What is Malware?

Malware (short for “malicious software”) is a term that refers to a variety of hostile or intrusive software. There are a variety of reasons people create malware: to make money, steal personal information, or even just to prove that they can.

Types of Malware
Adware

Shows advertisements to the user in hopes of generating sales

Ransomware

Restricts access to your device until you pay a disclosed amount money
Viruses

Self replicating malware that spreads and corrupts/modify files

Worms

Like viruses, but they do not need a host file to be run by the user and they typically spread over a network
Trojan Horse
Disguises itself as a normal file to trick the user into downloading and installing malware

Spyware
Spies on the users computer and internet activity, sending information back to an unknown source
Devices Susceptible to Malware

**Computers** - All computers can be infected by malware. Windows, MacOS, and Linux.

![Laptops](image1)
![Desktops](image2)
![MacOS](image3)

Devices Susceptible to Malware

**Mobile** - All phones and tablets can be infected with malware.

![Android Tablets](image4)
![Android Phones](image5)
![iPhones](image6)
![iPads](image7)
Preventative Measures

Browse Safer
- Don’t download files or click on links you’re unsure of.
- Use an Ad Blocker
- Look for https:// in URL bar

Adblock Plus
uBlock Origin

Preventative Measures

Browse Safer
- Use strong passwords
- Microsoft/Apple/Google will never call you.
  - Do NOT give remote access to anyone
Preventative Measures

Keep Up To Date
- Operating System
- Programs

Firewall
- Keep active

Signs you may have Malware
10 Signs Your Computer Has a Virus

1. The computer is really slow.
2. Nothing responds when you click on an icon and/or your software applications do not work correctly anymore.
3. The system reboots, freezes up, or crashes for no reason.
4. Your antivirus security program and/or firewall is suddenly disabled.
5. You can't access your disk drives or hard drive.
6. You are suddenly unable to print.
7. Your computer may be at risk. You start seeing strange pop-up windows stating you have a virus or that your computer is infected (the name of the virus program/scanner is something you have not heard of and you can't seem to close the window).
8. You start seeing pop-up advertisement windows at unexpected (random) times.
9. You have major problems trying to install or download an antivirus software or any other software.
10. You seem to have suddenly lost the icons on the desktop and/or all other program files in your folders.
Antivirus and Malware Removal

Antivirus

An antivirus is your first line of defense. Antivirus software is a program or set of programs that are designed to prevent, search for, detect, and remove software viruses, and other malicious software like worms, trojans, adware, and more. - Webroot
Free Antivirus Options

- Windows Defender
- Bitdefender
- Kaspersky Lab
- AVG Anti-Virus
- Avira

Paid Antivirus Options

- Webroot
  Smarter Cybersecurity
- G Data
- Norton by Symantec
- Kaspersky Lab
- Avast
Malware Removal Tools

These are your second line of defense. They scan and remove infected files that are already on your computer. It does not run at all times in the background and should be ran every so often manually.

Malwarebytes

SUPERAntiSpyware
Remove spyware, NOT just the easy ones!

AdwCleaner

Questions?

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