

Top Five IT Threats



1. **Ransomware:**

This is a very malicious kind of software that will encrypts/locks all your files, pictures, music, documents etc. even you backup files will be affected if your backup device is attached to your PC. It will then demand money in order to unlock your system. This type of attack is very difficult if not impossible to undo even for expert techies and in many cases only the people who infected your system can reverse the damage; still you should not pay them any money as in many cases they will simply take your money and leave the system corrupted besides the fact that paying them simply encourages other attacks.

2. **Spyware:**

As the name implies this type of software quietly collects information on you, your system and anything in your computer that it might find useful, to later sell these data to SPAMER's, Pop-up ads etc. It might not disable your PC completely but it will usually slow it down to a crawl.

3. **Viruses:**

Previously mostly created by hackers, viruses could affect your computer in ways only limited to the hackers imagination and ability. Most recently this type of software has morphed into an organized and commercial enterprise with more sophistication called "malware" and it is more difficult to eliminate.

4. **SPAM:**

Unwanted junk email is one of the most common annoyances and time consuming issues for the average computer user. Most email client applications have some type of filtering available for you to enable. In addition there are several antivirus programs that will reduce your email junk but might cost you extra to activate.

5. **Malicious Websites:**

In spite of the best efforts by the tech world, all it might take for your computer to be infected is visiting a malicious website. Even computers with active antivirus protection can be affected. In most cases they will simply hijack your browser's search engine (Google, Bing, Yahoo) and replace it with a look-alike page that directs you to their client's pages. See our tips on viruses to reduce your chances of being infected.