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CART 351 - Networks and Navigation  
Response Number 2  
<https://deaddrops.com/>

Dead Drops was created by Aram Bartholl, a berlin media artist in 2010. He created Dead Drops while he was in New York City as an art resident. He calls Dead Drops a game and street art. He installs Dead Drops all over the world.

Dead Drops is a unique version of the cloud, it is an anonymous, peer to peer file-sharing network that is in a public space. It is a USB that is put into the wall that is hold in place by some concrete. The best place to put a Dead Drop would be in a crack in a wall. Every USB is empty when it is installed except for a readme.txt file which comes in 10 different languages. That file will explain the project. Anyone can drop or find files, all you have to do is plug your laptop in via the USB jack.

Anyone can install Dead Drops, all you have to do if follow some “How To” instructions. There are a number of steps to follow. But they are not the traditional steps and they are quite easy steps, the steps are not rocket science. Some steps are a necessary like step number five, which is to download the read.txt file and then there is a step that is a design tip (#7). You then have to submit your DeadDrop to the database.

When it comes to viruses, that is not the problem of the installer (us) or the creator (Aram Bartholl). Everyone is responsible for their own computer and its safety. The creator said to insure to not infect your computer system, he said to “you could just boot from your

system CD in save mode (Win or Mac), this would prevent any virus to access your hard drive". This will prevent viruses.

The creator gives some tips at having a successful DeadDrop site, at the end of the FAQs, he says to use an extension cable if you want to have some wiggle room from the wall to your laptop. Bartholl says he will not use extension cable because he likes of plugging something directly into his laptop without the cord. He also said to try and find a place that is less exposed to water so the USB will not get ruined and of course people will not take out their laptop in the rain, it just makes sense to find a place that is less exposed to rain. Lastly, he recommends the FAT 32 USB.