

The Deep Web 101

Who Uses the Deep and Dark Web?

The 'onion network' architecture of the Dark Web was originally developed by the military. Military, government and law enforcement organizations are still among the main users of the 'hidden Internet' to help monitor illegal activity.

The Dark Web is mainly used for criminal activity, involving buying/selling drugs, terrorist attacks, viewing/distributing pornography and human-sex trafficking.

What is the Deep Web?

The Deep Web includes the Dark Web, but also includes all user databases, webmail pages, registration-required web forums, and pages behind paywalls.

The Tor browser can be used to surf the surface Web anonymously, giving the user added protection against everything from hackers to government spying to corporate data collection.

It also lets you visit websites published anonymously on the Tor network, which are inaccessible to people not using Tor. Tor makes a popular onion router that is accessible to most operating systems.

What is the Dark Web?

The Dark Web relies on darknets or networks where connections are made between trusted peers.

The Dark Web or Darknet is part of the Deep Web and is not accessible through search engines.

Within the Dark Web both web surfers and website publishers are entirely anonymous. While large government agencies are able to track some people within this anonymous space, it is very difficult and is not always successful.

Darknet anonymity is usually achieved using an 'onion network'. Normally, when accessing the pedestrian Internet, your computer directly accesses the server hosting the website you are visiting.

In an onion network, this direct link is broken, and the data is instead bounced around a number of intermediaries before reaching its destination. The communication registers on the network, but the transport medium is prevented from knowing who is doing the communication.

Often, these parts of the web are accessible only if you use special browser software that helps to peel away the onion-like layers of the Dark Web.

Understanding How Simple It Is to Access the Deep Web

- It is fairly simple to access the deep web, which is concerning.
- Accessing the Deep Web has become a more popular way to protect individuals from identity theft which can lead to dangers of the Dark Web.
- Anyone has the ability to access the deep web and can lead to entering the dark web, where illegal content is displayed and accessible.
- For more information on the Dark Web, check out our next blog!