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Hooked on Java?

Java software that is, not your morning cup of Joe. Oracle's popular computer language is being exploited by hackers, and now even the U.S. Department of Homeland Security is advising users to disable Java in their Internet browsers.

That's a pretty drastic step considering that it could impact hundreds of millions of computers, but the bug allows hackers to perform serious identity theft and infect previously safe websites.

"The weekly – sometimes daily – security scares that occur with the Java programming language are starting to remind me of the old whack-a-mole arcade game" says radio tech show host Kim Komando. "Researchers or hackers discover a major flaw in Java. Oracle (Java's developer) whacks it with a patch. Another mole pops up, and Oracle whacks it with another patch. Many experts say Oracle is losing this game."

First developed by Sun Microsystems back in 1995, Java became ubiquitous almost overnight because it allowed programmers to write one program and use it on Windows, Apple OS X and other operating systems.

Today, Java is pre-installed on most new systems. It is estimated that Java is running on 850 million computers around the world, so it's no wonder that Java is a major target for hackers. It doesn't help that users frequently don't know it's installed, and often run outdated versions.

When a vulnerable version of Java is active in a Web browser, visiting a compromised website is all it takes for crooks to sneak malware on to your computer. In most cases you don't have to click on anything, and you won't even know the site is compromised until it's too late.

Java's security holes woke up Apple users last year when more than 600,000 Macs became infected with the Flashback malware that targeted Java.

Many companies run business software that requires Java.

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OCS celebrates 31 years

Olson Computer Services was started in a spare bedroom office in early 1982, marking 2013 as our 31st year in continuous operation.

The personal computer industry in 1982 was barely in its infancy. The IBM-PC had just been introduced, and the DOS operating system was still a newcomer compared to the more established CP/M and others. Neither Windows nor the Macintosh had even been imagined, much less public use of the Internet.

Much has changed in the many years since then. We are thankful for our success, and we are grateful for our many loyal customers … we wouldn't be here without you.

Hooked on Java?
Continued from Page One

For them, it is critical to stay on top of updates and enable Java only when necessary in applications known to be safe, or use the new option in the Java Control Panel to disable Java in browsers while keeping it available for standalone applications.
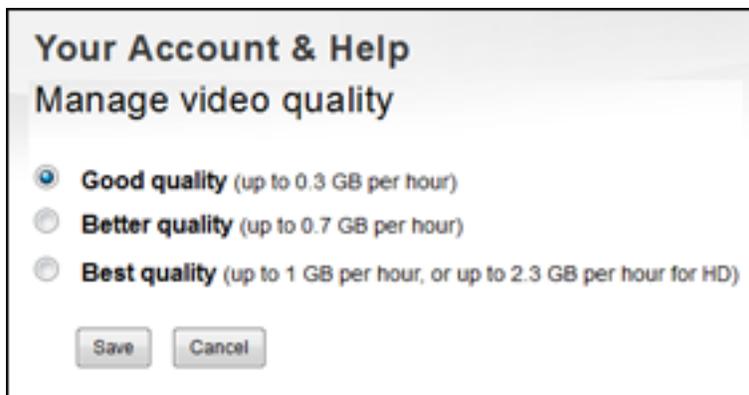
For home users, Java is used for interactive Web content and in many online games. The best security here is to stop using Java entirely and uninstall it on your computer. Otherwise, follow the same advice as that for companies in the previous paragraph.

Java hacks tend to fall within the category known as "zero-day exploits," meaning they can emerge so quickly that anti-virus software may not always be aware of them or be able to defeat them. OCS OfficeScan (powered by Trend Micro) blocks all known Java exploits, but it and others (like Symantec and McAfee) could be a day or more behind with updates that recognize new variants.

Once you've decided how your circumstances relate to the use of Java on your computer and how you wish to deal with the problem, feel free to call our office if you need help with implementing any changes on your computer.

How to reduce Netflix bandwidth usage

Did you know that you can change the video quality setting in your Netflix account and dramatically reduce the amount of bandwidth you're using? The default setting is "Best quality," which consumes the greatest amount of bandwidth and significantly reduces the number of movies you can watch before running into monthly bandwidth limits. By changing this setting to "Good" (*in My Account at Netflix.com*) you can watch **three times more movies** without hitting limits, reduce buffering, and chances are you'll hardly notice any difference in viewing quality … give it a try!

Your Account & Help
Manage video quality

◉ **Good quality** (up to 0.3 GB per hour)
○ **Better quality** (up to 0.7 GB per hour)
○ **Best quality** (up to 1 GB per hour, or up to 2.3 GB per hour for HD)

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Tired of satellite or Clearwire? You're not alone … many of our new OCS accounts are customers switching from satellite, DSL, Clear[wire] and other providers. Tell your friends and receive a referral credit for up to a month's free service.

Fan Mail

"We're new customers and we love your service! Thank you!" -CP

"The customer service at AT&T just doesn't compare to the stellar job that you folks do. Thank you again!" -JE-B

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Wireless Plan Types	Average Speeds			Monthly Usage [1]	Mailboxes	One-Time Fees		Monthly Service [3]
	Min	Typ	Max			Installation	Equipment Deposit [2]	
RESIDENTIAL						*All Plans*		
Basic	125K	500K	750K	12GB	5	100.00	100.00	49.95
Premium	250K	1M	1.5M	20GB	5			79.95
BUSINESS								
Business	375K	1.5M	2M	30GB	10			129.95
Professional	500K	2M	3M	35GB	25			159.95
Corporate	750K	3M	4M	45GB	30			199.95
Enterprise	1M	4M	5M	60GB	40			249.95
MOUNTAINS								
Alpine, Pierpoint, Camp Nelson	125K	375K	750K	8GB	5			69.95

1. Monthly usage is the allowed bandwidth per month. Surcharges apply for excess usage.
2. Equipment deposit is fully refundable upon termination of service after one year.
3. For areas served by Blue Ridge tower, add $10 monthly rural service fee.

I Didn't Know That!

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- eCommerce solutions
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On the road? Call our toll-free support at 888-OACYSCOM