

“Give a man a fish and he will eat for a day; teach a man to fish and he will eat for a lifetime.”

The Catch of the Day



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Viruses, Spyware, and Worms – Oh, My

by Kathy

Nowadays it seems like computers need the software equivalent of a suit of armor to ward off all the menacing threats lurking on the Internet. What are those threats, exactly? We know they're *bad*, but here's a more specific breakdown of the terms.

Viruses. A virus is a malicious piece of software that affects a computer against its user's will in ways ranging from annoying to destructive. A virus usually attaches itself to a file or program and uses that file as a "carrier" to spread. Often an unsuspecting person causes an "infection" by opening or transmitting an infected file, such as an e-mail attachment.

Worms. A worm is a type of virus that can propagate independently of a carrier. Worms are particularly dangerous on networks because a worm can easily spread between computers without any user interaction.

Adware/Spyware. These aren't viruses per se, because their aim is not necessarily to do damage. But adware can enter your computer and spy on your habits in order to display pop-up ads. Spyware may be worse in that it may capture your keystrokes to get your passwords or bank information.

Regardless of the threat, protect yourself by installing anti-virus and anti-spyware software on your computer and updating it regularly. Windows users should also make sure Windows' Automatic Update feature is turned on.

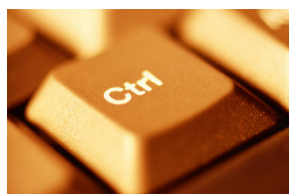
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Shortcut of the Month (brought to you by the letter ...)



Increase efficiency with keyboard shortcuts!

Exit an Application: Alt-F4

If you want to quit a Windows application without using the mouse, hold down the **Alt** key and press the **F4** key. If you're working on a file and have not yet saved your changes, you will be prompted to do so.

Note that this closes the entire program and not just the currently active file (in case you have several open at once).

The Random Resource

...because your computer isn't just for computing

"Isn't that actor the guy who was in the movie with that girl?" You never have to say things like that again thanks to the Internet Movie Database, www.imdb.com. Instantly find out everything you ever wanted to know about an actor, movie, or TV show. Look up actors' filmographies, view the full credits for a movie, learn interesting trivia, and more.

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