

Computer Bits by Mark Eggert of Raad One Network Solutions, Inc.

Welcome to Computer Bits, a series of articles on computers and network information. Here are the rest of top ten security issues with your computer. Again, I found them in an article by Neil Rubenking in the April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2007 issue of PC Magazine.

We'll cover them in the stylish reverse order. Here are the second five:

5. **Adware** – Simple adware pops up ads that get in your face. More sinister adware shadows your activity, phones home, and tailors ads for you. Up-to-date antispyware is the solution.
4. **Viruses** – Viruses are insidious. They hide and use your computer to infect other computers. At some predefined point they strike. Modern anti-virus programs are quite good, but add a good non-signature anti-malware program to help with brand-new threats.
3. **Spyware/Trojans** – Spyware spies on everything you do and steals private information. Trojan horse programs pretend to be useful but can turn your computer into a spam-spewing zombie. Antispyware plus non-signature anti-malware should keep out these threats.
2. **Identity Theft** – It's not just about your computer when they use your credit cards, divert your paycheck, and change your vehicle registration. A full-powered security suite should block all computer-related avenues for identity theft.
1. **Social Engineering** – The number one threat to your computer's security is – **you!** Use common sense. Don't take programs from strangers, don't go to "iffy" Web sites, and if your security software pops up a warning, READ IT before you click.

If you would like more information on security suites or help in picking the right one for your computer(s), please contact me. There are a number of choices out there and depending on your situation one or more of them will be a good fit.

If you have a computer or network question you'd like answered and you think others would like to know the answer too, please forward them to me. My email address is meggert@wi.rr.com, my phone number is 262-679-7704 and my fax number is 262-679-7664.