

SPYWARE

Spybot Search and Destroy.. This venerable antispymware app has amassed a loyal following, due in part to the fact that it was one of the first antispymware offerings and it's free. Its protection is no longer state of the art compared with paid software products. But of the leading free products, it's still one of the most popular--and the only free one to provide real-time protection. In addition, Spybot 1.4 has on-demand scanning and detailed settings--all for free.

http://www.pcworld.com/downloads/file/fid,22262-order,1-page,1/description.html?tk=nl_hsxdown

Dependable Spyware-Free Download Sites. There are some rogue sites in cyberspace that appear to offer free software, but the downloads contain spyware, adware, trojan horses and viruses. Here are some dependable freeware sites you can trust:

www.download.com

www.pcworld.com/downloads

www.nonags.com

www.majorgeeks.com

WinPatrol gives you control over what can run on your machine. You can set it to display additional information about--and approve of--startup programs. You'll also be alerted when something tries to load an IE plug-in or set a cookie. And to get rid of a particularly nasty piece of spyware, you can use the "Delete File on Reboot" feature, so Windows will get rid of it before any other program can protect it or relaunch it.

http://www.pcworld.com/downloads/file_description/0,fid,22728,tk,hsx,00.asp

If you use Novatix's Cyberhawk, there's a good chance you can dump your antivirus and anti-spyware programs. Here's the download:

<http://www.novatix.com/cyberhawk/>

Klik Safe. Protect yourself from spyware and hackers by changing your Internet Explorer browser settings from medium to high security and back again. Klik Safe lives in your system tray and appears as a small lock icon. You can, of course, change your Internet security settings yourself, but this utility makes the process of switching much more convenient.

http://www.pcworld.com/downloads/file_description/0,fid,25644,tk,hsx,00.asp

This five-star-rated spyware and adware killer has a fast engine and removes threats and updates its database for free.

<http://www.pctools.com/spyware-doctor/?ref=download.com>

Xpy attempts to secure your Windows system and protect your privacy. In addition to anti-spyware features, it disables common security threats and increases your Windows performance.

<http://xpy.whyeye.org/>

TrustToolbar lets you avoid phishing attacks by identifying the company behind the Web site you visit. TrustToolbar Plug-in retrieves the digital certificate from a commercial directory, validates its integrity and displays its contents on the secure TrustToolbar interface.

http://www.pcworld.com/downloads/file_description/0,fid,25403,tk,wb062005x,00.asp

Cloudmark Anti-Fraud Toolbar v.0.9 Beta 3: Stop phishing attacks with this toolbar. Cloudmark Anti-Fraud Toolbar provides you with a rating so you know if the page you're visiting is "Safe" or "Unsafe" based on feedback from a community of users. This site rating will help you be sure you can trust the site you're visiting before you provide any personal or confidential information that may put you at risk for identity theft or phishing attacks.

http://www.pcworld.com/downloads/file_description/0,fid,25402,tk,wb062005x,00.asp

Detect "Spyware" before you download! A program called Spychecker can detect hundreds of "Spyware" products by name. If you are not sure if the freeware program you are interested in is Spyware, simply enter the name in the Spychecker box and hit "Check." Spychecker will query the constantly updated online Spychecker database and display the results in your browser.

www.spychecker.com

SpywareBlaster edits the Windows Registry to prevent known spyware from launching in your Web browser. It also disables all Internet cookies associated with spyware manufacturers, so they can't track your behavior. This protection won't interfere with your effort to visit legitimate Web sites. SpywareBlaster's spyware database is updated regularly. The program doesn't need to run in the background where it would eat up valuable system resources.

<http://www.wilderssecurity.net/spywareblaster.html>

If you're not sure what your computer problem is but a virus or spyware name keeps cropping up, check it on the Internet. You may well find enough information there to eradicate it. A good place to start is TomCoyote:

<http://www.tomcoyote.com>

CW Shredder removes some variants of spyware known as the Coolwebsearch Trojan. The Trojan takes advantage of a flaw in a key component of Windows -- Microsoft's version of the Java Virtual Machine -- to install itself via popups often found on porn and illegal software (a.k.a. "warez") sites. Run CWShredder after installing, and have it look for updates. Then click the "Fix" button, and the program will both scan and fix any problems it finds. If your system does not have this kind of spyware, it will give you the good news

<http://www.softpedia.com/public/cat/10/17/10-17-150.shtml>

Ever wonder what type of information Web sites gathered about you when you visit them? BrowserSpy allows you to spy on yourself. It tests your Internet browser and computer and reports on your: operating system, browser and version, connection to the Internet, cookie information, versions of various software and more. Why does it do this? It shows you what other Web sites can potentially find out about you. Of course, most of this information is mundane and harmless. BrowserSpy is best used to identify what needs to be upgraded.

