

Re: Adware ?

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On Mon, 3 Mar 2008, in the Usenet newsgroup alt.computer.security, in article <13sneu8dmlvaa65@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>, Jim Hawkins wrote:

Since this morning (2nd March) I have been bombarded by popup messages claiming that my computer is infected by various malware, spyware and god knows what and wanting me to download (ie buy) some unspecified new spyware protection.

And you can't be bothered to use a search engine and look for something like 'windows popup spam'? It's a rather common problem.

Three times I have disconnected from the internet, rebooted and run scans offline with my Norton Internet Security. Each time it has found nothing. The last time, I ran LiveUpdate first, just to check that my Norton was up to date. It was.

Norton Internet Security can't protect against stuff you've enabled.

So what is this ? Some new software selling scam that Norton Internet Security can't protect against ?

No, it's an Internet service microsoft felt you would find useful, called Internet Messenger. It's been around for at least seven or eight years. It's a microsoft feature that emulates an old UNIX service that had been found to be unsafe about twenty years ago and is rarely even seen today for that reason.

Just wondering if anyone here has met this and knows what to do about it.

Web Results 1 – 10 of about 197,000 for Windows Messenger SPAM XP.
(0.14 seconds)

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Messenger Service window that contains an Internet advertisement ...
Message Text. These messages are also known as "messenger spam." Back
to the top MSN Messenger 5.0. , Microsoft Windows XP Tablet PC
Edition 2005 ...
support.microsoft.com/kb/330904

Has it installed a process I can delete ?

Do understand that there really isn't a Mal-ware Fairy that flutters
about looking for systems to wave her Magic Wand over – P00F and your
system is infected. Malware is installed by users clicking on some
icon because they don't know what it means and just want to get the
pop-up message out of the way so they can surf. Microsoft realizes
that most computer users are to st00pid to be using a digital watch
much less a computer, and enable all kinds of wonderful things that
the user might need. If this creates a security problem, that isn't
microsoft's problem, is it?

Old guy
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