

Malware Sucks!!!

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What Is Malware?

"Malware is something that gets installed on your PC that you don't want"

How Does this Happen?

As of 2012 approximately 60 to 70 percent of all active malware used some kind of **click fraud** to monetize their activity.

In short, every Malware is out to make money directly from you or what you do.

Follow the money...

Click Fraud - How Does it Happen?

- 99.9% of the time you get duped into doing (clicking) on something you believe is legitimate.
- You either aren't paying attention or you simply don't know any better.
- It is 99.9% your fault. You did it.

But How?

- You click on email attachments that end in .exe, .scr, .bat (less common)
- Website popups that tell you to: Click Here! It's Important!!! So you follow along... (most common)
- You insert an "Autorun Infected" USB drive or CD (rare)

How Antivirus Software Works

- They watch for new "executable" programs & files being written to your hard drive
- They scan these files for matching patterns of data that equals the "signature" of a piece of malware
- There are dozens of new malware signatures released **EVERYDAY** so keeping upto date is important

Malware Types

Viruses (worms and trojan horses)

Scareware

Ransomware

Spyware

Adware

Virus Malware

- Virus is the catch-all phrase for Malware
- A virus propagates itself from one machine to the next
- Actual viruses are actually quite rare (except for the NSA)
- Very hard to create and run

Scareware

- Typically uses a "virus alert" threat
- Tells you your system is infected
- Demands payment to release your PC
- Very hard to eliminate after the fact.

**MaxMySpeed.com
is a scareware scam.**

Scareware to Avoid

Registry Cleaners

System Defraggers

Free "system" tools

Ransomware

- Identical to scareware except that they come right out and tell you that you are being scammed
- Most will encrypt your hard drive and wait for payment

Spyware

- Keyloggers mostly
- They listen and watch and record what you do and then send the data home
- Think about your bank password or CC #s
- Very bad

Adware

- Not a criminal act per se
- These replace services on your machine so you think its running OK.
- Like your Google search engine (replace with Ask, SearchConduit, etc)
- They always injecting obnoxious toolbars into your browser
- Cause tons of popups in the worst cases

So what can we do?

- Norton/McAfee are no longer effective enough
- In fact Norton states they are getting out of the anti-virus business
- Why? They can't keep up
- OK so now what?

Steve's 5-Step Plan

- 1. If your router is 5 years old - replace it**
- 2. If you don't have Norton/McAfee get the free [avast.com](https://www.avast.com) antivirus software.**
- 3. Use Google Chrome**
- 4. Use Gmail, Yahoo, or Outlook online email**
- 5. Think about what you are clicking on!!!**

So What Can These 5 Steps Do?

Let's continue...

Step 1 - Modern Router

- Old routers have technical weaknesses
- Bad guys can use these weaknesses to get into your PC from the outside
- Scary bad

Step 2 - Avast

The free Avast comes with "companion software you don't want. Yes Adware.

Pay attention to the install - choose the "Custom Install" option.

Deselect all the additional software

Avast is highly rated - buy it if you need to.

Step 3 - Chrome Browser

- Chrome has a built-in list of bad websites that if you click on will result in a scary warning
 - This is what Norton Internet Security does
- Much less hackable
- Google updates it **CONSTANTLY**

Step 4 - Use Modern Email

- Gmail/Yahoo/Outlook.com all have sophisticated SPAM checking
 - You won't even see potential threat emails
- They all have **OUTSTANDING** attachment virus scanners
 - You even be able to damage yourself

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Step 5 - Don't be Stupid

**Someone else has email
Malware**

cndybrks@aol.com

to customercare, VALIC, 31kerrin, USAA.Web.Servi., gunnyh21,

<http://comitatotorrazza.it/to.php>

Click here to [Reply](#), [Reply to all](#), or [Forward](#)

Step 5 - Don't be Stupid

**Remember What You Are
Trying to Do!**

**If you are searching for new shoes
then you should not be enticed to
"upgrade" your video codecs!**

Know the Difference Between Windows Messages and Browser Pop-Ups

- Windows messages will usually pop from the Task bar on the bottom.
- Browser popups vary. Most masquerade as separate, new web pages.
 - Some can be hard to [X] out of
 - When in doubt REBOOT