Alina Shapoval
O.P. Kogut, research supervisor
V.V. Gubkina, language adviser
SHEI "National Mining University", Dnipropetrovsk

## **Computer Security Hackers**

In computer security, a hacker is someone who focuses on security mechanisms. In common use, which was popularized by the mass media that refers to someone who illegally breaks into computer and network systems. That is, the media portrays the 'hacker' as a villain. Nevertheless, parts of the subculture see their aim in correcting security problems and use the word in a positive sense. They operate under a code of the Hacker Ethic, in which it's acknowledged that breaking into other people's computers is bad, but that discovering and exploiting security mechanisms and breaking into computers is nevertheless an interesting aspect that can be done in an ethical and legal way.

This use is contrasted by the different understanding of the word as a person who follows a spirit of playful cleverness and loves programming. It is found in an originally academic movement unrelated to computer security and most visibly associated with free software and open source. It also has a hacker ethic, based on the idea that writing software and sharing the result is a good idea, but only on a voluntary basis, and that information should be free, but that it's not up to the hacker to make it free by breaking into private computer systems. Academic hackers disassociate from the mass media's pejorative use of the word 'hacker' referring to computer security, and usually prefer the term 'cracker' for that meaning. In computer security, a hacker is a person who specializes in work with the security mechanisms for computer and network systems. The subculture around such hackers is termed network hacker subculture, hacker scene or computer underground. While including those who endeavor to strengthen such mechanisms, it is more often used by the mass media and popular culture to refer to those who seek access despite these security measures.

The best way to protect a computer from hackers is to invest in software that blocks, finds and destroys hacking software. This type of protective software is often called anti-virus or anti-malware software. Most security packages are affordable and easy to use. They actively scan your computer for hacks and remove them from your system before they can do damage or spread to other computer systems in your network. Be sure to purchase anti-virus or anti-malware software that includes an anti-key logger feature for maximum protection.

Hackers are a very real threat to your computer and your personal well-being. Make sure to safeguard your computer against key loggers and other malware by using high-quality internet security software.