

Ground rules for this talk

- Don't make any changes to a department machine without first talking with your local tech support
- I use IE 8
 - will cover IE, Firefox, and Safari
 - Talk based on latest version
 - I used Safari on the Mac
 - Firefox and IE on Windows

Some stats

- During July, 2009 NSS Labs performed the second test of web browser protection against socially engineered malware - the most common and impactful security threat facing Internet users today.
 - **Internet Explorer 8 caught 81%** of the live threats, an exceptional score which surpassed the next best browser (Firefox 3) by a 54% margin. Windows Internet Explorer 8 improved 12% between Q1 and Q2 tests, evidence of concerted efforts Microsoft is making in the SmartScreen technology.
 - **Firefox 3 caught 27%** of live threats, far fewer than Internet Explorer 8. It was, however, the best among products utilizing the Google SafeBrowsing API. (Note: Firefox 3.5 was not stable enough to be tested during the course of this test. A patch has subsequently become available to address the stability issue. We were able to manually verify that the protection was identical between versions 3.0.11 and 3.5).
 - **Safari 4 caught 21%** of live threats. Overall protection varied greatly, with two short periods of severe dips.
 - **Chrome 2 caught just 7%** of live threats an 8% drop from the previous test.
 - **Opera 10 Beta caught a mere 1%** of live threats, providing virtually no protection against socially engineered malware. In our test bed validation, we verified there was effectively no difference between Opera 9 and Opera 10 Beta.

Definitions

- Malware
 - Malicious software
- Scareware
 - Using intimidation to get you to install malware
- Spyware
 - Malware typically related to browsing
- Phish
 - Messages, possibly with forged links, trying to obtain information

Pop-up Blocker

- IE
 - Tools/Pop-up Blocker
- Firefox
 - Tools/Options/Content
 - Block pop-up windows
 - Consider the Adblock Plus plugin
- Safari
 - Preferences/Security
 - Block pop-up Windows
- Note – Pop-up blockers are also often in toolbars and security suites

Private Browsing

- IE
 - Tools/Start InPrivate Browsing
- Firefox
 - Tools/Start Private Browsing
- Safari
 - Private Browsing

Clear Cache etc.

- IE
 - Tools/Delete Browsing History
- Firefox
 - Tools/Clear Recent History
- Safari
 - Empty Cache
 - Preferences/Security
 - Show cookies
 - Click to remove cookies

IE - Other Settings

- Tools/Internet Options
 - Content/AutoComplete/Settings
 - User names and passwords on forms
 - Security
 - Consider this scenario
 - Move internet security zone to high
 - Use trusted sites zone for needed sites

Firefox - Other Settings

- Remove the check to disable
 - Tools/Options/Content
 - Enable JavaScript
 - Enable Java
 - Tools/Options/Security
 - Remember passwords for sites
 - Clear those you have saved
- Consider using the “No Script” plugin
 - Tools/Add-ons
 - Get Add-ons
 - Place “no script” in the search box
 - » 3.6 should check plugin versions

Safari - Other Settings

- Remove the check to disable
 - Preferences/Security
 - Enable plug-ins
 - Enable java
 - Enable javascript
 - Preferences/Autofill
 - User names & passwords
 - Clear those you have saved
- Preferences/Adblock
 - Click enable to turn on

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Questions?

