

ANTIBIOTICS FOR YOUR COMPUTER

Get the basics on computer viruses

PART 2

HOW DO I KNOW IF A VIRUS HAS INFECTED MY COMPUTER?

That is what we call a common question in the internet era with more people using their computers and having an internet connection. Virus's can spread through thousands of computers, because people don't know what the symptoms of a virus are. Thus, the reason the common user might not know how to remove a virus in the first place. After you open and run an infected program or attachment on your computer, you might not realize that you've introduced a virus until you notice something isn't quite right.

Here are some signs that your system might be infected:

Runs consistently more slowly than normal.
Stops responding or locks up often.
Crashes and restarts every few minutes.
Restarts without users input and then fails to run normally.
Applications don't work properly.
Disks or disk drives are inaccessible.
Printing doesn't work correctly.
You see unusual error messages.
You see distorted menus and dialog boxes.
Desktop is black or blue and icon are gone.
Invasive fake programs want you to buy its software.

These are common signs of infection, but they could also indicate hardware or software problems that have nothing to do with a virus. The bottom line is that unless you install up-to-date antivirus software on your computer, there is no way to be certain if your computer is infected with a virus or has some other problem. That's why its important to make sure you check all your options out first with help form a professional to get a true diagnostics on the problem. Some viruses could cause system failures that a casual user might not be able to fix or could cause the lost of all the data on the drives. If you don't have

current antivirus software installed, or if you're interested in installing a different brand, visit www.computer-etc.com for more information on what to download for free.

IMPORTANT NOTE ABOUT FAKE ANTIVIRUS

Reports of rogue antivirus programs have become more prevalent lately. These are programs that generate misleading alerts and false detections of malware in order to convince users to purchase the illegitimate security software. For example, programs such as **Trojan: Win32/Antivirusxp** and **Program: Win32/FakeRednefed** may display product names or logos in an apparent unlawful attempt to impersonate Microsoft products. These products may represent themselves as "Antivirus XP", "AntivirusXP 2008", "WinDefender 2008", "XP Antivirus", etc

Comment [IT1]:

Aliases

- Antivirus XP 2008 (other)
- Win32/Adware.WinFixer (ESET)
- Generic FakeAlert.a (McAfee)
- W32/WinFixer.BTB (Norman)
- Troj/FakeAV-AB (Sophos)
- AntiVirus2008 (Symantec)
- Program:Win32/Antivirusxp (other)

Comment [IT2]:

Aliases

- WinDefender 2008 (other)
- Program:Win32/Defendwin (other)
- Program:Win32/Windefender (other)