

Test Your PC Knowledge

A. A worm is

1. A creature that burrows in the ground [✓]
2. A parasite that feeds off your pet [✓]
3. A self replicating program that bogs down networks [✓]

>> all of the above are true - I should have said Computer Worm

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B. Spam is...

- 1 A song from the Monty Python last ever show
- 2 Processed meat popular due to its price
- 3 Unwanted emails that clog up your computer

>> all of the above are true - the term Spam originated with chat rooms in the 1980's sizable chunks of this Monty Python sketch were posted to flood out other users (also known as trashing). Spamming by use of email for commercial purposes came after 1994 (Green Card Spam Incident). It was not an acronym for Stupid Pointless Annoying Messages but that acronym does ring true.

Test Your PC Knowledge

C. Computer Viruses.

- | | |
|--|------|
| 1 Never happen on Apple Computers | [] |
| 2 Always cause damage to your PC | [] |
| 3 Spread rapidly from computer to computer | [x] |

>> *Apple computers can get viruses - just not as many, and not all viruses are harmful, but all viruses try to propagate to other computers*

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D. Spyware is...

- | | |
|---|-------|
| 1 A tuxedo and black tie | [] |
| 2 Illegal in 12 states | [x] |
| 3 Exploits your computer for financial gain | [x] |

>> The black tie is the James Bond dress code but that would be spy WEAR (anyone see the original Thunderball movie?) Spyware is currently illegal in 12 states and someone somewhere is making money from the Spyware that's on your PC

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E. A Trojan Horse is...

- 1 A myth of the Greek siege of Troy
- 2 Exercise equipment for Olympic gymnasts
- 3 Harmless looking software that contains a virus

>> *Its not gymnastic equipment but it is a seemingly harmless piece of software that carries a hidden virus rather like the Homer legend.*

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F. Phishing is...

- 1 Following a rock group from Vermont
- 2 A doctorate in angling
- 3 Fraudulent email linked to a fraudulent web-site

>> Phish were a rock group but you don't go Phishing to hear them, and I don't think if you can get a PhD in angling. Phishing is the term used for an attempt at identity theft by a misleading email with a link to a fraudulent web-site.

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G. The safest time to go on-line is

- 1 After your teenager has downloaded some music
- 2 After windows has issued a security patch
- 3 After your anti-virus software has run a live update
- 4 It's never really safe

>> *Many viruses get launched when you open downloaded music or videos. After a Microsoft security patch there are immediate exploitations by the black hat community. While it's better to get frequent updates from your anti-virus company, it is never totally safe to surf the net,*

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H. A Browser Hijack is...

- 1 Attempt at Internet identity theft
- 2 Spread by a virus or spy ware
- 3 Changes Internet navigation without your consent

>> *A Browser Hijacker is a form of spyware that replaces the existing browser start page, error page, or search page with its own. These are generally used to force hits to a particular website.*

Test Your PC Knowledge

I. Internet Firewalls are

- | | |
|--|-------|
| 1 Prevention for Dell exploding laptops | [] |
| 2 Incorporated into your wireless router | [x] |
| 3 Important but I don't know why | [] |
| 4 Able to stop viruses | [] |

>> A firewall is to stop unauthorized use of your computer. While some more expensive (stateful) firewalls do scan all traffic these are not foolproof. It is worthwhile to have a Personal Firewall on your PC over and above the firewall on your router.

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J. My computer is safe because

- 1 My anti-virus subscription is paid up
- 2 I also have one or more anti-spy ware programs
- 3 I have automated Windows (OS) updates
- 4 I have an Internet firewall
- 5 I never use KAZAA or LIMESHARE
- 6 My anti-virus program scans my emails
- 7 My anti-virus program scans my messages
- 8 I have anti-spam filtering on my email
- 9 All prevention software is always up-to-date

>> *all of the above are true - safe surfing everyone !*