<http://www.gemal.dk/browserspy/>

Fight back against ad-supported software components (otherwise known as "spyware") with Adaware, a free removal utility that scans your system and allows you to safely remove spyware components from your memory, registry and hard drives. There are options for scanning depth, and automatic modes can be set in the preferences menu. You can also create backups prior to removal with a single mouseclick.

<http://www.lavasoftusa.com/>

SpywareBlaster doesn't eliminate adware. Think of it as an inoculation shot. It prevents adware from being installed on your computer. SpywareBlaster prevents the installation of ActiveX programs that may be adware, browser hijackers or auto-dialers. It also blocks tracking cookies and restricts the actions of potentially dangerous sites. Some features only work with Internet Explorer.

<http://www.javacoolsoftware.com/spywareblaster.html>

The Webroot Software site features Spy Audit. If you aren't convinced your system is hosting spyware, you should run this free online check. Odds are good

that Spy Audit will find at least a handful of spyware items, which you then can disable with a trial version of Spy Sweeper.

http://www.webroot.com/services/spyaudit_03.htm

Spyware News: Spyware's a plague affecting practically everyone who surfs the Web. Make sure to visit Topix.net's site for your daily help of spyware news. If it's easier, you can subscribe to the daily or weekly e-mail news alerts or sign up for RSS feeds.

<http://snipurl.com/spynews>

Spyware Doctor is a 5-star rated Spyware remover and provides real-time Anti-Spyware protection against Spyware, adware, Trojan horses, keyloggers, Spyware cookies, adbots, spybots, browser hijackers, phishing attacks and other Malware threats. Additionally it actively protects web browsing using Internet Explorer with a built-in popup blocker and malicious site guard. Spyware Doctor is easy to use and low on PC resources and its super fast scanning speed is delivered by multiple specialized scanners that include Windows registry, file system, processes and tasks, browser, network configuration (including LSP), cookie and an intelligent script scanner. Each scanner specializes in identification of specific traits of infections for more effective detection and removal. Almost any function of Spyware Doctor can be updated through the Live Update process and it is constantly being improved and extended to counteract the nastiest of Spyware threats. The OnGuard feature is designed to provide real time protection and deploys several tools that actively monitor and protect the PC from Spyware attacks. These include immunization, site protection, popup blocking, browser monitor and others. The Free version allows customers to perform scans and remove threats and also Live Update Spyware signatures and functionally. The registered version adds additional tools and real-time OnGuard protection plus quicker access to live updates and support.

<http://www.download.com/Spyware-Doctor/3000-8022-10361503.html?tag=list>

Although CCleaner lacks a few features found in other PC-cleaning applications, this free program offers enough to make it a worthy download. The tabbed interface is no work of art, but it makes it easy to wipe away your tracks from Internet Explorer and Mozilla, various Windows system areas, and a few third-party applications. Although CCleaner doesn't support a large number of extraneous programs as some competitors do, it can erase traces from such popular programs as Spybot - Search & Destroy and WinZip. This app lacks a secure file shredder, but it makes up for the omission by supplying a registry-cleaning utility, which quickly scans for invalid entries before removing them.

CCleaner can even back up your registry before removal, in case it accidentally removes a crucial component, and includes a feature for uninstalling any program on your machine.

http://www.download.com/CCleaner/3000-2086_4-10315544.html?tag=nl.e415-3

Bazooka Adware and Spyware Scanner detects a multitude of spyware, adware, Trojan horses, keyloggers, and trackware components, sources of irritation that many antivirus products do not deal with. The scanning process only takes a fraction of a second and tells you how to uninstall the invasive spyware or puts you in contact with the spyware developer for the most up-to-date and safe uninstall instructions. Spyware and adware often is bundled with software such as Kazaa, Morpheus, Grokster, iMesh, Xolox, and Gnutella, and in many cases it's installed without your knowledge. Some send information about your surfing habits to ad companies, which target you with pop-up ads that fit your preferences. Bazooka Adware and Spyware Scanner search for CoolWebSearch, Gator, GAIN, Bargain Buddy, CommonName, FlashTrack, IPInsight, nCase, SaveNow, and WorldMedia. Version 1.13.03 may include unspecified updates, enhancements, and bug fixes.

http://www.download.com/Bazooka-Adware-and-Spyware-Scanner/3000-8022_4-10247782.html