

COMPUTER SKILLS TOPIC5 :



Malicious Software



- **Viruses**
- **E-mail viruses**
- **Trojan horses**
- **Worms**

Viruses



- A computer virus is an application program designed and written to destroy other programs.
- A virus is a small piece of software that piggybacks on real programs.
- virus might attach itself to a program such as a spreadsheet program.
- and it has the chance to reproduce (by attaching to other programs).

E-mail viruses:



- **E-mail virus travels as an attachment to e-mail messages.**
- **Replicates itself by automatically mailing itself to dozens of people in the victim's e-mail address book.**

Trojan Horses



- simply a computer program.
- The program claims to do one thing (it may claim to be a game) but instead does damage when you run it.

Worms



- **A worm is a small piece of software that uses computer networks and security holes to replicate itself.**
- **Worm scans the network for another machine that has a specific security hole.**

Malicious Software



How do you know if you have a virus ?

- Lack of storage capability
- Decrease in the speed of executing programs
- Unexpected error messages
- Halting the system

Tips to avoid viruses and lessen their impact ?



- Delete e-mails from unknown or suspicious, untrustworthy (unreliable) sources, especially those with files attached to an e-mail.
- Never open a file attached to an e-mail unless you know what it is, even if it appears to come from a friend.
- Download files from the Internet only from legitimate and reputable sources.
- Update your antivirus software at least every two weeks as over 200 viruses are discovered each month.
- Backup your files periodically.



Thank you

Good Luck