

What is Facebook?

Facebook is a popular free social networking website that allows registered users to create profiles, upload photos and videos, send messages, and keep in touch with friends, family and colleagues.

How does Facebook keep your information safe?

- Facebook uses HSTS.
- All connections are encrypted using TLS1.2.
 - "The connection is encrypted and authenticated using AES_128_GCM and uses ECDHE_ECDSA as key exchange mechanism.
- Facebook is verified by DigiCert-SHA2 High Assurance Server, CA.
- IE key exchange is used to establish shared keys, and symmetric crypto techniques are then used.

Cookies and tracking:



Facebook Uses Cookies for a variety of reasons.

Authentication:

- These cookies alert Facebook when a user is logged in.
- Allows Facebook to relay relevant social information
 - One example would be the way social plug-ins are implemented

Security and Site Integrity:

- These cookies aid in keeping Facebook safe and secure

Site Features and Services:

- These cookies store user preferences, track interactions with Facebook Services.

Advertising, insights and Analytics and research:

- Cookies, tracking pixels and other such technologies are used by Facebook to create targeted advertisements-- its number one source of revenue.
- Persistent cookies that allow Facebook to "provide advertisers with insights about the people who see and interact with their adds, visit their websites, and use their apps."

REMARK: Facebook does not sell user information.



It is worth noting that social networking websites, such as Facebook, are in a unique and dangerous position, as they can easily correlate browsing behavior of a user to their online profile. In many cases, their profile is their real world identity.

Table 2: The list of cookies sent to Facebook when a logged in user visits a page with social plug-ins.

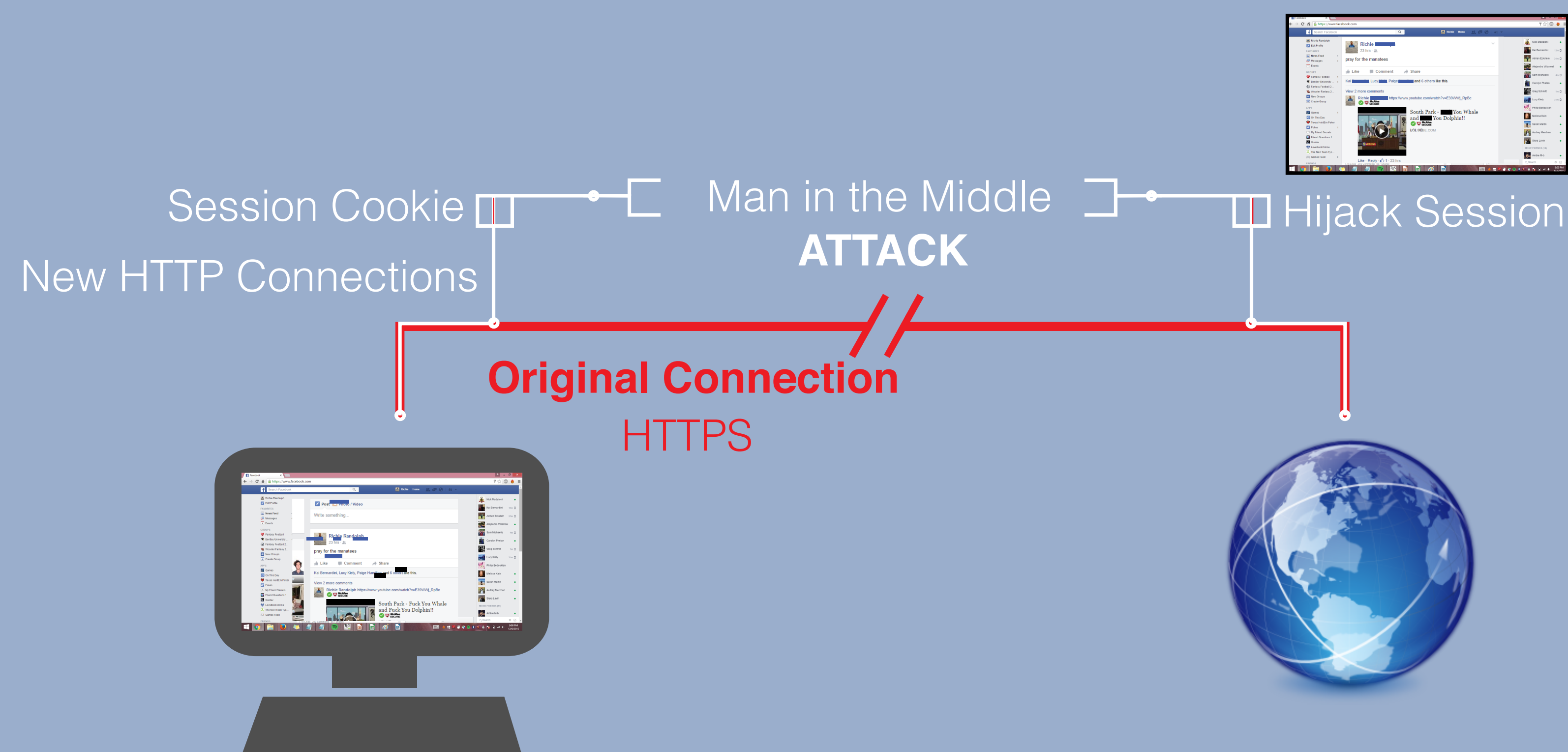
Name	Sample Value	Contains	Expires	Secure?
e_user	100004223456398	Facebook ID	Session/ 1 Month?	Yes
datr	53fZVgth7_1kE5ftr8RfRrE	Browser ID	2 Years	No
fr	090hJZfRas2f0LdKs8 .ANOG81Rrx8LM3P 5aBctfQrv1088 .BCVChV .5J .FDJ .0 .JA M3Uv8a	Encrypted Facebook ID and Browser ID*	1 Month	No
lu	wfF9a8TtZd9gh1N0R8w1081h	Encrypted ID of the last user*	2 Years	Yes
p	-2	User's channel partition*	Session	No
presence	084267050958u8wFz2J809211298288 A2BatawFducF7.426705095426E12F	Chat state*	Session	Yes
s	Aa67D0udg82v819	?	Session/ 1 Month?	Yes
xs	244836322p45f5f5c0aM3A23A14267 0508983A3455	Session number and secret*	Session/ 1 Month?	Yes
esm	2	Insecure indicator ¹⁷	Session/ 1 Month?	No
act	142670420057582F14	Timestamp and counter of user actions ¹⁸	Session	No
wd	1280x653	Browser window dimensions	Session	No

