



Decentralized
applications or dApps,
are software programs
that run on a blockchain
network of computers,
and not one single
computer. DApps were
developed for a variety
of purposes including
gaming, finance and
social media.

A web app typically runs on a computer system that is owned and operated by a company that has authority over the app. No matter how many users there are, the backend is controlled by the company.

DApps can run on a Peer-to-Peer network or a blockchain network. Being in a P2P network, allows multiple participants to consume content, feed or seed content.

dApps run on a blockchain network in a public, orpen source, decentralized environment and are free from control and interference by any single authority.

One interesting fact is, after a developer creates a dApp and puts it on the blockchain, any user can publish messages and once posted, the messages are permanent, not even the app creators can delete the messages.





Decentralized Applications

What should we know about dApps? DApps enable secure blockchain-based voting and governance, track user behavior and serve targeted ads. DApps also safeguard user privacy, With decentralized apps, users do not need to submit their personal information to use the function the app provides. DAps use smart contacts to complete the transaction between two anonymous parties without the need to rely on a central authority. A decentralized social media platform is resistant to censorship because no single participant on the blockchain can delete or block messages.

DApps Scams

Scams have been perpetrated through dApps, Ponzi schemes - or investment fraud - (where early investors are paid using the investments of new investors to create a facade of big profits) are known to occur on dApps.

Phishing attacks, which use fake websites or emails to trick people into revealing sensitive information, have been seen on dApps.

Viruses and malware which can compromise devices and steal sensitive information.

It is important for users to be

cautious and research when interacting with dApps. The decentralized nature of these apps make it especially difficult to locate, track and or hold perpetrators accountable for the scams.





Pros and Cons of

Advantages

- Safeguards user privacy
- Promotes free speech
- Alternative social media platforms
- Resistant to censorship
- Permanent on the blockchain

Disadvantages

- Experimental
- Could lead to network congestion
- Challenges in developing a user friendly interface
- Difficult to make needed code modifications

Examples of dApps
Peepeth, Cryptokitties,
MakerDAO

Peepeth is a social network that promotes mindful and transparent engagement

CryptoKitties is a blockchain based videogame that allows players to buy, sell and create NFTs





CRYPTOTRACK.U

MakerDAO is a decentralized organization built on the Blockchain that allows lending and borrowing of cryptocurrencies