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Penrith Valley Seniors Centre
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Visit the clubs' web page for training courses, www.users.on.net/pvscc/training.htm
Visit the clubs' web site, www.users.on.net/~pvscc/index.html

Weekly Schedule for Computer Courses

Mondays: 9.30am to 11am Beginners & Do your own thing. Tutor: Zillah Warner 11.00 am to 12.30 pm Making a 'Scrapbook' using software., Tutor: Zillah Warner	Tuesdays: 9.30am to 11am Beginners & Do your own thing Tutor Bert Foster Windows Live Movie Maker. 11.30am- 1.30pm Tutor Bryan Blake
Wednesdays: 9.30am to 11am Using the Software (Gimp) Tutor Tom Lehane.	Thursdays: 9.30am to 11am Card Making, Beginners and Do your own thing. Tutors Clare Dixon & Zillah Warner.
Fridays: 9.30am to 11am Memories to TV. Tutors John Windle, Norm Cobban: Beginners & Do your own thing. Tutor Alan Lees	Fridays: Tutor Jim Tiberi Class time 11.00 am to 12.30 pm Using Microsoft Office suite



Is it possible to get a virus or malware from Youtube?

Is there a danger of downloading a virus or malware when viewing Youtube videos online? YouTube is a very safe website run by Google. Google actually scan all videos before listed for viewing. The only way you could obtain a virus is going to the videos user account and visiting their personal web site, which has no connection to Youtube.



Wonderful USB drive

USB flash drives became commercially available in 2000 and quickly replaced the floppy drive. Small but have the ability to store large amounts of data. The technology spread to digital photography music players and video. Viruses and malware programmers found a new way to spread their malicious software

Jump aboard a USB drive. We plug these devices into our club computers to transfer tutorial exercises and also in friends and work place computers.

Note: Our club computers have anti-virus USB software installed, so your safe there.

So be aware that plugging these cards, USBs, etc into "foreign" computers is always risky. There is portable anti-virus software available for USB drives but I feel they are limited to there inability to upload up-dates to there USB data base especially when loaded on to a foreign computer that may not be connected to the internet.

So what is the easiest solution to protect your USB drive?

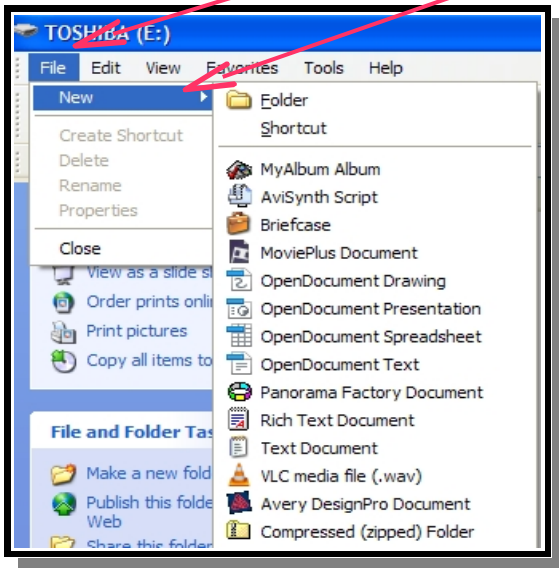
USB malware and virus need to become active on the flash drive so they can execute the virus. To do that they load an 'autorun.inf' folder with the virus software on to your flash drive. When you plug the USB drive in to another computer, Windows opens that folder and follows the instructions to Autorun which then infects the current computer.

The easiest way to stop this from happening is to create an **autorun.inf** folder on your USB drive and make it a '**Hidden and Archive**' only file this makes it an untouchable 'autorun.inf' file on your usb device, that viruses can't modify it to spread their infection.

How do you create this archive file on your USB drive?

First plug in your USB drive. Go to 'My Computer' and open the files. Click the USB drive to open the files and folders.

In the Explorer window click 'File' then 'New'.



Name the folder `autorun.inf` (all lowercase) and press [Enter].



This way any infected machines USB virus will not be able to create or replace any `autorun.inf` file on your USB stick thus offering you protection.

While it doesn't protect against every possible way a USB device could be infected, it certainly prevents one of the most common viruses and malware installers to fail.

Microsoft has removed `autorun` and `autoplay` from their Windows 7 operating system. Vista and XP has those features.

There is software available that places files on your USB drive to prevent viruses and malware jumping on board.

Some modern USB drives come with write protection switch. That's OK is you only want to up-load.



The computer club has received a donation of a few Logitech webcams all new with software CD supplied. At the last committee meeting it was decided to

give these webcams free to members who have a use for them. You will need to ask the class tutor to obtain one. Please note only one will be given out to the club member no rain checks for next door neighbours or club member on holidays.

Email Survey

Some members have up-dated to Windows 7.

Windows Mail and Outlook Express aren't included in Windows 7. To use your email, you'll need to install a new program. You can download Windows Live Mail for free (if it's not already installed on your PC), or you can get a program from another company.

