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**ASSIGN
BUSTER**

Attackers have been targeting Apple users due to the recent surge of popularity to Apple products in the market.

Apple's responsible for about 13.5% of smartphones and 7.5% of computers sold worldwide. The large number of Apple products means hackers have more opportunities to attack them.

Some potential threats faced by the Apple product users are that many sensitive or important information may be stolen by cybercriminals, which is why security researchers have also given a greater focus on vulnerabilities in Apple software, with some high-profile flaws uncovered in the year 2015.

Zero-day brokers also offered bounties for Apple vulnerabilities, a US\$1 million paid for the jailbreak of iOS 9.1. Apple has confirmed that almost all of its products are affected by an Intel bug that was revealed in the year 2018. That means that any of its consumers' most sensitive information could be potentially be read. But the exact nature of the problem is still not clear to the researchers and public, the danger is impossible to entirely be comprehended let alone have a head start of solving it.

The two bugs are known as Spectre and Meltdown. Meltdown can be patched up through an update, but could slow computers down as much as 30%.

However, Spectre can't easily be fixed, and will need computer chips themselves to be re-designed. The flaw means that malicious programmes can intercept that activity, even if it is not used often. A programme could see what else the chip has been doing through speculative execution, which might include some personal and sensitive information. The simplest way to keep your iPhone safe and secured is to update your iOS regularly.

Ensuring your operating system is running the latest software is the best way to make sure your devices are most protected from hackers. That's because in each update Apple improves security features and fixes any previously overlooked weak points. Another way to keep your iPhone safe and secured is to "Be smart online, in messages, and when opening emails".

An easy way many hackers get to a person's iPhone information remotely is through malware links and email scams. An important rule that one should keep is to open links, messages and emails from sources you trust only.