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## Dealing With Spam

By Oswyn James

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I do not have an account at Citibank , neither am I an American citizen however I keep getting emails asking me to check my account details at Citibank as they are going through some restructuring. I even received one that said that a check had been returned and that I should check my account online by following a link to make sure all is well.

Another date in question I received one that said that I had won a free DVD player and for me to collect the prize I just had to send my details of address and so on. Wow the internet has spurred a new era of con artists. There are those who are trying their best to get your info especially your credit card number while others use it to control your surfing habits with all these viruses that force your browser software to surf to one URL no matter how hard you try to avoid it. (Porn sites are notorious for that!)

One has to be very careful when one opens his or email these days as more often than not you inbox is flooded with all kinds of filth. Persons get your email address even though you have never surfed to their website. How do they get you email address. Robots that is how, these little programmes surf the net trapping email addresses from webpages, your own mail and forwards. These are stored by companies which sell these lists out for cash. Yes surprising that yourname@coconuttree.com is a hot item. You have no control over it you just have to live with it.

Another trick of the spammers is those "unsubscribe lists" oh these are just another way of you volunteering your email address they do stop sending you one mail and start sending you another. So no more viagra, now they offer you cialis. lol

So what can you do. Block them I say. Just block them out using the tools provided by your email programme, ISP or email service provider. Then get yourself a good spam programme. There are some good ones out there. Also report the abuse especially if come s from a well known domain such as yahoo or google.

Help keep spammers at bay. They must be stopped!

Oswyn James is a webdesigner and the owner of a multimedia webdesign firm.

### **A Quick Look At Email Spam Filters**

**By Oliver Turner**

You must be eagerly finding for a way out to stop receiving Spam mails in your inbox. Take a quick look at email spam filters to get some idea on how to check spam. There are a number of email spam filters that you can use in your computer. For official purposes, you have anti server software spam where the spam filter is located in the server level to trap all email spam. They prevent them from reaching your inbox. The email spasm not only slows down the performance of the server, but also occupies a lot of storage space. Emails are the easiest and the best way for these viruses to spread.

#### Working of Spam Filters

Anti spam software and anti spam solutions are essential to aid you in getting a clean inbox. The server spam filter or anti spam server is a software application that scans all the incoming email messages. With the help of their configuration, they identify Spam and prevent them from reaching your inbox. The spam mails not only eats away the storage space and make selecting your personal emails difficult, they also can contain viruses. Using anti spam filters is necessary as it saves both your time and money. But even when you are using anti spam filters, it is recommended to check the messages just to make sure that no personal message has been marked as spam. Even the server spam filters marks email as "false positive" to those that are identified as spam, but in reality they are valid messages. There are various anti spam programs that identifies Spam and sends it to the junk mail folder.

Not all spam filters work in the same way. Some of them are pre programmed where the know spammers are inserted. They accordingly block them. Some of the programs filter the emails based on the keywords used in the mails. Some of the email spam filters are configured and you can easily customize it or the network administrator can also customize it according to the requirement of the company.

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