

Re: Thinking about buying Norton's AntiVirus

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- *From:* "HeyBub" <heybub@xxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Thu, 24 Apr 2008 11:41:47 -0500
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Brian A. wrote:

"HeyBub" <heybub@xxxxxxxx> wrote in message
news:e5AGWFZpIHA.3804@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Brad wrote:

Hi,

Note: I have used NAV (Norton's AntiVirus) 2001 on a Windows 98se computer(s) in the past.

Over a month ago, I bought a new Dell laptop with Windows XP home edition. It came with Trend Micro PC-cillin (30 days trial) pre-installed. I am thinking about buying NAV, assuming it allows me to control (preferences) how it "behaves" as NAV 2001 did. I don't want NAV always running in the background. I want to be able to "run" NAV to check folders, etc. when I want, the same way I did using NAV 2001.

What is your experience with the new version of NAV?

I doubt anyone on this group would recommend Norton, or, to a lesser degree McAfee.

There are several problems with Norton:

1. It is a resource hog, burning up to 15% of available CPU cycles.

Huh? As I currently look, not a single Symantec I have installed is

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using any at all.

You didn't install it properly is my guess. Google "Norton+resource+hog" yields 226,000 hits.

2. It is difficult to remove. Very difficult. You have to run the secret Symantec removal tool several times then manually scan the registry for detritus left behind.

There's nothing secret about their removal utility, it's been around for years, no different than any of the other applications and Symantec isn't the only one that has registry entries that are not removed.

It IS a secret. It's not mentioned in their documentation nor is it part of the normal uninstall process. Further, running it once is often insufficient. Further—further FINDING it on Symantec's website is non-trivial.

3. Norton interferes with many software installations – and doesn't tell you it's bothering the install process. You end up with an application that won't work and you don't know why. Virtually every bit of software that tells you to "disable your virus checker" before continuing really means "Disable Norton."

If you truly believe your last statement, you truly don't realize the importance of shutting down running programs when installing an application.

We write software for a living and Norton has to be disabled before our software will install properly (because we're adding things to the registry). This is not true for AVG, Avast, and several other AV programs with which we've experimented. Moreover, when Norton DOES interfere, it gives no indication that it did so. The only clue we get is when our customers can't run our product.