Marshal.load is incredibly powerful, and also incredibly dangerous.

Unfortunately, many developers use it inappropriately and unmarshal user input. This can lead to a wide range of vulnerabilities, including remote code execution.

Marshal.load should be documented as dangerous and the documentation should also mention that it should only be used on trusted data.

Revision 38999 - 01/31/2013 12:55 PM - charliesome (Charlie Somerville)
marshal.c: warn against using Marshal.load on untrusted data

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Makes sense. Can you please consider to write down the explanation?

Can't you elaborate it, probably, at security@ruby-lang.org?

I've thought it's a common sense, isn't it?

I will send an example to security@ruby-lang.org. Please note that I do not consider this a vulnerability in Ruby. Marshal is dangerous by design. This is an education problem - we need to document the fact that it is dangerous.
Unfortunately, many developers use it inappropriately and unmarshal user input. This can lead to a wide range of vulnerabilities, including remote code execution.

Could you explain attack scenario?

--
// SASADA Koichi at atdot dot net

#5 - 01/31/2013 09:55 PM - charliesome (Charlie Somerville)
- Status changed from Open to Closed
- % Done changed from 0 to 100

This issue was solved with changeset r38999.
Charlie, thank you for reporting this issue.
Your contribution to Ruby is greatly appreciated.
May Ruby be with you.

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- marshal.c (marshal_load): Add documentation warning against using Marshal.load on untrusted data [Bug #7759] [ruby-core:51765]