

## Virus Protection

Free Anti-virus Software. For information on computer security and tips on where to get high-quality FREE antivirus software, go to:

<http://www.askbobrankin.com/security> and read the article titled "Should I Buy Anti-Spyware or Anti-Virus Software?" Then work your way down the list.

What every computer user should know about viruses is right here. The virus news, free antivirus downloads, primer and how-tos are invaluable.

[www.cnet.com/software/03746.html](http://www.cnet.com/software/03746.html)

This site not only warns you about e-mail hoaxes, it helps take care of the problem. [www.hoaxkill.com](http://www.hoaxkill.com)

Heard about a nasty new virus? Trace the progress of current outbreaks minute-by-minute at this site. [www.antivirus.com/vinfo](http://www.antivirus.com/vinfo)

Another site to check out whether or not a virus announcement is a hoax.

[www.vmyths.com](http://www.vmyths.com)

If you have baffling hardware problems, the problem may be a virus infection. If you aren't running a virus program, go to this address for a free web-based service that detects and removes viruses. [www.housecall.antivirus.com](http://www.housecall.antivirus.com)

Free antivirus software may be downloaded from:

[www.antivirus.cai.com](http://www.antivirus.cai.com)

[www.ealaddin.com/esafe/desktop/index.asp](http://www.ealaddin.com/esafe/desktop/index.asp)

Try these free antivirus software programs.

[www.ealaddin.com/esafe/desktop/index.asp](http://www.ealaddin.com/esafe/desktop/index.asp)

[www.grisoft.com/html/us\\_downl.htm](http://www.grisoft.com/html/us_downl.htm)

[www.trendmicro.com/download/](http://www.trendmicro.com/download/)

[www.quickheal.com/default.htm](http://www.quickheal.com/default.htm)

[www.pandasoftware.com](http://www.pandasoftware.com)

This free program will check your PC for the 200 most dangerous viruses, plus you can test your Internet connection to make sure it is working at optimum speed. [www.pcpitstop.com](http://www.pcpitstop.com)

AVG Antivirus is a free antivirus utility. Schedule basic tests, download free updates and more!

[http://www.grisoft.com/html/us\\_index.htm?session=e9c9c829ece4cacc896bb8e1b96e6e13](http://www.grisoft.com/html/us_index.htm?session=e9c9c829ece4cacc896bb8e1b96e6e13)

AntiVir Personal Edition. Developed by Germany's H+BEDV Daten-technik, AntiVir Personal Edition can detect and remove more than 80,000 threats, including viruses, Trojan horses, worms, and other malicious code, including cost-heavy dial-up programs that, unbeknownst to you, make long-distance or fee-based telephone calls using your modem. Users can configure AntiVir Personal Edition so it retrieves updates every day or even every few hours, and an update wizard makes scheduling easy. AntiVir has a user-friendly interface with easy-to-use options; simply click to select the drives or folders you want to scan and click the Scan button. Although the app uses a fair amount of system memory in background mode, it remains unobtrusive until it catches a virus.

<http://www.free-av.com>

avast! Home Edition. ALWIL Software's avast! Home Edition features a clean interface that lets you enable on-demand scanning or change options, including on-access scanning settings. In addition, avast! Home Edition includes thorough email scanning and a specific plug-in for Microsoft Outlook. Windows shell integration lets you scan files or folders directly from Windows Explorer, and a special setting scans for viruses whenever a screen saver is active. The app also supports boot-time scans in Windows 2000 and Windows XP. This app even fully supports skins that change the software's appearance and includes three skins with the downloaded version. Many more skins are available to download from ALWIL Software's Web site. <http://www.avast.com>

Unfortunately, many people still do not have anti-virus software on their computer or do not keep it updated. If you're afraid you might have a virus, there's a place that will check your computer for free. Trend Micro's HouseCall searches your computer for any kind of virus. If it detects one on your computer, it will provide you with options for removing it.

[http://housecall.trendmicro.com/housecall/start\\_corp.asp](http://housecall.trendmicro.com/housecall/start_corp.asp)

Have a computer virus you cannot seem to get rid of? Check this site for free downloadable files to wipe that virus out of your system. This site is worth a bookmark, too! [http://www.pandasoftware.es/library/pqremove\\_en.htm](http://www.pandasoftware.es/library/pqremove_en.htm)

Cox Communications, which provides Internet access to millions via cable service, is now scanning e-mails for viruses. It cleans the infected attachments, if possible. If it can't, it removes them and alerts the customer. This is a great service, but it's not enough. There are other ways for a virus to get on a computer. So, you still need anti-virus software, and you still need to update it. Cox also will scan your e-mail for spam. Check it out at: <http://coxagainstspam.cox.net>

If your computer has contracted a virus that was missed by your regular anti-virus program, you may want to try an online anti-virus applications. There are at least two good ones that not only find viruses but remove them. They are free.

Panda Active Scan: <http://www.pandasoftware.com/home/default.asp>

HouseCall <http://www.trendmicro.com/en/home/us/personal.htm>