The club would like to know which email program you are using so that tutoring can be directed to those particular programs.

Email your answer to

pvscc@internode.on.net

Thanks for your assistance. *(Editor)*

Phishing on Phones Warning!!

There are still reports of members of the public receiving telephone calls claiming to be from Microsoft or other Service Companies. They allege that the member's computer has a problem and they can fix it for them (for a price). Sometimes they address you by name.

Regardless, just hang up.

Do not get into a discussion with them or disclose any personal information such as passwords, credit card numbers or anything else. This has been a most persistent scam so please be on your guard.



REMINDER

The position of club secretary will soon become vacant. Our current secretary

Zillah Warner will be standing aside due to other commitments. Zillah has covered the secretary position on numerous occasions over the many years the club has been functioning. Any members that would like to apply for this position please contact, Alan Lees... on 4736 5541.

The articles and comments on Viruses & Malware are not associated with The Penrith Valley Seniors Computing Club Inc. Articles are intended as opinions and items of debate only.



Coffee Break

Question on Software or Operating system.

When an Autorun-enabled CD-ROM is inserted into a CD-ROM drive, Windows automatically launches the program contained on the disk, this is also true if Windows finds **autorun.inf on your USB drives** whether you want it to or not. Similarly the audio CD player pops up whenever you insert an audio CD and starts playing it immediately. This is cute the first or second time.

There are a few reasons why you would not want Autorun start .

1. To copy audio tracks from a CD.
2. To prevent software loading that stop you making a back-up of a CD.
3. To protect your computer from a virus.

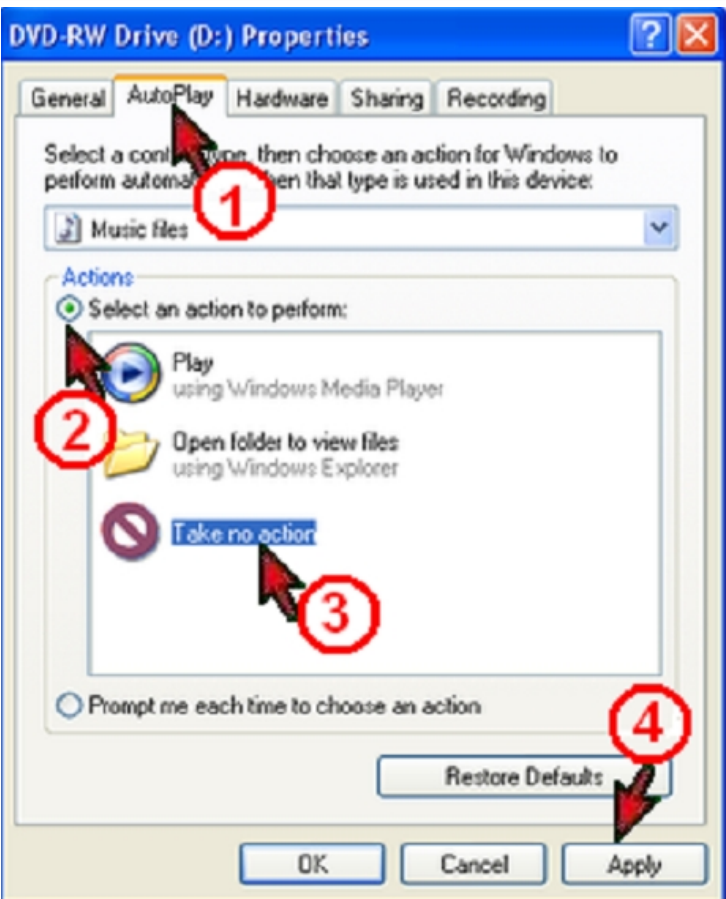
How can you stop Autorun ?

There are three ways to stop Autorun.

The simplest method is to hold down the shift key when you insert a CD.



The next method is more permanent.

	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Click on [My Computer] icon.2. Right click the CD or DVD drive.3. Choose [Properties]4. Click on [AutoPlay] tab.5. Click the [Select an action to perform] radio button (item 2)6. Click [Take no action] (item 3)7. Then left click [Apply]8. Followed by [OK] <p>The above method applies to USB drive also.</p>
	<p>The above and below only applies to Windows XP and Vista, Microsoft has removed Autorun from Windows 7</p>

The other method is change the registry value to 0 (zero).

This is not recommended unless you have the skills to do so.

It is shown for those who want to make it permanent.

1. Click Start, click **Run**, type **regedit** in the Open box, and then press ENTER.
2. Locate and click the following registry key:
HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\System\CurrentControlSet\Services\CDRom
3. To disable automatically running CD-ROMs, change the Autorun value to 0 (zero). To enable automatically running CD-ROMs, change the Autorun value to 1.
4. Restart your computer.

Foot note. Best to use the Shift Key for those odd occasions