

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

ITS Security

How to Avoid Getting Ransomware

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What is Ransomware?

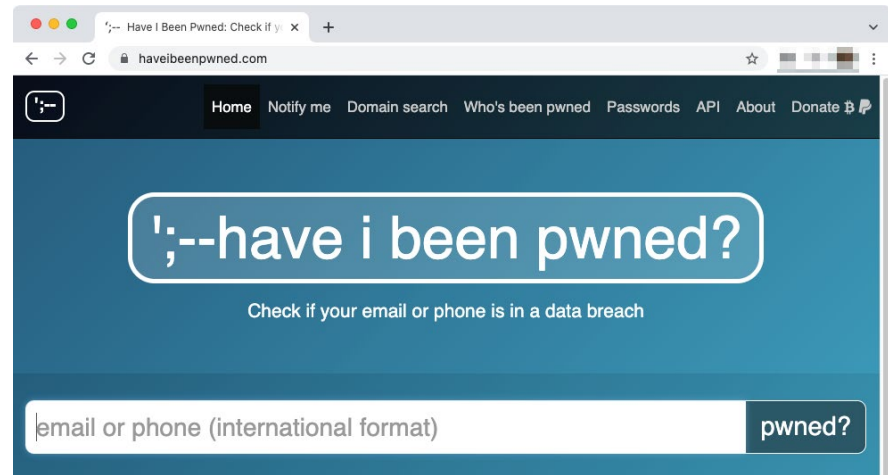
- Type of malware that encrypts all your files
- It also sends a copy of your files to the attacker
- The attacker extorts you to decrypt/unlock them
- The attacker also extorts you to keep them private
- If an ISU employee gets ransomware and has access to student data, we could be handling a data breach

How does someone get ransomware?

- Password getting phished or stolen
- Installing malware
- Falling behind on installing security updates

Secure Your Accounts


- Hackers compromise sites and steal passwords
- They test those passwords against other online services
- Don't reuse the same password on multiple sites
- Enable 2FA on your personal email account
- Sign up for haveibeenpwned.com to know when a site that you use has been breached




Don't let your MFA get phished


- We require MFA for all employees
- MFA mitigates the risk of a password being stolen
- If you get an Okta push message and you didn't log in to anything, say No, It's Not Me


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Did You Just Try to Sign In?

 Ames, Iowa, United States
[More Info](#)

 MAC_OS_X
UNRECOGNIZED DEVICE

 Just now



[Yes, It's Me](#)

[No, It's Not Me](#)

Use a Password Manager

- Creating unique passwords is difficult...
- Remembering passwords is difficult...
- Password managers can do both for you
- Remember one good password to unlock the vault
- The password manager handles pasting the correct password into each site
- LastPass, 1Password, KeePass, Dashlane

LastPass...



Install software from App Stores

- Free software is often bundled with advertising software (Adware)
- Use a trusted App Store instead:

- Apple App Store



- Microsoft Store

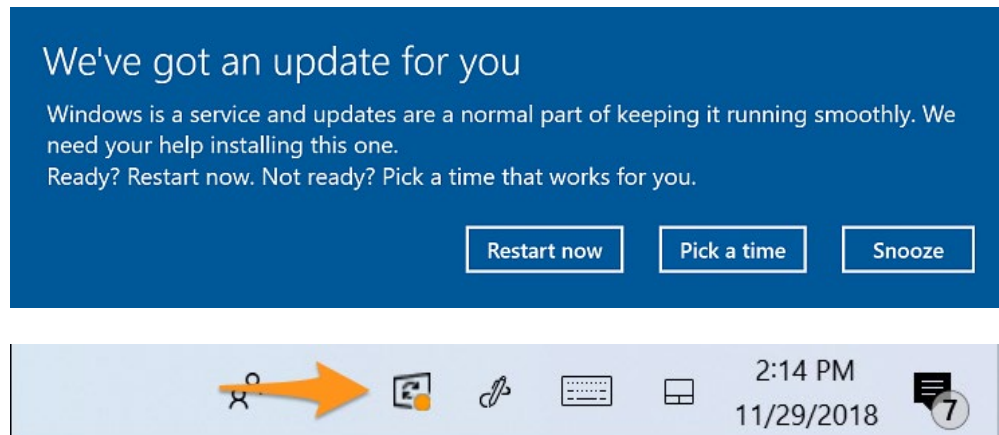


- Software Center (ISU)



