to deceive their victims by posing as a trustworthy entity, such as a co-worker, boss, or government agency like the IRS. Usually, the attacker asks the victim to take some type of action, like clicking a link or downloading an attachment that’s laced with malware. A phishing attacker may also request sensitive information from their victim, like their social security number or credit card details. Trojan horses A trojan horse is a type of malware that disguises itself as an innocent file or application. When the user downloads the trojan horse, it executes the actions the attacker coded to the file. These actions can range in severity from keylogging to subsequent DDoS attacks. It does not self-replicate or spread to other devices like worms and viruses. Botnets A botnet is a network of compromised devices that are used to execute a range of large-scale attacks. Botnets are commonly deployed in DDoS attacks intended to overwhelm specific servers, but they can also be used in cryptocurrency scams, brute force attacks, and phishing schemes. Botnet devices are usually infected by trojan horses. Rootkits A rootkit is a collection of software that provides an attacker with covert access to a device’s operating system. Rootkits can disguise a wide variety of other cyber threats, including malware, keylogging, and botnets. Rootkits can be used in benevolent circumstances, like combating piracy or enforcing digital rights management, but these instances are less common. Spyware Spyware is a type of malware that allows an attacker to collect information from the host device. Attackers sometimes embed spyware in freeware or shareware so they can gain access to a user’s passwords, accounts, and other sensitive information. Spyware is also used to analyze a user’s data and behavior and sell that information to third parties for advertising purposes. Ransomware Ransomware is a type of malware that renders a user’s computer inoperable until the user pays a specified ransom. Attackers often use worms or trojans to install ransomware on their target’s devices. Compared to other cyber threats, ransomware attacks can have a national or global impact, as evidenced by the Colonial Pipeline attack of May 2021 or the international WannaCry attack of May 2017. Best cyber security solutions The cyber security industry is a massive market with new tools and vendors added each day. The most prominent categories of cyber security solutions include firewalls, EDR software, SIEM software, and cloud security. Firewalls A firewall is a barrier between a private network and an outer network, usually the internet, that manages traffic passing between the two networks. They set and enforce rules for what kind of traffic is allowed or blocked by analyzing the data packets that request entry. Firewalls are often considered the bare minimum for network security. Looking ahead, next generation firewalls (NGFWs) are becoming an industry standard for organizations that want to combine traditional firewall capabilities with advanced threat protection, intrusion prevention, and deep-packet inspection. Compare top NGFW software on eSecurity Planet. EDR Endpoint detection and response (EDR) is a tool that provides continuous endpoint monitoring and automated response when it detects a cyber threat. They are designed to track endpoint diagnostics and provide detailed reports that help security engineers investigate and address potential threats. Some advanced solutions like security information and event management (SIEM) software include capabilities for EDR in addition to other security features. Compare top EDR software on eSecurity Planet. SIEM Security information and event management (SIEM) is packaged as a network security solution that incorporates a wide range of endpoint, information, and application security features. It is primarily reserved for large organizations that can run this software on their own on-premises servers. Smaller organizations rarely have the budget or manpower to maintain servers in-house, so they usually adopt a managed SIEM model or opt for less advanced cyber security measures. Compare top SIEM software on eSecurity Planet. CASB A cloud access security broker (CASB) is a type of software that monitors access and usage with an organization’s cloud infrastructure. CASB tools create a barrier between an organization’s cloud resources and the external users who access them. It ensures that a company’s employees, partners, and customers, can access the same cloud resources without jeopardizing their own security. Compare top CASB software on eSecurity Planet. Benefits of cyber security Strong cyber security has a number of benefits for organizations of all sizes. First and foremost, it prevents sensitive information from falling into the wrong hands. A company’s data is its most valuable asset and the ultimate goal of any cyber security system is to prevent costly data breaches and leaks. Cyber security also preserves productivity. Most malware has a side effect of making computers and applications run slower, so eliminating malicious threats before they can latch onto a system has the added benefit of preventing productivity barriers. Additionally, cyber security makes an organization’s systems, data, and processes more reliable. It ensures that the tools and information a business needs to operate are available when needed. Ultimately, cyber security and business continuity go hand in hand. This article was updated May 2021 by Kaiti Norton.

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