

## **Tips To Avoid Getting Infected By A Computer Virus(s) or Spyware:**

Keep in mind, your computer is not immune to virus infections EVEN WITH Anti Virus software.

There is No best Anti Virus software that will detect and stop all computer viruses & spyware 100%.

- Install an Anti-Virus/Anti-Spyware program.  
Be sure to keep this up to date and do weekly full scans.
- Install and use an alternative web browser such as "Firefox" or "Google Chrome" which generally pose less of a security risk.
- Keep your Operating System updated with Microsofts Windows Updates.

Doing the above is the basic minimum,, that you should do to help protect your computer but will not guarantee 100% protection.

To further HELP reduce the possibility of getting a virus or similar please read the following advice:

### **1. Email is a common way of getting infected**

**BEWARE OF ATTACHMENTS!** While you can safely open an email, NEVER click on a link within it or open an attachment that you are not positive is from a trusted source. Viruses come with some very nasty messages to trick you into opening the attachments,. Example "*Your email account has been cancelled, see attachment for details*". **Be careful with all anonymous and impersonal** emails that encourage you to open an attachment with, for instance, a funny picture, video or link to click. **When in doubt, delete the email!**

### **2. Instant messengers:**

The same caution should be used with opening links and attachments as Emails.

### **3. Web sites:**

Visiting Adult, Free game or gambling sites pose a high risk of infection. In addition, do not download software or "Addons" from web sites that you are unfamiliar with.  
This includes sites such as "Facebook" and "Myspace".

### **4. Do not click on sudden pop-up windows while browsing the internet.**

### **5. Do not use Disks or USB drives that other people give you.**

They could be infected with a virus. Of course, you can run a virus scan on it first, but Anti-Virus programs are not 100% effective.

### **6. Stay away from file-sharing sites.**

Sites that distribute illegal software, music, or movies are known to be riddled with viruses. This includes torrents or other forms of P2P activities. File Sharing Programs such as: Limewire, Kazaa, Frostwire, Morpheous, uTorrent, Ares for example. Staying away from these sites and programs is in your computer's health's best interest, as well as a good way to avoid being sued for copyright violation.

### **7. Do not install unknown codecs.**

A codec enables your computer to properly play video or audio. A common virus infection ploy is to put a popular video out which might play back without the sound accompanied with a note to download a 'special' codec to get the sound. Needless to say, the codec is genuine 'special' since it contains a virus.

8. Advertisements: If an advertisement seem to good to be true, STAY AWAY from it!

9. Many offer temptations like flash games, music, movies, or videos free. Nothing in life is free that is an established norm. Freebies always come at a price. If something "SCREAMS" out FREE, it's likely fake, contains virus/spyware.

They will use ANY means, "ploy or scam" possible to infect your computer/laptop, and steal information they can get from your computer! Not everything on the internet is what it seems,, if the offer is to good, stay away from it.

**Make sure you back up your data (documents, bookmark files, important email messages, etc.) on a regular basis so that in the event of a virus infection, you do not lose valuable work.**

2 Security Programs Installed on your computer:

- Spybot Search & Destroy (Spyware Detector Remover & System Immunizer)
- Spywareblaster (System Immunizer)

Both these 2 programs have "Immunization" features built into the programs.

When updated, and immunization enabled manually after each updated it will help BLOCK bad websites, and spyware from getting thru the internet browser,, along with an updated, active, legit Anti Virus program doing it's job also. Once again, I stress these are not 100% effective.

IT IS CRITICAL THAT THESE 2 PROGRAMS ARE MANUALLY, PERIODICALLY (AT LEAST ONCE PER WEEK) CHECKED FOR UPDATES AND "IMMUNIZATION" FEATURE ENABLED AFTER EACH UPDATE!

Please Note:

The above are general "good practice" tips when when on line.

They will HELP keep your computer clean of viruses and spyware, They will not, by no means Fully guarantee your computer will not become infected again. Therefore not holding Lightspeeds Computer Repair responsible for possible future computer infections. Your surfing habits, and your knowledge will help determine how safe you, and your computer will be.