

First Steps After Malware Infection

Preventing viruses and malware should be one of the biggest concerns for any computer user. The most effective way to ensure that your computer remains virus free is to install a reputable anti-virus program on your system. Once the program is installed you will need to run a full system scan to make sure that your computer does not already have an infections that needs to be fixed.

While installing anti-virus software is a vital first step in stopping the spread of computer viruses there are other steps that need to be completed to keep your computer safe. The first of these is to ensure that your anti-virus is kept up-to-date with the latest virus definitions. This should happen automatically but it is worth checking the date of the latest definitions regularly to be sure there are no problems.

Apart from your anti-virus software there are several simple email precautions that every Internet user can take to keep malware at bay.

Never click on a link unless you are certain where that link will send you. Did the email come from a trusted source? Does the URL look as though it directs you to an official website. The same advice can be given for email attachments. Is the email from someone you know? Do they refer to the attachment in the email? Is this the type of email you usually receive from them? If you are unsure it is always wise to check with them before you open the attachment.