

Remote Services: Remote Desktop Protocol, Sub-technique T1021.001 - Enterprise

Archived: 2026-04-05 18:39:38 UTC

[G1030 Agrius](#)

[Agrius](#) tunnels RDP traffic through deployed web shells to access victim environments via compromised accounts.

^[3] [Agrius](#) used the Plink tool to tunnel RDP connections for remote access and lateral movement in victim environments.^[4]

[G1024 Akira](#)

[Akira](#) has used RDP for lateral movement.^[5]

[G0006 APT1](#)

The [APT1](#) group is known to have used RDP during operations.^[6]

[C0051 APT28 Nearest Neighbor Campaign](#)

During [APT28 Nearest Neighbor Campaign](#), [APT28](#) used RDP for lateral movement.^[7]

[G0022 APT3](#)

[APT3](#) enables the Remote Desktop Protocol for persistence.^[8] [APT3](#) has also interacted with compromised systems to browse and copy files through RDP sessions.^[9]

[G0087 APT39](#)

[APT39](#) has been seen using RDP for lateral movement and persistence, in some cases employing the rdpwinst tool for mangement of multiple sessions.^{[10][11]}

[G0096 APT41](#)

[APT41](#) used RDP for lateral movement.^{[12][13]} [APT41](#) used NATBypass to expose local RDP ports on compromised systems to the Internet.^[14]

[G1023 APT5](#)

[APT5](#) has moved laterally throughout victim environments using RDP.^[15]

[G0143 Aquatic Panda](#)

[Aquatic Panda](#) leveraged stolen credentials to move laterally via RDP in victim environments.^[16]

[G0001 Axiom](#)

[Axiom](#) has used RDP during operations. [\[17\]](#)

[G1043 BlackByte](#)

[BlackByte](#) has used RDP to access other hosts within victim networks. [\[18\]\[19\]](#)

[G0108 Blue Mockingbird](#)

[Blue Mockingbird](#) has used Remote Desktop to log on to servers interactively and manually copy files to remote hosts. [\[20\]](#)

[C0015 C0015](#)

During [C0015](#), the threat actors used RDP to access specific network hosts of interest. [\[21\]](#)

[C0018 C0018](#)

During [C0018](#), the threat actors opened a variety of ports to establish RDP connections, including ports 28035, 32467, 41578, and 46892. [\[22\]](#)

[C0032 C0032](#)

During the [C0032](#) campaign, [TEMP.Veles](#) utilized RDP throughout an operation. [\[23\]](#)

[S0030 Carbanak](#)

[Carbanak](#) enables concurrent Remote Desktop Protocol (RDP) sessions. [\[24\]](#)

[G0114 Chimera](#)

[Chimera](#) has used RDP to access targeted systems. [\[25\]](#)

[G0080 Cobalt Group](#)

[Cobalt Group](#) has used Remote Desktop Protocol to conduct lateral movement. [\[26\]](#)

[S0154 Cobalt Strike](#)

[Cobalt Strike](#) can start a VNC-based remote desktop server and tunnel the connection through the already established C2 channel. [\[27\]\[28\]](#)

[C0029 Cutting Edge](#)

During [Cutting Edge](#), threat actors used RDP with compromised credentials for lateral movement. [\[29\]](#)

[S0334 DarkComet](#)

[DarkComet](#) can open an active screen of the victim's machine and take control of the mouse and keyboard. [\[30\]](#)

[G0035 Dragonfly](#)

[Dragonfly](#) has moved laterally via RDP. [\[31\]](#)

[G0051 FIN10](#)

[FIN10](#) has used RDP to move laterally to systems in the victim environment. [\[32\]](#)

[G1016 FIN13](#)

[FIN13](#) has remotely accessed compromised environments via Remote Desktop Services (RDS) for lateral movement. [\[33\]](#)

[G0037 FIN6](#)

[FIN6](#) used RDP to move laterally in victim networks. [\[34\]](#)[\[35\]](#)

[G0046 FIN7](#)

[FIN7](#) has used RDP to move laterally in victim environments. [\[36\]](#)

[G0061 FIN8](#)

[FIN8](#) has used RDP for lateral movement. [\[37\]](#)

[G0117 Fox Kitten](#)

[Fox Kitten](#) has used RDP to log in and move laterally in the target environment. [\[38\]](#)[\[39\]](#)

[G1001 HEXANE](#)

[HEXANE](#) has used remote desktop sessions for lateral movement. [\[40\]](#)

