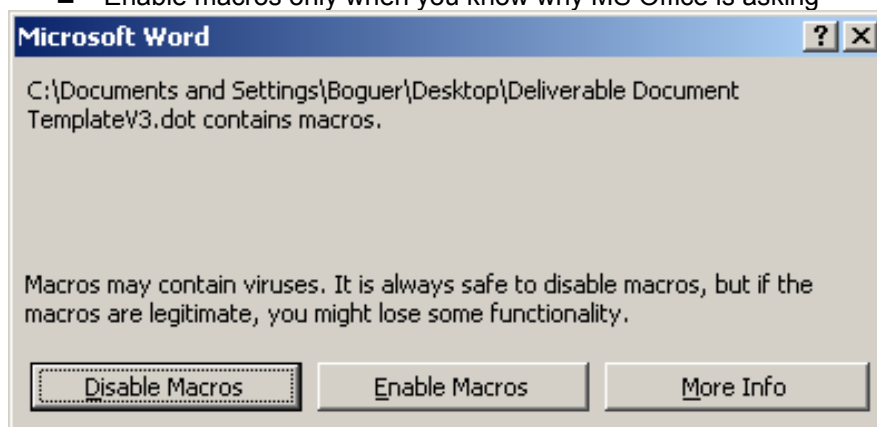


Basic Virus Defense

- A virus is a **program** that self-replicates
- It is not data
- You can only catch a virus by running a program
- Your computer runs all kinds of programs
- Virus
 - Self-replicating
 - Also called a worm
- Trojan Horse
 - A program which appears to be valuable but has an unexpected consequence
- The four most common virus infections come from:
 - File – A virus type that infects existing files on the computer (~40%)
 - Macro – A virus that runs as a macro in a host application such as the MS Office applications (~35%)
 - VBScript – A virus that uses Windows Visual Basic Script functionality (~10%)
 - Internet Worm – A virus that is primarily characterized by its replication across the Internet (~5%)
- Don't open files that you are not expecting
 - Many viruses automatically send files without the e-mail account owner's knowledge.
 - Ask the sender to confirm unexpected files.
- Suspect messages that appear more than once in your Inbox
 - You may receive the same e-mail from a virus repeatedly.
- Learn file extensions
 - Your computer will display both an icon and a file extension for files you receive. Open only file extensions you know are safe.
 - When in doubt, call the help desk.
- The following file types should never be opened:
 - .EXE
 - .PIF
 - .BAT
 - .VBS
 - .COM
- MS Office files are mostly data with some **program** code
- MS Office macros are programs, which can be viruses
- MS Office will prompt you to enable macros
 - Enable macros only when you know why MS Office is asking



- Notify the help desk when you receive a virus warning from McAfee VirusScan, VShield, NetShield, etc.
- Most of the time, the virus software will detect and prevent the infection. However, the help desk can better tell you what to do.