

Amazon Selling \$40 Android Tablets That Come With Pre-Installed Malware



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Amazon is selling tablets from third-party manufacturers on its website that are preloaded with malware allowing hackers to take control of those devices remotely.

The malware-ridden tablets have been purchased by over 17,000 people to date, according to researchers at Cheetah Mobile Security Lab. The tablets, which are not part of Amazon's own range of devices, come from budget Chinese tablet manufacturers eager to lure those looking for a bargain by offering the devices for as little as \$40.

The researchers found the malware – a Trojan horse called Cloudsota – preinstalled on certain Android tablets, enables remote control of the infected devices and conducts malicious activities without user consent. The researchers said they are confident the hackers behind the Cloudsota malware are in China, as the tablets are manufactured there and much of the code is written in Chinese. Amazon has yet to respond to a request for comment from International Business Times about these tablets.

There are many negative reviews of the tablets on the website that make mention of the malware being preinstalled, and yet many of the infected tablets remain on sale.

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Denis JACOPINI est Expert Informatique assermenté, consultant et formateur en sécurité informatique, en mise en conformité de vos déclarations à la CNIL et en cybercriminalité.

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