Virus Removal and Protection
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What is a virus?
• Vi-rus (noun): ˈvī-rəs
  – a computer program that is usually hidden within another seemingly innocuous program and that produces copies of itself and inserts them into other programs and usually performs a malicious action


Common Virus Behaviours
• Often Mimic
  – Anti-Virus Warnings
    • Multiple virus warnings
    • False renewal messages

  – “Ransomware”
    • Pay for its removal
    • “Congratulations you have successfully removed the virus”
Impervious OS Myth

• Windows’ popularity makes ideal target
  – With great popularity, comes great responsibility
  – Over 90% market share

• Mac & Linux not so much
  – Linux – Not much to worry about
  – Mac – As it becomes more popular...

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Default OS Bundles

• All limited time trials

• Lifetime subscription no longer available with paid anti-virus software

• Sometimes multiple vendors on one computer

Centralized Solution

• Allows management through a centralized web interface

• Aggregates graphs of recent scans, viruses found, and which devices are up to date

• Two popular options:
  – Webroot
  – Symantec
**Products to Avoid**

- Norton Antivirus
  - Has had common issues of blocking/not blocking incorrect products

- Symantec Internet Security
  - Not a full blown anti-virus product

- VPG – eset Nod32

- SSSO – Webroot Secure Anywhere

- CARY – Microsoft Security Essentials

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**Solutions out in the Field**

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- SSSO – Webroot Secure Anywhere

- CARY – Microsoft Security Essentials

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**Buyer Beware**

- Get what you pay for, but may not get great product even for spending $$$

- Free = No Guarantees

- Paid solutions may not include 3rd party assistance
**Anti-Virus Installation**

- Install on all devices that access the office’s LAN
  - Laptops that go from the Home to the Office are most critical
  - Cell phones not critical devices for an anti-virus product

**Not Self-Maintaining**

- Regular Updates
  - Virus Definitions

- Scheduled Scanning
  - When people are out of office
  - Lightweight anti-virus allows any time of day scans

**Same Product Everywhere**

- Microsoft Security Essentials works well for an office of Windows computers

- If one needs updates they all do

- Easier to manage with just one product
Takeaways . . .

- They’re out there...
- Awareness
- Anti-Virus
- Updates