
Subject: Virus Warning (Karma Sutra) and some basic tips

Posted by [JRPereira](#) on Thu, 02 Feb 2006 19:30:43 GMT

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I've written up a post on my site warning about Karma Sutra and viruses in general. It has a lot of tips for keeping safe. Check it out at the link below:

<http://www.justinpereira.com/2006/02/02/virus-warning-karma-sutra/>

Don't let yourself get infected

Subject: Re: Virus Warning (Karma Sutra) and some basic tips

Posted by [Aircraftkiller](#) on Thu, 02 Feb 2006 19:32:43 GMT

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Why couldn't you just write that here instead of whoring your site constantly?

Subject: Re: Virus Warning (Karma Sutra) and some basic tips

Posted by [JRPereira](#) on Thu, 02 Feb 2006 20:21:06 GMT

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I've posted it on my site so I don't have to update several copies at once.

I'm probably going to place a basic antivirus and anti-spyware/anti-adware page on my site based on the newspost later on.

Here's an idea: How about you contribute your own safety advice or something else that would be relevant to this thread? That way, there's even more advice available to people who want to keep their computers safe. Positive replies to posts like these will only serve to keep everyone informed.

Subject: Re: Virus Warning (Karma Sutra) and some basic tips

Posted by [Lijitsu](#) on Thu, 02 Feb 2006 20:52:50 GMT

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JRPereira wrote on Thu, 02 February 2006 15:21 Here's an idea: How about you contribute your own safety advice or something else that would be relevant to this thread?
...Do you not know who AircraftKiller is, or something?

But, to stay on topic, Get Avast! Anti-Virus.

Subject: Re: Virus Warning (Karma Sutra) and some basic tips

Posted by [DreamWraith](#) on Thu, 02 Feb 2006 21:59:38 GMT

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I prefer Nod32 AV, but lets not get into what AV is better.

Thanks for the article Justin!

As always everyone, the first step with anything to being protected is to think before you click yes, or open attachments.

Subject: Re: Virus Warning (Karma Sutra) and some basic tips

Posted by [Aircraftkiller](#) on Fri, 03 Feb 2006 04:31:35 GMT

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Quote:Here are some tips for keeping safe:

Abandon internet explorer. Use firefox instead.

Abandon all forms of outlook. Use thunderbird instead.

Use antivirus software - see below

<http://blogs.zdnet.com/Ou/index.php?p=103>

Quote:[Updated: 9/16/2005 7:22PM] Now that Firefox has become the first viable contender to Microsoft Internet Explorer in years, its popularity has brought with it some unwanted attention. Last week's premature disclosure of a zero-day Firefox exploit came a few weeks after a zero-day exploit for Internet Explorer appeared on the Internet. Firefox not only has more vulnerabilities per month than Internet Explorer, but it is now surpassing Internet Explorer for the number of exploits available for public download in recent months.

http://www.theregister.co.uk/2005/05/13/firefox_loses_shine/

Quote:In the latest incident, a 16-year-old security researcher - who asked only to be identified by his first name, Paul - found three vulnerabilities in the Firefox browser that together could be exploited to run arbitrary code. The incident is the latest black eye for the open-source software project's security image. While vulnerability researchers frequently flogged Microsoft for the number of security holes found in its Internet Explorer browser, now flaw finders are pinpointing more security holes in Firefox and, in many cases, using the same techniques.

Subject: Re: Virus Warning (Karma Sutra) and some basic tips

Posted by [DreamWraith](#) on Fri, 03 Feb 2006 05:24:08 GMT

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Aircraftkiller wrote on Thu, 02 February 2006 22:31

<http://blogs.zdnet.com/Ou/index.php?p=103>

Although the blog may contain fact, when attempting at a debate, it is usually not best to use them as a frame of reference. Blogs are notorious for opinions.

Aircraftkiller wrote on Thu, 02 February 2006 22:31

http://www.theregister.co.uk/2005/05/13/firefox_loses_shine/

Be forewarned. What is to follow is ridden with opinion. Opinion that may be based on past experience and observations, but opinion nonetheless. You are certainly entitled to your opinions. Security problems in Firefox might seem a bigger deal, but there are some differences.

First, Firefox is new, and big in the "geek" community. Thus, even the smallest stuff gets big exposure.

You heard about the WMF exploit for IE I am sure. Well, there were countless security updates PRIOR to that, that were not in the news to such fanfare, because, they were typical small range holes.

