

Team 1 – Procedure

Step 1: Download and install OpenStego (Windows)

- We downloaded OpenStego (Windows version) from the official release page.
- We installed it on our computer and launched the software.

Step 2: OpenStego configuration (Data Hiding mode)

- We used Data hiding → Hide data because this mode allows us to:
 1. hide a file inside an image (steganography)
 2. protect the hidden content with a password (AES encryption)

Step 3: Embed (hide + encrypt) the file

In the **Hide data** tab, we filled in:

- **Message file:** the file we wanted to protect (Bank statement.docx)
- **Cover file:** an image used as a container (Picture1)
- **Output stego file:** we created a new output **image** (Wallpaper) which becomes the final “stego image”.
- **Encryption algorithm:** we selected AES (AES-128)
- **Password + Confirm password:** we entered a password to encrypt the hidden file (Cyber2026@)

Then we clicked “Hide data”. OpenStego displayed a success message indicating that the message was embedded into the cover image.

Step 4: Extraction test (validation)

- We used Data hiding → Extract data to verify the result.
- We selected the stego image (Wallpaper) as the Input stego file.
- We selected an Output folder and entered the same password.
- OpenStego extracted the hidden file into the chosen folder.