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These are articles and tips I have written about the subject of viruses and hackers.
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A Quick Computer Virus Fix

For those of you that think they have a virus because your computer is running slow or you have all those annoying pop-ups, you may be able to relieve a lot of your problems yourself. The steps listed below are primarily for Windows XP, and will not get rid of a lot of the Virus's out today.

It will help with most Malware and some Trojans. I still recommend having good internet security software, but at least this may help with some of your issues.

If you are uncomfortable with the steps in this article, do not attempt them. Some of the steps I list below can be a bit tricky if you're new to computers or Windows.

The easiest way to get rid of a lot of malware is to download [Ad-Aware](#) from Lava soft. If you do are not able to download this file because you can't connect to the internet, or if you just don't want to then do the following.

1. Right click on your start button and go to explore. Once Windows Explorer opens, click on Folder Options. You want to make sure "Hidden Files" are shown. Once you have done this, you will see a list of files on the left side of your screen. You want to find your folder. What I mean by that is, you want to find the folder that is your log in name for your computer. So when you turn your computer on, the screen name says John Doe, you want to find John Doe and open that folder. Once you do that, you want to look for a sub-folder called "local settings", and then open that. Now look for the TEMP file. Delete everything in the temp file. Some malware will not allow you to delete the file, you may get an error that says unable to delete, fill in use. If that happens, just continue deleting the others and we will come back to that later. After this is done, make a note of the names of the files you was unable to delete.
2. Open Internet explorer and click on Tools tab, then go to internet options. Once you open this you should see a tab named "View Objects", open that and delete items that shouldn't be there. How do you know if it should be there or not? Most legitimate items will show you where they are from, like Yahoo, or MSN. If there is an object that is just a bunch of numbers or something you do not recognize, delete it. If it something you need, you can always put it back. After you do that, then back out of there, and get back to the Tools Tab. Next click on the tab that says Manage Add-On. When you look at the items in there, again you should allow the ones you know and disable the ones that you do not. Once you have done this step, you can close Internet Explorer. If you had files that wouldn't delete in step one, proceed to step 3, if you were able to delete everything you should be done.

3. If you have files that didn't delete in the temp folder follow these steps to get rid of them. If your screen name has a password, you must go into user settings and delete the password. Restart your computer, and when it is starting up tap the F5 key. You want to start your computer in Safe Mode as the Administrator. Once windows has booted, again right click on your start button and get to Local Settings like you did in Step 1. Again, look in the Temp File and attempt to delete everything left. You shouldn't have any issues while in safe mode. If your some reason you cannot delete something, you must make a note of the file or program name. And continue to step 4.

4. Hit Control-Alt-Del at the same time and start task manager. Click on the Process's tab. See if you can find any reference to the file that will not delete. If you locate it, highlight it and right click. You should see an option to "End Process"; this should shut that program down, and allow you to delete it out of the temp folder. If you're still not able to delete it, I think it is time for you to break down and buy that Internet Security software I was talking about. There is one other way to attempt to delete this, but it is difficult. However, if you are up for the challenge, email me and I will describe the process. As always, if you have questions feel free to email me.

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