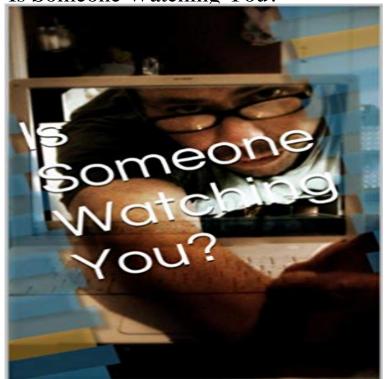
Is Someone Watching You?



I wrote this guide because I provide assistance to people who use computers at home, and small businesses in my local area. Recently, I am finding that every single computer I am asked to look at is infected with malware or viruses (malicious software), sometimes quite serious ones. Most computers will develop a problem at some point but, malware is causing them to malfunction much, much earlier. Serious computer malware / viruses are now so widespread that everyone who uses a computer and accesses the internet is a target. I know that many people who use a computer at home, only have a hazy understanding of this problem, dont think it will ever affect them (until it does) and believe that if they have an anti-virus program installed on their computer, they are completely protected. But, this is not true. I use the word serious to describe modern malware because it is. In the 1990s, computer viruses were little more than a nuisance, often developed by bored youngsters, just for their amusement. Today, computer malware is much more sophisticated and potentially disastrous to anyone who is affected by it. And, today, it doesnt just affect your computer it affects you and me directly. You may find yourself the victim of credit card fraud, suddenly thousands of pounds in debt for transactions you didnt make. You may find yourself being threatened via your computer by someone claiming to have evidence that you have broken the law and threatening to tell the police if you dont pay a ransom. You may find software has been installed on your computer, claiming that you have malware on it and offering to sort out the problem if you make a However, this software payment. actually malware pretending anti-virus or anti-malware software. If you go ahead and pay for it, you will be poorer also have a malware infected computer. You may find that your email

account has been accessed by someone else and all your friends / family / business associates have been sent malware infected emails that appear to have come from you some may blame you for not being more careful. In order to be more careful, you need to understand a bit more about this problem. There are things that you can do (either yourself or with help) to protect yourself and your computer from this malware. Apart from its main purpose to get rich at your expense, computer malware is designed to spread as far as possible, to as many computers as possible. So, once your computer is infected, it will be trying to spread itself to other computers, including those of anyone that you make contact with, using it. By not taking action to protect yourself, you are not only putting yourself at risk but, your friends and family too. I am aiming this malware guide at home computer users who have a low level of computer expertise - therefore, it is intended to simply provide basic information to make you more aware of the dangers and give you some ideas about how you can keep safer when using the internet.

Ill make the assumption you have a Windows operating system. One way to see if it is active is to check the LED light telling you it is on. But if you dont have a To imagine thered be some sort of indication (such as a flashing light, a movement, etc) isnt quite the way Id go about it. Sure if you see the lens move, it is You look up and, sure enough, someone across the car is looking right at you. Your eyes meet briefly, then you look away, slightly spooked. [Points up] Someone is always watching you. That satellite. Believe me. Governments always watching. That satellite can see us from here? Youre probably familiar with the creeping sensation you get when you think someones watching you. You dont know why, but suddenly youreThere are several things going on when you see someone looking at you, all of which happen very quickly. (This applies to actually seeing someone looking at ESB Professional/shutterstocklf youve ever felt like someone was looking at you and you ended up being right, youre not alone. The sameThis gaze detection system is especially sensitive to whether someones looking directly at you (for example, whether someones staring at you or at the clock Someone could be watching you through your webcam, without you even realising. We dont mean to unduly alarm you, but unsecured cameras on your computer could provide a malicious hacker with a direct window into your life. How can you tell if someones watching you? No, it is not normal, if by someone you mean a real person. I do remember feeling like that myself, when I was growing up. Well, almost like Do you ever feel like youre being watched? Perhaps your phone could be the culprit? Why do you think every app asks if they can have access to your camera? to apps, hackers, and peeping Toms watching you through your cameras. Do you ever feel like youre being watched? Perhaps your phone could be the culprit? If someone phones you asking you to please remove the item obstructing the camera then you can probably be sure that said person is watching you. Seriously Is someone looking at you or are you just imagining things? A neuroscientist explains. Do you ever feel like youre being watched? Perhaps your phone could be the culprit? Theres no external indicator on the iPhone that the camera lenses are active.

Theoretically, anyone could be watching you, the lining of your back pocket, the	