

Ed Tech



Supporting multiple learning modalities for using technology and distance learning as a tool in your classroom, school, district and life.

TechByte: Macro Virus Removal

If your computer gets infected by a virus, it's very likely a result of having received an email attachment or a document created in a Microsoft Office application. Those most frequently passed around BSSD include strains of a macro virus W97M, and while it doesn't do anything harmful to your Apple computer, it can be annoying. You may also do some damage to others who are using Windows computers, because your Mac serves as a sort of "carrier" for the virus, and you can pass it along to others

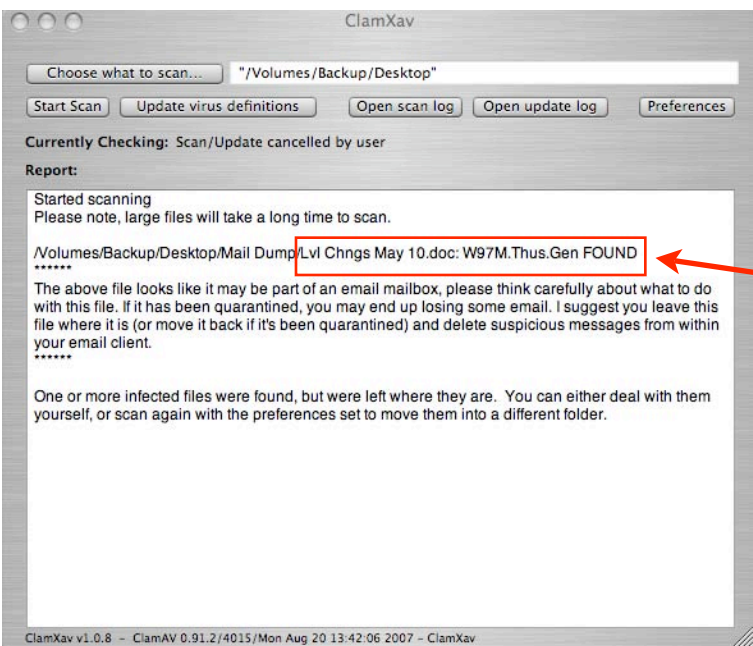
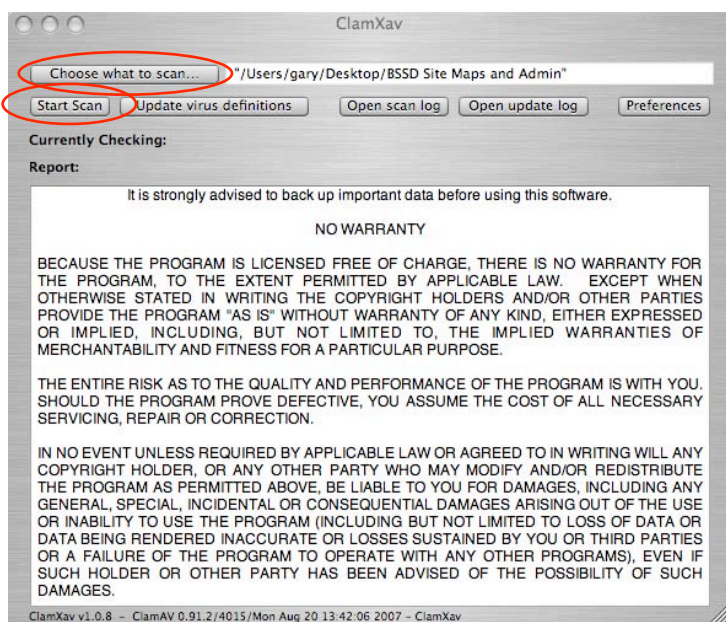
Thankfully, it's a relatively easy virus to remove.

First, run a utility such as ClamX or Norton Antivirus to find the infected files on your computer.

<http://www.clamxav.com/>

Run ClamXAV and select "Choose what to scan."

Click Start Scan.



Note the location of any infected files.