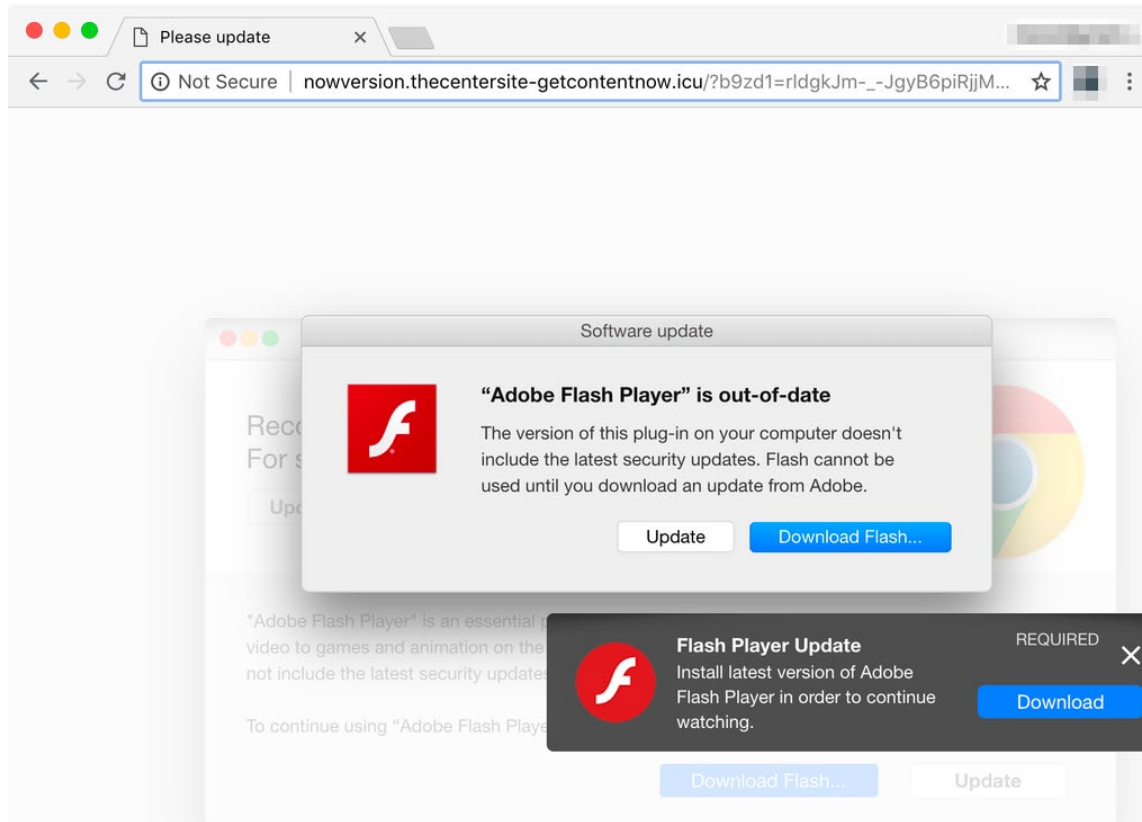
Install software updates

- MacOS System Preferences, App Store, and Windows Update will tell you when you need to install updates
- Install them quickly!
- Some apps may also use native MacOS and Windows notifications to inform you about updates



