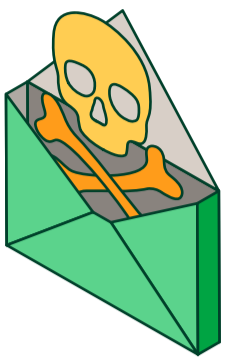# The most common **cyber threats**

Cybersecurity works to prevent and minimise online threats. However, cyber attacks are becoming increasingly sophisticated and stealthy in order to circumvent the defence barriers of computer systems. These are the most common threats facing cybersecurity today:
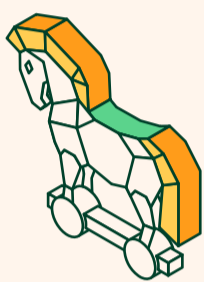
Malicious software

'Malware' is a contraction of 'malicious software' designed to damage or infiltrate systems without the user's knowledge. It often appears when a dangerous link or email attachment is clicked. Some of them are the following:
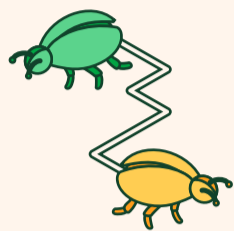
Worms

They spread from one device to another without human intervention, exploiting vulnerabilities.

Trojans

They are used to hide other malware. It infiltrates a victim's device by presenting itself as legitimate software and allows attackers to gain unauthorised access.
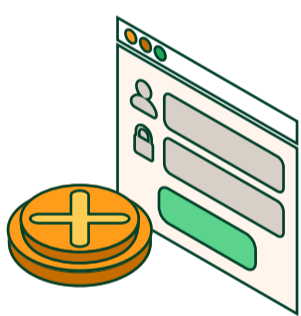
Ransomware

It blocks or denies access to a device and its files until the user pays a ransom to the hacker.

Spyware

Collects information from a device or network to send to the attacker.

Distributed Denial of Service (DDoS) attack

Prevents users from accessing information, services and other resources. This type of attack occurs by overloading or flooding a target machine with requests to the point where normal traffic cannot be processed and, as a result, causes a denial of service to legitimate users.

Social engineering attack

Different techniques and mechanisms by which the attacker uses a human emotion - often fear or a sense of urgency - to convince the user to perform an action, such as providing personal information that can be used later or sending money. These include phishing, vishing and smishing.

Disinformation

Based on creating or disseminating false or misleading information to manipulate public opinion. The aim is to have a negative impact on the target audience in order to create a negative view of certain facts or the image of certain entities through manipulation of information.

Supply chain attacks

Cyber criminals can compromise service providers or software vendors to infiltrate the networks of their customers, who become their victims.