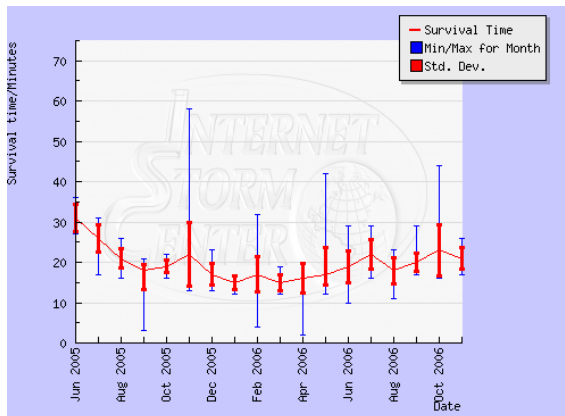


Home PC Survival Time

The SANS Institute's Internet Storm Centre has been tracking the vulnerability and rate of exploit of computer systems since 2001. An interesting statistic they track is how long a new, just installed, operating system will survive connected to the Internet before it is infected with a virus, Internet worm or other malevolent attack. The current survival rate stands at **26 minutes**.

It is vitally important that one takes as many precautionary steps as possible. As a start one should have a router with NAT attaching them to the Internet. Secondly, a PC firewall, as comes with Windows XP as standard, must be activated. Beyond that it is critical that anti-virus be installed as many viruses come in by accident through the visit of rogue websites or the opening of infected email.

This brochure looks at how you can install free software to protect against viruses and spyware.

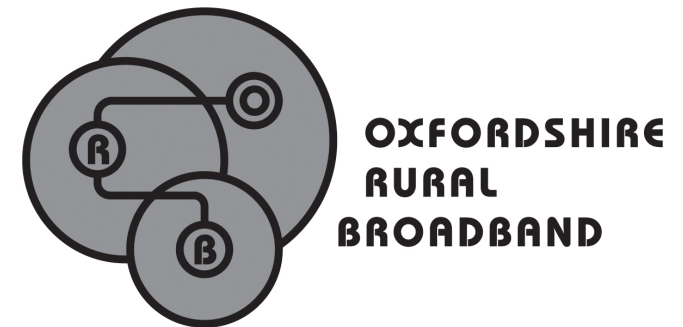


Oxfordshire Rural Broadband

Serving the West Oxfordshire area
<http://www.oxonrb.net/>

Phone: 0845 456 4782
 Fax: 01295 731 912

Free Anti-Virus and Anti-Spyware Software



Broadband - by the community, for the community

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Free Anti-Virus and Anti-Spyware Software

The protection of your PC does not have to be expensive. If you are using your PC for recreational purposes at home there are a number of solutions that you can install without charge.

This brochure will discuss some of the more popular options. This is by no means an exhaustive list and there may be other solution not mentioned but is an excellent place to start.

Before you install any of these please read the fine print on conditions of use. They vary greatly!

Unless otherwise noted these are all Microsoft Windows™ products.

Anti Virus

You can only install and run one A/V solution at a time. Be careful to fully remove any old A/V you have or your system can become unstable.

avast! 4 Home Edition

<http://www.avast.com/>

Can only be used by home users that do NOT use their computer for profit. 1 year license.

Avira AntiVir PersonalEdition Classic

<http://www.free-av.com/>

Free for personal use. Also available for Linux.

AOL Active Virus Shield

<http://www.activevirusshield.com/>

Free to everyone. Powered by Kaspersky Lab.

ClamWin Free Anti-Virus

<http://www.clamwin.com/>

Free for everyone. This is a scan on demand solution at present so requires more user awareness.

ClamXav Free Anti-Virus

<http://www.clamxav.com/>

Anti Virus for Mac OS X. Free for everyone. Based on Clam AV engine for Linux.

Grisoft AVG Anti-Virus

<http://free.grisoft.com/>

Free for private, non-commercial, single home computer use only.

Norton AntiVirus 2005 Special Edition

<http://pack.google.com/>

Only 6 month license. Some protection levels removed compared to full version.

Anti Spyware

It is common practice to download and install several of these packages as they do not capture everything individually. The most popular pairing are Ad-Aware and Spybot S&D. Experiment with these to see which you are most comfortable with.

Ad-Aware SE Personal

<http://lavasoft.element5.com/>

Free version of commercial product. Extra features in

various for-fee version.

Spybot S&D

<http://www.safer-networking.org/>

Spybot is completely free and built by the efforts of basically one person. Contributions solicited to keep efforts ongoing.

Grisoft AVG Anti-Spyware

<http://free.grisoft.com/>

Free for private, non-commercial, single home computer use only.

HijackThis

<http://www.spywareinfo.com/~merijn/>

A tool to inspect and clean your web browser if it gets infected despite your best efforts.

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