

Malware

Short for "Malicious Software," malware refers to software programs designed to damage or do other unwanted actions on or to a computer system. Common examples of malware include viruses, worms, trojan horses, and spyware.

Viruses, for example, can wreak havoc on a computer's hard drive by deleting files or directory information and affect performance. Spyware can gather data from a user's system without the user knowing. This can include anything from the web pages a user visits to personal information, such as credit card numbers.

Consumers can combat malicious software by installing anti-virus and anti-spyware programs that will seek out and destroy the malicious programs found on your computer. Anti-virus/anti-spyware programs can be purchased wherever computer products are sold. Some are even available for free through your internet or cable company. Call and see if yours offers this vital service.

For more information on malware visit <http://www.malwarehelp.org/know-about-malware.html>.