TYPES OF HACKERS

Hacking is generally referred to as someone gaining access to your network and systems by unauthorized means. But hacking is not always unethical; however it is associated mostly with a crime. Hacking could be performed with different intentions; however, it could be meant to steal data from systems, corrupting them, disruptions, testing system vulnerabilities and so on.

White Hat
Ethical Hackers

White hats are good guys hired by organizations and government agencies as information security analysts, cyber security researchers, threat hunters, penetration testers etc.

White hackers hack to:
➢ Find and fix vulnerabilities
➢ Strengthen overall security posture of the organization
➢ Build security software such as Malware detection and prevention software, anti-spyware, honeypots, firewalls etc.

Grey Hat
Illegally Breach But No Malicious Intents

Fall between black and white hat hackers. The intentions are good but the route taken is always not ethical with their hacking techniques.

Grey Hat hackers hack to:
➢ Expose vulnerabilities to draw the owner's attention
➢ Expose security loopholes into the system
➢ Release vulnerabilities information in public post systems
➢ Motive is publicity, popularity and recognition

Blue Hat
Looking for revenge or Outsource Security Professional

They hack to take personal revenge or hired as outside security professionals.

Blue Hat hackers:
➢ Use malware and deploy various types of cyber-attacks on intended targeted systems
➢ Don't care about money or fame
➢ Sometimes they engage in doxing or steal confidential information & release it in public to damage the reputation of its targets.
➢ Do penetration testing when hired as outside security professional

Black Hat
Illegal Infiltrate Systems

Black hat hackers are the bad guys who use their technical skills to blackmail others. One of the most famous black hackers is **Kevin Mitnick.**

Black Hat hackers hack to:
➢ Doing political and corporate espionage
➢ Sell financial and personally identifiable information on Dark web
➢ Financial fraud and identity thefts
➢ Deploying cyber threats
➢ Launching ransomware attacks

Red Hat
Aggressively Stop Black Hackers

Like their counterparts' white hat hackers have noble intentions but they take extreme steps and sometimes illegal measures to achieve the end objective.

Red Hat hackers hack to:
➢ Act like pseudo robin hoods
➢ Infect bad hacker systems with malware
➢ Launch DDoS attacks
➢ Use tools to gain access to hacker computer to destroy it

Green Hat
Amateur hackers with desire to learn

Also known as *amateur hackers*. Their main focus is on acquiring knowledge and honing their skills. Whether their intentions are malicious or they aspire to become ethical hackers, they possess the potential to be hazardous.

Green Hat hackers hack to:
➢ May inadvertently cause irreparable harm through experimentation
➢ Often oblivious to the potential repercussions of their actions/how to rectify a failed attack.