DOWNLOADING AND INSTALLING SOFTWARE SAFELY

Let me start by saying that there is no totally safe formula for downloading software. Nothing will protect you better than your own common sense, coupled with you being a little suspicious of everything on the internet. No website out there that I know of advertises viruses. They pass them to you secretly while pretending to be your legitimate friend.

FLIP OVER FOR YOUR NEXT CHALLENGE



EARN THIS NUGGET

• With your parent's oversight, make sure you have virus protection, and download and install two programs. Test their function, and if all is good, keep them or uninstall them.

- 1. Are you sure you trust the source? Don't trust links in emails or text messages unless you know the person who sent it. And you are sure they sent it to you and their account was not hacked.
- 2. Go to a legitimate website for software, not some obscure site, which downloads music, movies, and software illegally, or some other seedy site. Use Lo4D.com, CNET, or one of the other big ones. Even then be very careful, some legitimate sites can go downhill too.
- 3. Be sure of the version you are downloading.
- Freeware the software is free for you to use.
- Trialware a trial version, which will require payment after specific number of days or uses. Trialware is sometimes a limited version of the software with some features unusable.
- Shareware software free to download, but payment is requested if you plan to keep the program.

 Remember, free download doesn't necessarily mean the software is free.
- 4. Beware of trick download ads. These look like large download buttons, but will take you to another site, one that may infect your machine. Read everything. Be slow to click.
- 5. Often an install manager will help you set up the program. However, it may also load software you don't want. These are usually opt-out items. Again, read everything and be super careful. Choose custom installation so you can opt-out of additional software you don't want and decline any offers.



Now that you have navigated some of the pitfalls of the world of internet downloads, you'll need to select the location to save it and install the file you have downloaded. Probably the default location will be fine, but sometimes you may want to change that.