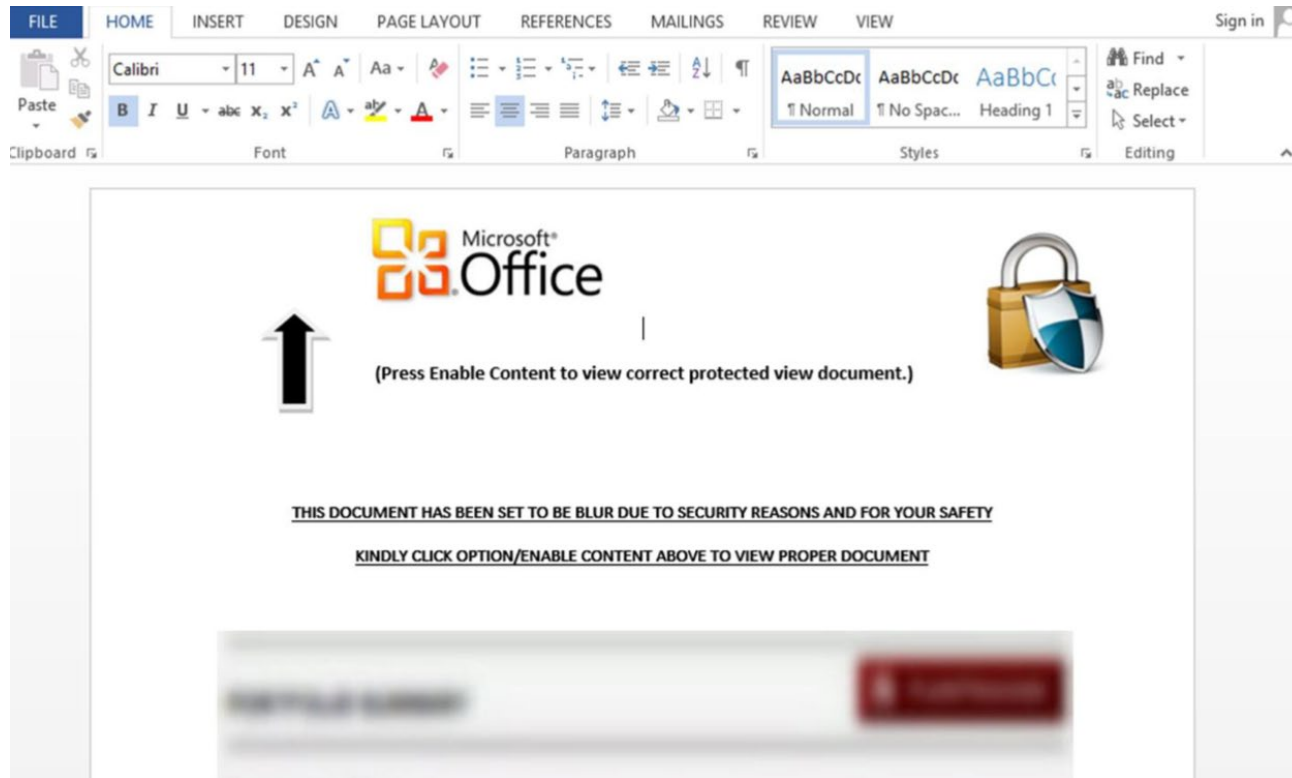
Watch out for fake software updates

- They'll lure you to install malware
- They always appear in a browser window



Unsolicited Microsoft Word docs

- Embedded macros will hack you
- You can safely preview these in Outlook Web
- Don't enable content or editing



Look for phishing attacks

- They can come through email or other messaging apps
- Click links, but be mindful of what happens next
- If you end up somewhere unexpected or are asked to do something unexpected, let us know
- Inspect the sender email address

-----Original Message-----

From: Wendy Wintersteen <officep31@gmail.com>  **Public email domain**

Sent: Friday, July 19, 2019 1:20 PM

To:  >

Subject: Availability Request

I'll need you to complete a task for me discreetly, let me know if you are available.

Regards,
Wendy

- Don't buy gift cards without calling the requestor first
- Don't enter your password into a non-iastate.edu site
- Forward suspect emails to security@iastate.edu

Backup your data to a cloud service

- Protects you against ransomware
- Protects you against a storage failure
- Google Backup and Sync is free for Windows / MacOS
- OneDrive backs up important folders on Windows



QUESTIONS?