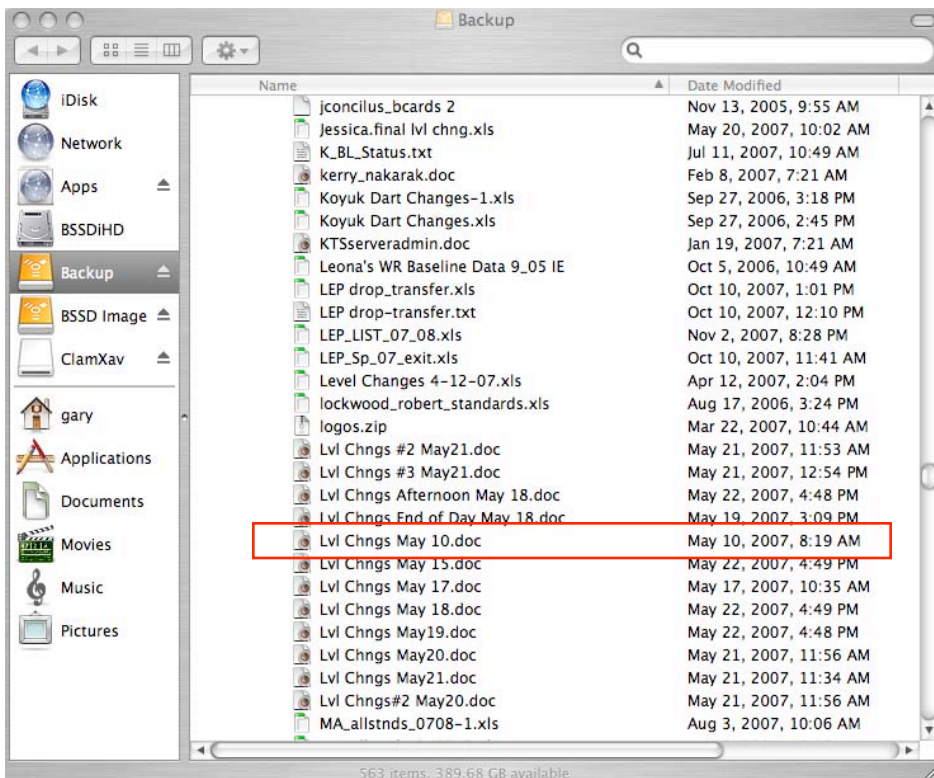
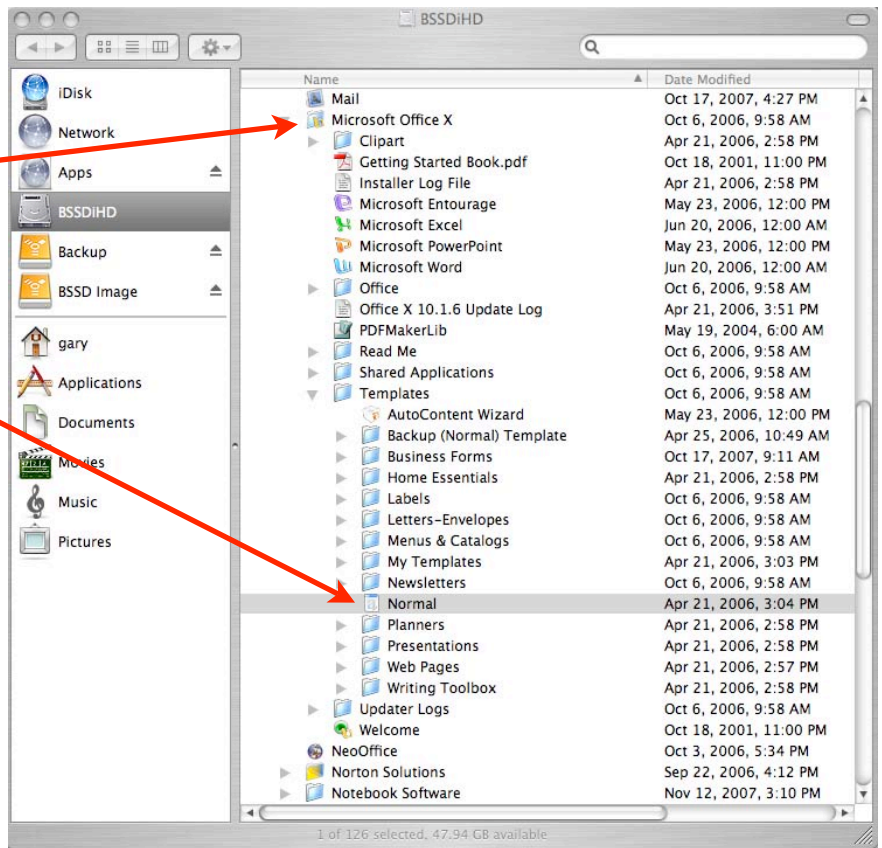
If it's possible, destroy the infected file(s). That will help contain the number of other documents that get damaged.

Scanning with ClamX or repairing the file in Norton AntiVirus **will not** remove the virus from your computer, and other files may already be infected.

If deleting the file is not possible, you may be able to repair it manually.

In the Applications folder on your computer's hard drive, locate the Microsoft Office X folder.

In the Templates folder, find the file called **Normal** and delete it by dragging it into the trash.



Opening the original file generates a new Normal template, free of the virus.

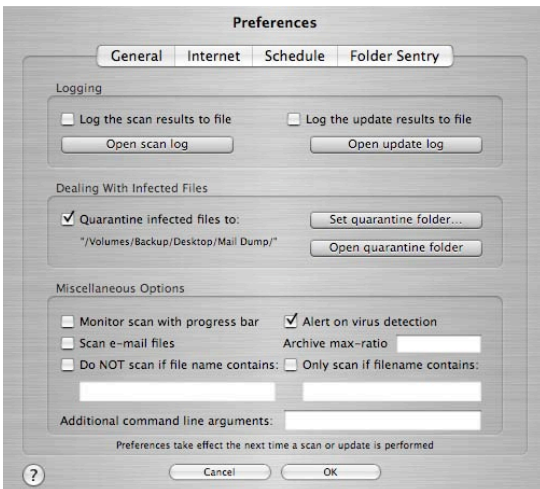
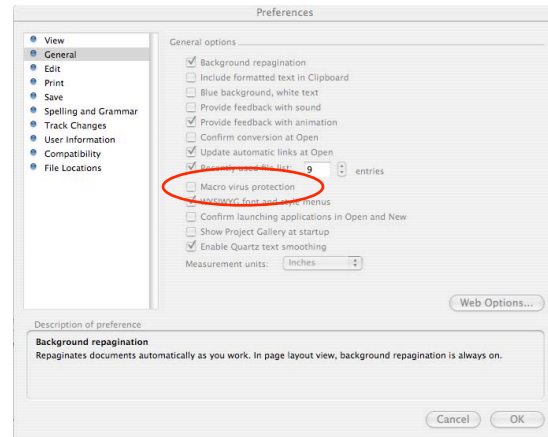
It's important to remember that if one Word document in your computer has been infected with W97M (or some variant), it is very likely that others have been, too.

If deleting them all is not an option, then you'll have to trash the Normal template before opening each of the infected documents and then save them again.

Virus Prevention Strategies

Turn off Macro Virus Protection in Word

Select Word>Preferences>General
Uncheck the Macro Virus Protection



Set preferences in an antivirus application to catch and quarantine infected files when they arrive at your computer.

Use NeoOffice or Pages to word process documents