

What is Bluebugging?

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About Bluebugging:

- **What is it?** It is a **form of hacking** that lets attackers **access a device through its discoverable Bluetooth connection**.
- Once a device or phone is bluebugged, **a hacker can listen to the calls, read and send messages and steal and modify contacts**.
- It started out as a threat for laptops with Bluetooth capability. Later hackers used the technique to target mobile phones and other devices.
- **This attack is often limited due to the range of Bluetooth connections**, which goes up to only 10 meters.
- **Process:**
 - Bluebugging attacks work **by exploiting Bluetooth-enabled devices**.
 - The device's **Bluetooth must be in discoverable mode**, which is the default setting on most devices.
 - The **hacker then tries to pair with the device via Bluetooth**.

- Once a connection is established, **hackers can use brute force attacks to bypass authentication.**
- They can **install malware in the compromised device** to gain unauthorised access to it.

What is a Malware?

- Malware, or malicious software, is any **program or file that is intentionally harmful to a computer, network or server.**
- Types of malware include **computer viruses, worms, Trojan horses, ransomware** and spyware.
- These malicious programs **steal, encrypt and delete sensitive data; alter or hijack core computing functions** and monitor end users' computer activity.

Q1) What is ransomware?

Ransomware is malware that employs encryption to hold a victim's information at ransom. A user or organization's critical data is encrypted so that they cannot access files, databases, or applications. A ransom is then demanded to provide access. Ransomware is often designed to spread across a network and target database and file servers, and can thus quickly paralyze an entire organization.

Source: [Beware of 'bluebugging', Andhra Pradesh police cautions smartphone users](#)

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/what-is-bluebugging/>

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