*-The descriptions are taken from the Irish DPC Audit Report and the follow-up Review Report . . . the cookie's lifetime depends on the "Keep me logged in" checkbox. If the box is checked, the cookie will expire in 1 month, otherwise it will be removed at the end of the session. : If the secure attribute of the cookie is set (Yes), then the cookie will always be sent over the secured (HTTPS) connections.

Name	Value	Domain	Size	Path	Expires (GMT)	HTTP	Secure
act	142670420057582F14	facebook.com	11 B	/	Session		
datr	53fZVgth7_1kE5ftr8RfRrE	facebook.com	21 B	/	Session		
esm	2	facebook.com	10 B	/	Session		True
fr	090hJZfRas2f0LdKs8 .ANOG81Rrx8LM3P 5aBctfQrv1088 .BCVChV .5J .FDJ .0 .JA M3Uv8a	facebook.com	24 B	/	Sat Mar 05 2016 17:36:54 GMT-0500		True
lu	wfF9a8TtZd9gh1N0R8w1081h	facebook.com	48 B	/	Sat Mar 05 2016 17:36:54 GMT-0500		True
p	-2	facebook.com	2 B	/	Sat Mar 05 2016 17:36:54 GMT-0500		True
presence	084267050958u8wFz2J809211298288 A2BatawFducF7.426705095426E12F	facebook.com	121 B	/	Sat Mar 05 2016 17:36:54 GMT-0500		True
s	Aa67D0udg82v819	facebook.com	18 B	/	Session		True
xs	244836322p45f5f5c0aM3A23A14267 0508983A3455	facebook.com	24 B	/	Sat Mar 05 2016 17:36:54 GMT-0500		True
wd	1280x653	facebook.com	28 B	/	Sat Mar 05 2016 17:36:54 GMT-0500		True

Hacking Richie:

Method 1 (Session Hijacking): With Richie's permission, and the help of WireShark, BurpSuite, TCPDump, OVMS,SSLStrip2,DNS2PROXY, we were able to retrieve Richie's Session Cookie (now inactive) over an HTTP connection. With the Cookie in possession, we then used a cookie injector to log into his Facebook without knowledge of his Login username or password. FIX: VPN
Potential Damage: He could have been forced to like Donald Trump, the Miami Dolphins, and Crocs.



Method 2 (Social Experiment): Using Facebook's "Forgot Password" service, we are able to view enough of Richie's email to determine his primary email is COMCAST, which allows for security questions. From there, it was simply a matter of guessing his favorite sports team and typing in his home address. We then gained access to his primary email and were then able to reset his password this way. If Richie had enabled Login notifications and Login Approvals, this could have been prevented. A special thank you to Richie for being such a good sport!

references

- <https://www.facebook.com/whitehat/>
- <https://www.facebook.com/help/cookies/>