

# Android users need to remove these 8 malicious Joker apps immediately

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For the past three years, the Google Play Store has been home to the notorious "Joker" spyware. According to Indian Express, a recent analysis by Quick Heal Security Labs showed that the malware appeared in eight new applications.

Joker is a spyware that silently infiltrates users' phones and collects information without their knowledge. Many users report paying fees for subscriptions and for other services. Luckily, Google quickly discovered and removed them from the Play Store.

Fast Magic SMS, Super SMS, Auxiliary messages, Super Message, Free CamScanner, Element Scanner, Travel wallpaper and Go messages are all malware apps. The study also shows that the malware creators distribute these apps on the messenger, wallpaper, and scanner apps on the Play Store. If you downloaded it recently, you should uninstall it just to be safe.

According to Quick Heal, these apps require permission to access notifications at startup, requesting access to SMS, contacts, and phone. Applications will then monitor all data passing through these channels in the background.



You should also take the following precautions to make your phone safer:

1. Turn off unknown sources option.
2. Learn how to spot fake apps on the Play Store.

3. Before accepting or allowing new permissions, read the questions prompted by the Android operating system.
4. Do not download third-party applications by clicking on links in SMS, email, or WhatsApp messages.
5. Avoid installing apps that are loaded after clicking ads.
6. Avoid downloading apps with spelling and grammatical errors in the description. Real apps always have clear titles and descriptions.
7. Pay attention to reviews and ratings, especially for apps with low ratings. User experience can provide useful information.
8. Take a look at the downloads, because popular apps get very high downloads. However, you should also keep in mind that hundreds or even thousands of apps were downloaded before they were found to be fake and removed.

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