Furthermore, when bugs or exploits are brought to light for Firefox, they are rapidly patched. One security hole in the 1.0.x series was patches the day after mozilla received notification.

Typically an IE patch takes anywhere from one to two months. Why? Because they (the WMF being the one exception), only release patches on "patch Tuesday".

With that out of the way, allow me to address your all but certain response. "Opera is superior".

I agree. For the time being, opera is more secure and more accurate at rendering proper CSS than the other browsers. However, for an enthusiast, or someone who wants to be able to add and/or take away from their browser, Opera doesn't really deliver. It does have somewhat effective pop-up blocking, but there is nothing along the lines of Adblock for Firefox.

Given time, and increased usage now that it is free, I am fairly certain Opera would garner just as much good and bad press as Firefox. Once a browser, or ANY software for that matter starts hitting the semi-mainstream, it is open to a far wider range of eyes.

When people start using something en masse is when the baddies start going after it.

In any case, if you are to argue that FireFox is no more secure than IE, I would have to disagree. As I said above, Opera may have some highlights that exceed Firefox at the current time, but this does not render Firefox less that of IE.

Subject: Re: Virus Warning (Karma Sutra) and some basic tips

Posted by [JRPereira](#) on Fri, 03 Feb 2006 05:43:27 GMT

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I've updated the post to include opera, Nod32, fescure, and other programs in the list of suggestions and alternatives. It's by no means going to be a comprehensive list, but people have to stop using the current most vulnerable (or at least most-targetted) software for email and web browsing (outlook and IE) and people need to start using ANY antivirus solution as opposed to none (this should go for anti-malware applications as well).

Subject: Re: Virus Warning (Karma Sutra) and some basic tips

Posted by [Titan1x77](#) on Fri, 03 Feb 2006 16:44:15 GMT

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thanks for the warning and also thanks for helping me remove that starforce driver, my dvd drive seemsto be working just fine now

Subject: Re: Virus Warning (Karma Sutra) and some basic tips

Posted by [Doitle](#) on Fri, 03 Feb 2006 18:16:20 GMT

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I like how your solution is to run from the problem. "The water pump in my Corolla went out. Does anyone know how to fix it?" "Here's how you fix it. You get a Ford." I'm surprised you didn't suggest we change OS too, or just stop using computers alltogether! I am not really trying to be harsh but that's the way things are. People aren't going to stop using IE because you tell them to. Every browser has exploits. Every OS has exploits. It just takes someone smart to find it.

Some of your other tips are good though about keeping everything updated. Virus Scanner is a good one. I personally reccomend F-Protect. Atleast that's what I use. Also seems like the F-Secure guys are always the first ones to find these worms and exploits.

Subject: Re: Virus Warning (Karma Sutra) and some basic tips

Posted by [Aprime](#) on Sat, 04 Feb 2006 00:36:57 GMT

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DreamWraith wrote on Fri, 03 February 2006 00:24

You heard about the WMF exploit for IE I am sure. Well, there were countless security updates PRIOR to that, that were not in the news to such fanfare, because, they were typical small range holes.

The exploit affects/affected Firefox aswell.

Subject: Re: Virus Warning (Karma Sutra) and some basic tips

Posted by [DreamWraith](#) on Sun, 05 Feb 2006 01:37:47 GMT

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Comrade wrote on Fri, 03 February 2006 18:36DreamWraith wrote on Fri, 03 February 2006 00:24

You heard about the WMF exploit for IE I am sure. Well, there were countless security updates PRIOR to that, that were not in the news to such fanfare, because, they were typical small range holes.

The exploit affects/affected Firefox aswell.

I stand corrected. It was a system level exploit in windows. Even opera was affected.

Subject: Re: Virus Warning (Karma Sutra) and some basic tips

Posted by [light](#) on Sun, 05 Feb 2006 08:03:21 GMT

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Saw this a while back on the F-Secure blog. (Kama Sutra, not Karma?)

(The WMF vulnerability was for any image at all, the browser was just the easiest way for you to load an image)

Firefox vs IE I don't care, what I DO know is that Firefox is a lot more willing to say "this is a vulnerability" than Microsoft is about IE.

This one is basic common sense. Don't open dodgy emails.

Subject: Re: Virus Warning (Karma Sutra) and some basic tips

Posted by [JPNOD](#) on Sun, 05 Feb 2006 13:26:40 GMT

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I read on a site that some people already knew about the WMF exploit in december 2005 they got payed big time by hackers and stuff. Just don't go to strange sites, and run a decent firewall and avg. Nothing is 100% foolproof.
