

## **BTT10: Virus Safety Toolkits**

### **Introduction:**

Among the most popular feats of a computer is a process called desktop publishing, which is the process of creating high quality documents, usually flyers or newsletters using a computer. There are many programs available for desktop publishing. An example would be Microsoft Word but the key focus of Word is word processing not desktop publishing. Instead, for this project, you will be using a program called Microsoft Publisher.

The purpose of this assignment is two-fold. You will be learning about Internet safety and about desktop publishing simultaneously. However, this begs the question “what is internet safety?”

The Internet is largely a place of anonymity, which means that people are not always what they seem to be. There are many people on the Internet who seek to steal your personal information and use it to their own ends while other seek to damage those who may not be technologically savvy enough to defend themselves. After all, some men just want to watch the world burn.

### **Your Assignment:**

Begin by researching Internet safety and computer viruses. You will be creating a four-page newsletter-esque document called the “Virus Safety Toolkit”. On the first page, you should answer the following:

1. What is a computer virus?
2. What can a virus do to a computer? Explain.
3. How do viruses spread?
4. Why should I care about computer viruses?
5. What precautions should you take when you open an email?
6. What is a Trojan horse?
7. What is a worm?
8. What does virus protection software do?
9. Find the names of two virus protection programs or anti-virus programs and compare them in terms of reliability.

Page two should contain at least four tips about how to protect your computer against viruses. Research these tips. Throughout your project, be sure to use graphics and background colours. One of the key features of desktop publishing software is the ease of customization.

Page three should contain specific details about a virus of your choosing. For your virus, answer the following.

1. You need to include a brief explanation/definition of the virus, who created it, when it was discovered and any other information you can find out about it.
2. How common is this virus (how many infections)?
3. What type of virus is it (Trojan horse, worm, joke program, etc.)?
4. How do you get the virus (how is your computer infected?)
5. Make a list of the damage the virus does (payload). If you don't know the meaning of some of these terms, research the meaning, and explain in your own words.

Here is a site with many definitions:

[http://www.symantec.com/security\\_response/glossary/](http://www.symantec.com/security_response/glossary/)

On the fourth page, create a "For more information" section with links to three sites that you feel have high quality information about viruses or virus protection. Include the sites address and a brief description of the site. This assignment was written in Cambria, which is a serif font.



**Aww, viruses are cute! Wait! These are bacteria!**