

## Re: What is difference between Spyware, Adware, Malware?

**Source:**

[http://www.derkeiler.com/Newsgroups/microsoft.public.windowsxp.security\\_admin/2004-12/1134.html](http://www.derkeiler.com/Newsgroups/microsoft.public.windowsxp.security_admin/2004-12/1134.html)

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abc wrote:

> *What is difference between Spyware, Adware, Malware?*

Different names for the same stuff. Generally speaking, it's any software you did not mean to install.

> *How is it*

> *different from virus?*

It's not a virus – viruses are self-replicating and can do many things, some minor, some involving destroying data, etc.

Malware is an annoyance, a nuisance, and worse, can stop your computer from functioning properly.

> *Are they bad?*

Yes, I'd say so. So would most people.

>

> *Does anti-virus software take care of all spyware, adware etc.?*

No.

> *if not*

> *how do i prevent them?*

Use SP2. Don't use peer to peer file sharing software. Use a good firewall. Don't log in as an administrator – use a limited user account for your daily use. Be careful where you surf. Keep your browser security settings on 'high'. Don't install software of any type that you aren't 100% sure is clean. Etc.

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> *thank you all for your time*