computer viruses

A computer virus is a malware program that is written to gain access to a computer without its owner’s permission. There are different types of computer viruses.

*1. Direct Action Virus* gets into the main memory, affects all programs/files/folder. Itdoesn’t delete system files but changes the system’s performance. It can affect all .exe and .com file extension. Protection: Use antivirus software

*2. Overwrite Virus* deletes the data and replaces the old code with their own. They replace the file content without changing its size. Protection: The only way to get rid of this virus is to delete all the infected files and Use antivirus software.

*3. Web Scripting Virus* can affect web browser. It is used to attack large sites like social networking, user review or email. Protection: Use real-time antivirus software, disable script, use cookie security

*4. Directory Virus* (also known as Cluster virus) infects the file by changing the DOS directory information. When you run a program, DOS first loads and executes the virus code before running the actual program code. Protection: Use antivirus software.

*5. Memory Resident Virus* lives in primary memory (RAM) and get activated when you switch on the computer. They affect all files currently running on the desktop. Protection: use antivirus software.

*6. Macro Virus* is written in the macro language, so it can run automatically when the document is opened and it can easily spread to other files too. They are generally hidden in documents that are shared via email. Protection: Disable macros and don’t open emails from unknown sources and use antivirus software.

*7. Companion Virus* does not modify the existing file. It creates a copy of a file with a different extension (usually .com) which runs in parallel with the actual program. It can delete the original files. Can affect: All .exe files. Protection don’t open emails from unknown sources and use antivirus software

*8. Trojan Horse* can destroy or modify all the files, crash the computer and give hackers remote access to your PC. Protection: Use antivirus software.

*9. FAT Virus*. FAT stands for file allocation table which is a section of storage disk. A FAT virus alters the index and makes it impossible for the computer to allocate the file. It is powerful enough to format the whole disk. It can affect any file. Protection: Avoid downloading files from non-trusted sources. Use robust antivirus software.

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5. Polymorphic Virus. The polymorphic virus encodes themselves using different encryption keys and algorithms each time they infect a program or create a copy of itself.