

## TrueCrypt is more secure than thought (Initial Post)

There are three main use cases for TrueCrypt:

- Information protection through system encryption
- Information protection through encrypted volumes
- Confidentiality and information protection through hidden volumes.
- The primary goal is to protect the confidentiality of data in a TrueCrypt volume.
- In addition to the primary protection goal, there are other goals, such as integrity protection or deniability.

According to Fraunhofer SIT, headed by Prof. Dr. Eric Bodden, TrueCrypt is more secure than previous assessments have suggested (Baluda et al, 2015).

Two noticeable vulnerabilities have been discovered in Google Project Zero's TrueCrypt. One of them is very concerning. The gap allows attackers who already have access to the running computer to gain advanced system privileges via malicious code. However, granting an attacker access to encrypted data takes work. To exploit the vulnerability, the attacker would already have extensive access to the computer, for example, via a Trojan. According to the Fraunhofer experts, TrueCrypt offers good protection, especially when data is stored offline on encrypted drives. TrueCrypt does what it is supposed to do relatively well but cannot protect the data during operation.

I recommend a friend TrueCrypt only when he wants to store data offline on a hard drive. However, if it comes to storing data online, I would not recommend it (Frauenhofer SIT, 2015).

## **References**

Baluda, M.; Fuchs, A., Holzinger, P., Nguyen, L., Othmane, L. b., Poller, A., Repp, J., Späth, J., Steffan, J., Triller, S. & Bodden, E. (2015) Sicherheitsanalyse TrueCrypt, Darmstadt: Bundesamt für Sicherheit in der Informationstechnik.

Frauenhofer SIT (2015) TrueCrypt ist sicherer als gedacht. Available from: <https://www.sit.fraunhofer.de/de/presse/details/news-article/show/truecrypt-ist-sicherer-als-gedacht/> [Accessed 7 November 2022].