[Visit AmeriWeb Hosting]



News and helpful information from your friends at AmeriWeb Hosting
November 2026

NOTICE: You may have heard about the recent PHP exploits, in the news. PHP is a programming language used in many online shopping carts, WordPress, mailing list programs, and much more.

We were unable to identify any of our client sites that were hacked. However, we did take it seriously, and applied the PHP patches within about 2 hours of their release by the authors. This is one of the many benefits we provide for our customers at no cost.
We're glad you are our customer!



WEB NEWS

Computer Malware, Virus and Trojans ... Oh My!

Google caught malware that asks AI to rewrite its own code every single hour, built to outrun antivirus programs. Researchers log about 560,000 **new** malware samples a day. Every day.

Most antivirus catches code it's seen before, and this code never looks the same twice, so switch on **behavior-based protection and auto-updates** on your antivirus program. Do it today.

This sounds like science fiction, but it's in Google's threat report.

Google's security team caught malware called PromptFlux that asks Gemini's AI to rewrite its own code, some versions every single hour, for one purpose: slipping past your antivirus. A cousin called PromptSteal has been used in attacks overseas. Malicious code that never looks the same twice.

Here's the trick in plain English. The malware pings an AI service the way you'd ask a chatbot for a recipe, except it asks for a new disguise. Fresh code, same crime, no fingerprints.

Most antivirus, including almost every free tool, works off signatures. Think of it as a most-wanted list. Security companies fingerprint known malware, and your software blocks anything that matches. It worked for 30 years.

Rewrite the code, and the mugshot becomes worthless. Stack that against the roughly 560,000 new malware samples researchers log every day, and the most-wanted list was already losing the race. Then AI moved the finish line.

Google caught PromptFlux early, still in development, not spreading across the country. But the blueprint is public, and copycats work fast. You don't wait for the flood to buy the sandbags.

Lock it down

Step one: Run virus protection that watches behavior, not only mugshots.

Step two: Let your computer patch itself. On Windows: Settings > Windows Update > turn on automatic updates. On Mac: System Settings > General > Software Update > automatic. Most malware, AI-written or not, walks in through a hole that was already fixed.

Step three: Remember the front door. Shape-shifting code still needs an invitation, usually a link in an urgent text or email. When a message rushes you, that's your cue to slow down.

If that doesn't frighten you, read this report:
https://cloud.google.com/blog/topics/threat-intelligence/from-prompting-to-autonomy-the-evolution-of-adversarial-ai

It is a scary world out there, and it is getting scarier!



HOW TO

How do I clear my browser's cache?

Web browsers such as Internet Explorer, Safari, or Firefox (there are many more) will often cache your current website to save on bandwidth and time. You actually see the site that is stored in your local memory, and not online.

Browsers cache visited web pages, images, and scripts, and refer to the ones held in memory, instead of fetching over the internet repeatedly. This saves on network traffic, and helps the pages to load faster. It is generally a good idea. They save individual images, so a template will load once, but be displayed on multiple pages. Saves download time, etc.

Your cache will expire after a predetermined length of time. This does cause problems, however, if you modify your website and upload the new version. It is possible you will continue to see the old version, until the cache expires.

Changes made to your site, once they are uploaded to the server, are instantaneous. There is no waiting period. If you are still seeing the old version after properly uploading a revised page, your browser may have the old page cached. If you need to clear your cache, go to Tools>Options>Privacy. Different browsers may call it something else, but it is there. Clear your OFFLINE WEBSITE DATA, and also your CACHE. Clearing other items is generally not necessary.

You can also refresh your browser by clicking on the circular arrow  (again, this will vary by browser and version). You can try hitting F5, as this also works approx 50% of the time.

The most reliable is simply to add the question mark, and a random letter after the URL. Ex: https://ameriwebhosting.com/?k. This forces the browser to load a fresh version. Note: If you use ?k, and then upload a new version of the web page, the ?k will now be an outdated version. Use another letter, ie ?hjfjkl or ?yh or whatever you choose.



MARKETING

Your Website Should Never Stop Changing

Every website is at its best the day it ships. The final branch merges, the site goes live exactly as designed, and it is briefly perfect. It will never be this good again.

Not because anything breaks. The site keeps working. But the market moves, the messaging shifts, a competitor launches something, and the careful thing you built slowly stops matching the market you represent. A year later, it is a period piece. Not broken, just behind. Every team knows this decay, and almost everyone treats it as a law of nature.

It doesn't have to be that way. A website could keep improving after launch, instead of drifting away from its best day. Adding new photographs, editing a paragraph, adding a new page, they all contribute. And Google likes fresh content.

So go ahead and add something to make your site better. It keeps you fresh and on the mind of the big search engines.



ASK A TECH

Q: I have an old PHP script that requires an older version of PHP to run correctly. Can I get my version of PHP downgraded?
A: Yes, we can do this, HOWEVER, bear in mind, older versions of PHP tend to run slower, are less secure, and have less features. Most of the time PHP is backwards compatible, so the latest version should run. We recommend you contact the author of the script, and see if an updated version is available. If not, contact us, and we will explore options, which include implementing an older version of PHP.

WebSite Hosting - Design - Marketing - Management

Visit our WebSite

Questions? Call or email us:
Email Us
Call Us 773-735-5144