
Subject: Advice with unwanted ads...

Posted by [IRON FART](#) on Mon, 15 Dec 2003 23:44:18 GMT

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Spyware/Ads from hell.

About a month ago, i went looking for a specific font. I searched on Google, and clicked a link. That link sent me to one of those useless, crummy search engines that nobody likes with a billion popups and junk like that.

Well That web page had installed an IE toolbar without me being able to stop it. It also insalled various exe files to my comp and set those to run at startup. They were not trojans, not viruses, and not exactly spyware.

They would add unwanted links to favorites, change my homepage, allow its popups to show so they would bypass my popup blocker. (And the popups can happen at any time)

I would get spam messages similar to those recieved by the "messenger" service.

It was just infesting my computer.

I reformatted - Gone, I was happy.

Now 2 days ago, while i was at school someone from my family must have used the comp, and those things have come back. Slightly different this time. Homepage is still mine, it doesn't add unwanted links everywhere. However, there were still a few exe files on my comp. Don't know what each did, but i know that i am getting unwanted popups.

I found 27 cookie spywares on my comp yesterday after a scan with Ad-Aware 6. And i did a scan with mcafee virus scanner also. None of the following files were detected.

Screen:

How can i remove any traces of these files from startup, and stop this happening again?

EDIT;

I am using XP Pro SP1, all patches.

IE 6 SP1

Linksys Router

McAfee AV Running constantly

Subject: Advice with unwanted ads...

Posted by [MrBob](#) on Tue, 16 Dec 2003 00:49:06 GMT

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This might solve your problem:

Subject: Advice with unwanted ads...
Posted by [Yano](#) on Tue, 16 Dec 2003 02:10:55 GMT
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Use ZoneAlarm, and Netscape

Subject: Advice with unwanted ads...
Posted by [Kingdud](#) on Tue, 16 Dec 2003 02:42:52 GMT
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YanoUse ZoneAlarm, and Netscape

W0rd, Netscape 0wns for security...even though some pages STILL make it crash :/

Peace out,

-Kingdud

Subject: Advice with unwanted ads...
Posted by [kopaka649](#) on Tue, 16 Dec 2003 04:11:34 GMT
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Firebird all the way!!

Subject: Advice with unwanted ads...
Posted by [Nukelt15](#) on Tue, 16 Dec 2003 04:42:23 GMT
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I've got the homepage changing problem...it seems that every few hours IE resets itself to "www.cool-search.net"- a completely worthless search engine that has no value at all. I've tried setting it to any page I visit frequently, and it always goes right back...I even tried deleting the history list, and it still does it. What a surprise to find something very similar on that PestPatrol page.

And a few days ago I found some infected files on my C drive(very subtly named "trojan.exe" :rolleyes:)...deleted immediately, of course, but what a pain in the ass- it took my virus scanner the better part of two hours to sift through all the crap on both my HD's to find just three files(to give a little comparison, I have about 1.5 million files on both HD's combined)

Wish people would find a better way of showing off their crap than ramming it down your throat with these little forced download popups.

Subject: Advice with unwanted ads...
Posted by [Aircraftkiller](#) on Tue, 16 Dec 2003 04:50:48 GMT
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This is why you use Opera.

<http://www.opera.com>

Subject: Advice with unwanted ads...
Posted by [IRON FART](#) on Tue, 16 Dec 2003 07:24:56 GMT
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Bingo!
Problem solved.
And I'll look into Opera & Netscape also.

Thank you all!

Subject: Advice with unwanted ads...
Posted by [Planetshaun](#) on Tue, 16 Dec 2003 18:09:02 GMT
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Mate, I recommend you look http://www.pacs-portal.co.uk/startup_pages/startup_all.php , basically, it tells you what a whole range of startup programs are a result of and their functions etc.
