

**Virus Encyclopedia**

URL: <http://www.viruslist.com/en/viruses/encyclopedia/>

[Visited Jan'09] The *Virus Encyclopedia* (VE) is a concise resource on malicious programs including viruses, Trojans, worms, and other malware. Published by Kaspersky Lab <http://www.kaspersky.com/>, the producers of Internet security and antivirus software, it is part of *Viruslist.com*, which includes news and information about viruses and spam as well as threat analyses, a security glossary, and a security analyst's blog. VE is divided into six sections: Malware Environment, Malware Descriptions, Who Creates Malware, History of Malware, Malware Trends, and If Your Computer Is Infected. Each section ranges in length from about a page to 15 pages. The History of Malware section is quite thorough, tracing malware from its beginnings through 2003. Malware Descriptions provides general accounts of malware groups along with descriptions of individual viruses, Trojans, and worms. Some descriptions are very detailed. The section titled If Your Computer Is Infected provides sound advice, including symptoms and steps to take when a computer is diagnosed with a virus. VE is fully searchable, with updates available via RSS feeds. Distinguishing between the encyclopedia and the rest of *Viruslist.com* sometimes is difficult. Although VE is not truly encyclopedic, it does provide accurate information. Its listing of viruses, Trojans, and worms is not up-to-date; other Web sites such as *Symantec* <http://www.symantec.com/> and *McAfee* <http://www.mcafee.com/> provide more up-to-date lists of malware. Overall, though, VE has value. **Summing Up:** Recommended. Lower-level undergraduates through professionals/practitioners. -- M. Knee, *University at Albany, SUNY*