



CyberAngels

A program of Guardian Angels
keeping it safe

Spam

While the legal definition may vary from state to state, country to country and even person to person, spam is junk or unsolicited e-mail. Junk e-mail, or spam, comes in a couple of different 'flavors' including unsolicited bulk e-mail (UBE spam) and unsolicited commercial e-mail (UCE spam) although the concept behind the two terms are essentially the same - that is sending e-mail to multiple recipients who have not requested it nor consented to having their e-mail address(es) included on such a mailing list.

Often, spam is used to advertise (or spamvertise) services or goods of dubious, or even illegal, nature such as make money fast (MMF) schemes, multi-level marketing (MLM) or pyramid schemes, pornography, etc.

What to do

An important way to prevent spam is to be careful about with whom you share your e-mail address. Set up more than one e-mail address, sharing your primary e-mail address with people you know and reserving a secondary one for activities such as online transactions, signing up for newsletters, requesting information. Don't post your primary e-mail on a web site, job recruiting site, or other type of online directory. When you visit web sites, make sure you are not "opting-in" for unwanted contact; many web sites have boxes already checked to get you to unknowingly agree to be contacted through your e-mail. Choose an e-mail program that filters or blocks spam. While it is nearly impossible to prevent all spam, with today's improved spam filtering capabilities a considerable portion can be kept from ever reaching your Inbox. Send spam e-mail that crosses the line and constitutes deception to the FTC at spam@uce.gov.

Additional Resources

CERT: [Reducing Spam](#)

OnGuard: [Spam Scams](#)

SPAMLAWS.com: [Online Security Resource](#)