

We All Know Spyware Can Hurt Your Computer, But What Is Spyware?

Almost everyone that has a computer that is connected to the internet has heard the term "spyware" before. However not everyone knows what it means and it is a fairly broad term that can get confusing at times. With that in mind, we are going to cover what exactly spyware is.

Spyware refers to computer software that gets installed on your computer and goes on to cause malicious acts without your having a clue about what's going on. Spyware can initiate the following malicious activity:

- 1) Steal your personal data or personal information. Certain spyware programs will "spy" on what you are typing and all the information you have stored on your system.
- 2) Add all sorts of extra programs and add-ons to your computer which you haven't authorized. This is usually used to monitor your online activity and will cause your computer to run a lot slower than usual.
- 3) When you are online, you are redirected to certain websites that have other harmful files such as viruses or other infections.
- 4) Change computer settings to create holes in your system that will be used to attack it when required.

In short, Spyware is nothing but 'nuisanceware'!

One of the biggest complaints about spyware is how drastically it slows down your computer. Your entire system's performance is affected by it.

How exactly does your computer get infected with spyware?

It can be difficult to trace back exactly where spyware comes from, but here are some examples of how it can find its way onto your computer:

- 1) Many shareware and freeware software programs have Spyware built into them. Software such as music/video download programs are normally given away free, and sometimes they come bundled with Spyware.
- 2) A common way systems get infected is from "utility" type programs that are downloaded and come bundled with some form of spyware. There are all sorts of programs that are offered for free download on the internet - although they may serve a purpose many of them will also install spyware on your system.
- 3) There are some spyware programs that will try to mimic your operating system's messages in order to get on your computer.

As an example if you are using Microsoft windows on your computer, a message might popup that looks like it is a message from Microsoft. You innocently click on the message and the spyware gets installed.

How do you know if your computer is infected with spyware?

Most people will start to notice their computer starts to slow down and they may also get more advertisements popup when they are browsing. Spyware is famous for making computers run a little "sluggish" - this is one of the first signs that your computer is infected.

Many people notice that their computer is running slower than usual and they just assume it's a hardware issue, however spyware is often the culprit.

You have to take the right steps to kill Spyware now!

If you suspect your computer is infected by Spyware, you have to move immediately and get it removed before it causes any more damage. There is Spyware in every nook and corner of the Internet, and chances are your computer is already host to several Spyware programs unless a quality anti-Spyware program is protecting your system.

You need a solid and reliable anti-Spyware program developed by a trusted manufacturer, and you need it as soon as yesterday! Remember, only top-ranked anti-Spyware programs can effectively remove the malicious Spyware from your computer and protect it from future Spyware attacks, so don't let yourself put it off. A quality anti-spyware program will scan your computer for any existing infections, kill them off, and then protects your

system from any future infections.

About the Author

[Click Here](#) to find out how to use a free scan using the top rated spyware remover. You can also read [spyware reviews](#) to find out which program is best suited for your system.

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