

After watching the video, write a journal entry about how you think the media influences our understanding about cybersecurity. Has this understanding changed over time? What is different in the older pieces of media vs more current media?

Charles W. Pridgen

July 7, 2024

I believe even though the media adds a little bit of drama, and other key elements to create movie magic, they influence people's understanding of cybersecurity pretty well. With that being said, since it is for entertainment, I think there is the thought of, "oh it's just a movie so that wouldn't happen in real life." It does get people to think about cybersecurity, raising awareness of the capabilities hackers may have, and how connected/vulnerable we are to attackers. I also believe the media depicts cybersecurity in a way that people may think it would be impossible for them to understand how hackers do what they do in the first place.

Current pieces of media use more up to date technology like the use of mobile devices, hacking into different things other than just a computer. Older media depicts a regular computer with code screens and images that let the audience know what the hackers are experiencing. Old school media seems to depict hacking in a simpler, easier to understand way, whereas current media understands people are more tech savvy, so the hacking is done in more complex realistic ways. Older media will depict hacking on a computer screen, showing made up actions like visual animations simulating a hacking in progress. Fast forward to current day, scenes are more accurate, one showed how a woman scanned a mag strip from a hotel card, stored the information in a device (called mag spoofing) and used it to unlock someone's hotel door. No dramatic load screens or anything. Some people may think twice about leaving their hotel door keys around now.

- Wired. (2021, April 29). *Hacker Breaks Down Movie Scenes From Movies & TV* | Wired [Video]. Youtube. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IsCrY2vWSr8>
- Insider. (2021, March 16). *Hacker Rates 12 Hacking Scenes In Movies And TV | How Real Is It?* | Insider [Video]. Youtube. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=6BqpU4V0Ypk>
- Wired. (2018, November 13). *Hacker Breaks Down 26 Hacking Scenes From Movies & TV* | Wired [Video]. Youtube. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SZQz9tkEHlg>