Hoaxes

Virus Hoaxes: Not Just Harmless Pranks

There are a lot of viruses out there. But some aren't really out there at all. Virus hoaxes are more than mere annoyances, as they may lead some users to routinely ignore all virus warning messages, leaving them vulnerable to a genuine, destructive virus. Next time you receive an urgent virus warning message, be sure to check the list of known virus hoaxes below.

Virus writers can use known hoaxes to their advantage. For example, AOL4FREE began as a hoax virus warning. Then somebody distributed a destructive Trojan horse attached to the original hoax virus warning! The lesson is clear: remain vigilant and never open a suspicious attachment.

Don't let your guard down!

Remember: Never open an email attachment unless you know what it is - even if it comes from someone you know and trust.

Check out the following links for known Internet hoaxes, email rumors and urban legends:

1) Urban Legends
2) Symantec AV Center
3) McAfee
4) VMyths
5) Hoax Busters
6) Snopes
7) F-Secure