Subject: SONY cds...WARNING
Posted by Russellc on Sat, 05 Nov 2005 16:53:33 GMT
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Perhaps I am behind times, but while surfing computer info site I have run into a very interesting thing that Sony is doing with their cds. Frankly, I will boycott this crap. they install something called a "CD root kit" in the data, which is a type of copy code protection. When you stick it in your computer, it installs some (way simple and way dangerous) crap in your registry, which is cloaked by the way. It is way simple in that it is easy to defeat, and way dangerous because ANYTHING including ultra malicious crap could also be stuck in here. Once installed, it limits the number of times something can be copied. Decloaking these files and then removing them is easy, but will disable windows based computers, so the the cd rom is useless! there is already tons of info out there on this, as well as cures and preventions. Google search "sony cdroot kit" Most alarming. Myself, while I advocate boycott, I think it might be a good idea to go out and buy just one, save it and the receipt and wait for the class action law suit.Russellc

Subject: Re: SONY cds...WARNING
Posted by Crystal on Sat, 13 Oct 2007 23:24:35 GMT
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That sure sounds scary after doing a google search about it. I hope that my computer stays away from this rootkit because it would take me a few hours just to reformat my 750GB internal hard drive. LOL. Too long of a process for me to do it again.Crystal

Subject: Re: SONY cds...WARNING
Posted by Maxie on Tue, 16 Mar 2010 22:47:46 GMT
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Thanks for posting this. I had no idea that Sony was doing this. I will be very careful about the CDs that I buy. I don't need any malicious software in my computer.

Subject: Re: SONY cds...WARNING
Posted by Wayne Parham on Tue, 16 Mar 2010 23:15:27 GMT
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Here's a real good rootkit remover:
UnHackMe

Subject: Re: SONY cds...WARNING
Posted by candoon on Sat, 27 Mar 2010 17:29:15 GMT
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No offense at all, but I just do not get why people who have amazing stereo systems will listen to stuff on their computer. Unless you are breaking out a top of the line system for your PC/Mac as well, it just sounds bad - shouldn't that be enough to avoid things like this in the first place?

Subject: Re: SONY cds...WARNING
Posted by Wayne Parham on Sat, 27 Mar 2010 19:01:53 GMT
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I tend to agree. There are some good digital formats, but the more common compressed stuff doesn't sound all that hot. On a mediocre system, I suppose it doesn't matter much but on a good system it sounds absolutely horrible. Then again, so many people listening to music on their cell phones would never hear the difference.

Subject: Re: SONY cds...WARNING
Posted by Sadie on Sun, 11 Apr 2010 14:04:05 GMT
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While I'm sure you're right about sound quality, I still find it very disturbing that Sony is participating in such practices. What is their motivation behind this?

Subject: Re: SONY cds...WARNING
Posted by Wayne Parham on Sun, 11 Apr 2010 14:15:27 GMT
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When I was talking about quality, I wasn't saying I thought Sony stuff was good (or bad, for that matter). I was talking about digital audio in general. There are lots of formats, and they range from really good (high res lossless) to mediocre to downright bad. It was really a slightly off-topic comment in reply to candoon's observation that some PC audio sounds bad.

In truth, the rootkit that was introduced on Sony music CDs has nothing to do with the content, it's part of the delivery system, which are two different things. Now days, you'll find rootkits are mainly distributed on the internet similarly to the way viruses are spread. They are used to cloak other viruses. Here's a link with more info:

Real Story of the Rogue Rootkit

Subject: Re: SONY cds...WARNING
Posted by candoon on Wed, 05 May 2010 14:41:48 GMT
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I get that and I hope you don't take offense but I am just an old grumpy geek that is tired of dealing with rootkits and the such. I am also tired of traffic, music going down hill, gas prices increasing.

Subject: Re: SONY cds...WARNING
Posted by Frontrowticket on Mon, 09 Aug 2010 05:09:26 GMT
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Haha Candoon, you sound like my Dad. I wonder if there is any more news on this topic. I don't listen to music on my PC because I don't need to, but there are plenty who have no option.

Subject: Re: SONY cds...WARNING
Posted by Adveser on Mon, 09 Aug 2010 10:06:16 GMT
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If you are reading this in 2010 there is absolutely no way you will end up with this rootkit. Sony was sued and recalled every last one of the CDs years ago.

Subject: Re: SONY cds...WARNING
Posted by woodfree on Mon, 27 Dec 2010 14:44:59 GMT
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I think Sony was just doing their part to stop the widespread piracy and violation of copyright laws in the music industry.

We also have to do our part and not rob these people of their earnings, which is what happens when someone makes a profit out of "burning" a CD and then selling the music as if they owned the rights to it!

Subject: Re: SONY cds...WARNING
Posted by Adveser on Wed, 29 Dec 2010 07:08:51 GMT
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http://www.digitaltrends.com/features/worst-technology-2000-2010-the-decade-in-tech/4/

The infamy of this situation lives on and will continue to do so until the next fiasco.