



Computer Security

Definitions

Computer Threat: Anything that can damage your computer or the information on it.

Computer Security: The measures you can take to avoid damage or data loss.

Computer Privacy: Ensuring your data, such as personal files and email, is not accessible to anyone without your permission.

Digital Threats

Categories

- Viruses, RootKits, Malware
- Spyware
- Online Scams
- Online Predators
- Identity Theft

Prevention

- Virus, malware, and spyware protection
- Password protection
- Prudence in giving out information

Malware, Viruses, Spyware, Rootkits

Malware: Malicious software.

- Non-specific; covers a wide variety of threats

Viruses: A program that copies itself and spreads through computers and files, locking down the machine.

- Designed to wreck havoc and cause chaos.

Spyware: Software that collects your information without your knowledge and sends it back to the creator.

- Designed to make money at your expense.

RootKits: Designed to hide that a PC has been compromised.

- Allows malware to hide in plain sight by disguising themselves as necessary files

Free Protection Software

- **AVAST**

Antivirus software that checks downloaded files & monitors websites for possible malware. Do not use more than one antivirus.

- **Malwarebytes**

Manual scan that searches out rootkits and other potential problems and threats.

- **Spybot Search & Destroy**

Spyware scanner to identify and remove spyware.