[C0038 HomeLand Justice](#)

During [HomeLand Justice](#), threat actors primarily used RDP for lateral movement in the victim environment. [\[41\]](#)
[\[42\]](#)

[S0434 Imminent Monitor](#)

[Imminent Monitor](#) has a module for performing remote desktop access. [\[43\]](#)

[G1032 INC Ransom](#)

[INC Ransom](#) has used RDP to move laterally. [\[44\]](#)[\[45\]](#)[\[46\]](#)[\[47\]](#)

[G0119 Indrik Spider](#)

[Indrik Spider](#) has used RDP for lateral movement. [\[48\]](#)

[S0283 jRAT](#)

[jRAT](#) can support RDP control. [\[49\]](#)

[G0094 Kimsuky](#)

[Kimsuky](#) has used RDP for direct remote point-and-click access. [\[50\]](#)

[S0250 Koadic](#)

[Koadic](#) can enable remote desktop on the victim's machine. [\[51\]](#)

[G0032 Lazarus Group](#)

[Lazarus Group](#) malware SierraCharlie uses RDP for propagation. [\[52\]\[53\]](#)

[G0065 Leviathan](#)

[Leviathan](#) has targeted RDP credentials and used it to move through the victim environment. [\[54\]](#)

[G0059 Magic Hound](#)

[Magic Hound](#) has used Remote Desktop Services to copy tools on targeted systems. [\[55\]\[56\]](#)

[G1051 Medusa Group](#)

[Medusa Group](#) has used RDP to conduct lateral movement and exfiltrate data. [\[57\]](#) [Medusa Group](#) has also utilized the Windows executable `mstsc.exe` for RDP activities through the command `mstsc.exe /v:{hostname/ip}`. [\[57\]](#)

[G0045 menuPass](#)

[menuPass](#) has used RDP connections to move across the victim network. [\[58\]\[59\]](#)

[S0385 njRAT](#)

[njRAT](#) has a module for performing remote desktop access. [\[60\]](#)

[G0049 OilRig](#)

[OilRig](#) has used Remote Desktop Protocol for lateral movement. The group has also used tunneling tools to tunnel RDP into the environment. [\[61\]\[62\]\[13\]\[63\]\[63\]](#)

[G0040 Patchwork](#)

[Patchwork](#) attempted to use RDP to move laterally. [\[64\]](#)

[S0192 Pupy](#)

[Pupy](#) can enable/disable RDP connection and can start a remote desktop session using a browser web socket client.^[65]

[S0583 Pysa](#)

[Pysa](#) has laterally moved using RDP connections.^[66]

[S0262 QuasarRAT](#)

[QuasarRAT](#) has a module for performing remote desktop access.^{[67][68]}

[S1187 reGeorg](#)

[reGeorg](#) can be used to tunnel RDP connections.^[69]

[S0379 Revenge RAT](#)

[Revenge RAT](#) has a plugin to perform RDP access.^[70]

[G1015 Scattered Spider](#)

[Scattered Spider](#) has used RDP to enable lateral movement.^[71]

[S0461 SDBbot](#)

[SDBbot](#) has the ability to use RDP to connect to victim's machines.^[72]

[S0382 ServHelper](#)

[ServHelper](#) has commands for adding a remote desktop user and sending RDP traffic to the attacker through a reverse SSH tunnel.^[73]

[G0091 Silence](#)

[Silence](#) has used RDP for lateral movement.^[74]

[C0024 SolarWinds Compromise](#)

During the [SolarWinds Compromise](#), [APT29](#) used RDP sessions from public-facing systems to internal servers.^[75]

[G1017 Volt Typhoon](#)

[Volt Typhoon](#) has moved laterally to the Domain Controller via RDP using a compromised account with domain administrator privileges.^[76]

[S0670 WarzoneRAT](#)

[WarzoneRAT](#) has the ability to control an infected PC using RDP.^[77]

[G0102 Wizard Spider](#)

[Wizard Spider](#) has used RDP for lateral movement and to deploy ransomware interactively. [\[78\]](#)[\[79\]](#)[\[80\]](#)[\[81\]](#)

[S0350 zwShell](#)

[zwShell](#) has used RDP for lateral movement. [\[82\]](#)

[S0412 ZxShell](#)

[ZxShell](#) has remote desktop functionality. [\[83\]](#)

Source: <https://attack.mitre.org/techniques/T1021/001>