

## Pop Ups giving Internet Explorer a virus

**Source:**

[http://www.derkeiler.com/Newsgroups/microsoft.public.windowsxp.security\\_admin/2004-02/4338.html](http://www.derkeiler.com/Newsgroups/microsoft.public.windowsxp.security_admin/2004-02/4338.html)

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I recently downloaded Smiley Central. Ever since there are several pop up ads that won't go away. They prevent me from using Internet Explorer now. I can't even get it to come up. One of the pop ups was selling a product to get rid of pop up ads, and they even made my Disk door open up on my computer. It said it was selling something to prevent spyware. Now when I try to open Internet Explorer, the ad is all I see. It also makes my computer freeze. What should I do? I can't open up Explorer without seeing that ad and without my computer freezing. This is bullying people to buy their product and I really resent it.

The above post appeared in December. I'm sorry but my group access only lets me respond by cut-and-paste. I can't post on the thread.

This sounds like the atoque pop-up. It is a lot like a virus. It's generated off a file in the C:\Windows\System folder. The problem is that each time you start up your browser, the file will copy itself to a new file name and erase the old one. You have to look for a recently modified application file in the format XXXXXXXX.exe with the X's randomly generated alpha-numeric characters. If you're not sure if it's the right one, make note of the file name, use your browser a few times and check to see if it's gone and a new one is there. Try renaming it first to see if it takes care of the problem. If it does, then erase it.

HTH,  
Joe Edwards