

“Antivir Solution Platinum” Scam

Attention Internet Users,

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Amid the vast number of computer scams in existence today, there is a particularly alarming one currently in circulation. While browsing websites, users often encounter pop-up messages telling them they have viruses on their computer that need to be disinfected. Without fully understanding where these hyperlinks lead, many users click on these pop-ups, only to later find out that they unknowingly installed malicious software onto their computer.

The latest version of this scam installs a program known as **Antivir Solution Platinum/Pro** onto the user's computer and then performs a fake scan that informs the user that they have a virus, worm, or some other form of malware. After identifying the fake infection, Antivir Solution then informs the user that the only way to remove the malicious software is by purchasing and installing its full version upgrade.

This is where users fall into another trap. Wanting to rid their computer of the infection, the user agrees to purchase the full version of the software and enters his or her credit card information into the Antivir Solution upgrade form. When they click “purchase,” their credit card account information is transmitted to an overseas company that proceeds to empty out their bank account or use their credit card to make unauthorized purchases.

To protect yourself from scams and computer viruses, always ensure that you are running a trusted anti-virus program. If you ever see a suspicious pop-up informing you that your computer is infected, do not attempt to close it (clicking anywhere, even on the “X”, will download the malicious software). Instead, press “Ctrl + Alt + Delete” and close down your Internet browser from the task manager. Additionally, never click on Internet browser pop-up windows unless you fully trust the source and know where the pop-up came from. If you have any questions regarding Internet safety, viruses, and scams, please do not hesitate to contact us.