



“On The Money Report”

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Eight Ways To Fight Spam!

Is spam ruining the internet for you? It's driving me crazy and I'm taking steps now to stop it!

According to CBSMarketwatch, while Earthlink, AOL and Microsoft move to slow down the encroachment of spam on to our computers, it is growing at an alarming rate. AOL alone reported the amount of spam members received tripled between February and April of this year to 2.4 billion! Internet service providers report that an average of 6.9 billion spam messages are captured on a daily basis.

But wait, there's more. Are you considering the purchase of a cell phone which can surf the net and receive text messages? A new study found that cell phone text messages are the next target. Japanese mobile phone users have been hit and one in six is experiencing a serious problem.

Fighting Back!

While there is no completely effective way to rid yourself of spam, here are a number of steps you can take to minimize it.

1. Get a “Spam blocker”. Below is list of web sites from which to download spam blocking software.
 - a. www.bloomba.com
 - b. www.mailshell.com
 - c. www.bluesquirrel.com

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2. Find an internet Service Provider (ISP) that blocks spam.
3. When entering your e-mail address at a public site or chatroom, s-p-e-l-l out your e-mail address. Like this example: instead of stevep@slpomeranz.com , type stevep at slpomeranz dot com.
4. Create an e-mail for public use and a different one for family and friends.
5. The more complex the address, the better. Spammers use sophisticated technology to discover new e-mail addresses. Keeping yours more complicated will help to confound their systems.
6. Don't buy from a spam message. Once you do, you'll be targeted as a “live-one”.
7. Don't open the spam message and don't click, check off or write in the subject line “unsubscribe”. Any one of these actions will tell them that your address is real and you'll be sold to another spammer.

One final note. Be on the lookout for those little boxes at the bottom of the screen which may have a check mark in them. This pre-checked box may give the web site permission to sell you address.

Happy surfing!

Steve

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