

Title:

Are computer viruses spread by the media?

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832

Summary:

Summary: Could the mass media hype about computer viruses actually make the problem worse?

If you believe what you hear in the media, there are an awful lot of viruses going around. No,

Keywords:

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Article Body:

If you believe what you hear in the media, there are an awful lot of viruses going around. No,

What the mainstream media often don't tell you--at least, in most radio and television newscas

What Computer Viruses Really Are

The main reason the mainstream media always are in alarm over viruses is that they tend to cal

So, what's the difference between computer viruses and the other types of malware? The differ

The Real Danger of Computer Viruses

If the other types of malware are so unobtrusive that they can only be detected with a special

Worms are most famously used to damage, destroy, or disrupt other computer networks than the o

Trojans, in turn, are often used to insert worms and other malware on your computer, even if t

But even if you don't care what happens to anyone else, you should still be concerned about on

Most spyware is only interested in monitoring your internet usage so it can tell other program

Why Blame the Media?

Given the danger of all these different types of malware, isn't it a good thing that the mass

No, no, no.

This is a classic case of bad reporting doing more damage than no reporting at all. In this ca

Thanks to this myth, many people complacently let their antivirus software go months out of da

In fact, it's not uncommon for people who have found malware on their computers after a scan t

Until the biggest mainstream media--and especially television--start educating the public abou

And until that day, the mainstream media will have many more opportunities to run hysterical s

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