

There are so many spammers, and so many techniques for sending spam, that any effort to combat it must be a multipronged approach, according to the head of a software company that makes an antispam tool. Enabling content filters on e-mail programs is helpful but there is always a risk of automatically deleting legitimate messages, known widely as "false positives".

The following is a list of actions that should be considered:

- 1. Do not open unsolicited attachments
- 2. Never hit the "remove" link in an e-mail message
- 3. Run Anti Spy, Adware programs such as "Adware" & Spybot a few times a year
- 4. Create "disposable e-mails accounts" when corresponding with companies they are unsure about
- 5. Install Anti-Spam programs
- 6. IT managers can thwart automatic e-mail "harvesters" by obscuring e-mail addresses in "human-readable" or "HTML-obscured" form
- 7. Whenever possible inform you ISP, email manager about spam sending sources
- 8. Activate filtering features on your browser (Netscape Navigator 7) or above, Outlook Express, Outlook and Hotmail
- 9. Be conservative when installing "free" applications
- 10. Be conservative when subscribing to news, information or any type of free email updates

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