

# Minecraft Hackers Publish A Whole Bunch Of Private Login Details Online

Microsoft was in the news during the Christmas season when its Xbox One service was infiltrated by hackers, and it is now experiencing the same issue.

According to reports, a German website published the list of 1,800 Microsoft Minecraft usernames and passwords online.

A security expert warns that criminals could gain access to these data and even hack into accounts, change settings, or purchase virtual items.

The hack was revealed by Heise Online, and many of the verified accounts (selection depicted) are believed to belong to German gamers. While it's not entirely clear how the hackers obtained the credentials security analyst Graham Cluely stated that there are a myriad of possibilities. These include malware and phishing attacks as well as security breaches.

Heise Online reported the hack and a large portion of the verified accounts are believed to belong to German gamers.

It is not known how the hackers got their hands on the credentials, but security analyst Graham Cluely wrote on the Hot for Security blog: There are a variety of possibilities, from simple phishing attacks to keylogging malware that steals player's details as they log into the game, or a security breach at Minecraft itself.

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"Let's hope that this isn't the last time, as the game has more than 100 million registered players.

However a Microsoft spokesman said to MailOnline: 'We can confirm that no Mojang.net service was compromised.

'Normal industry procedures to deal with situations like this were put into place to reset passwords on the small number of affected accounts.'

Minecraft was created in 2009.

At the beginning of the game, a player is placed in a virtual infinite game world.'

Players are given blocks and tools to construct cities and towns.

While the original game was intended to be played on the PC but there are now mobile versions and Xbox 360.

Based on the large number of registered users the hack appears to be small.

However, Mr. Cluely said that unauthorised users could use the unsecured email addresses or passwords to access other gamesworlds, and download the full game, which is typically sold for EUR19.95 Euros (\$26.95 / PS17.95).

A cybercriminal can also access an individual's email address to hack other accounts or send malware, or send spam.

Mr. Cluely added that there's no guarantee the hacker who released this list has more in their back pocket.'

In September, Microsoft purchased Mojang for \$2.5 billion (PS1.5 Billion).

The game is available on PCs and Androids, iOS, Windows Phone and Windows Phone. It also can be played on consoles like the Xbox One or PlayStation 4.

MailOnline was confirmed by a Microsoft spokesperson that no Mojang.net services were compromised. Although the amount of information revealed is not that big compared to the game's 100,000,000 players and players, Mr. Cluely said that there's no guarantee that the hacker who released the current list didn't have more information 'in their back pockets'.

At the beginning of the game, the player is placed in a 'virtually infinite game world.' The player can then explore different terrains, including mountains, forests and caves.

More than 16,645,000 people have purchased the game so far, and it is an online phenomenon.

YouTube channels are available that teach people how to play the game. In some cases owners are able to quit their jobs to promote.