Antivirus Lab for Windows 11

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**Purpose**

The purpose of this lab is to exercise the knowledge gained about antivirus from this course. In this lab, you will create a text file containing a line of text that is designed to be perceived as a threat by antivirus software. You will then use the Windows Security app to perform a custom scan [or attempt to] and see what happens. See <https://www.eicar.org/?page_id=3950> to learn more about this antivirus test file.

**Methods**

Step 1: Go to your Desktop. In a blank space, right click and select “New” then select “Text Document”

Graphical user interface, application

Description automatically generated

Step 2: Give the text file any name or leave it as-is. Double-click on the text file to open it. Copy and paste the following line of text into the text document:

X5O!P%@AP[4\PZX54(P^)7CC)7}$EICAR-STANDARD-ANTIVIRUS-TEST-FILE!$H+H\*

Graphical user interface, text, application

Description automatically generated

Step 3: Once you paste the text into the document, click “File” then “Save” Graphical user interface, text, application

Description automatically generated

Step 4: If the Windows Security pops up and says a threat was found, as shown below, move on to Step 7. Otherwise, continue.

Graphical user interface, text, application

Description automatically generated

Step 5: Open the Windows Security app and run a Custom Scan. When prompted to choose a location to have scanned, choose “Desktop”.

Graphical user interface

Description automatically generated

Step 6: When prompted, click the “Start actions” button.

\*this screenshot is displaying as black, i.e. dark mode because it is an old screenshot\*\*

Text

Description automatically generated

Step 7: When done, go to your Desktop and look for the text file you created. If it is still there, attempt to open the file.

**Discussion/Conclusion**

If initiated correctly, Windows Defender Antivirus will detect the file as a virus and the file will be automatically deleted from the Desktop and be unopenable.

Question 1: Is the text file you created still on your Desktop? If so, are you able to open the file?

Question 2: If you can still open the file (given it is still showing on your Desktop), what might have gone wrong?

Question 3: What have you learned from the Antivirus unit of this course?