



BROOKLYN_BORN

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The most annoying pop-up ad EVER!

Thursday, January 16, 2014

If I could make my title flash and stay in front of your eyes no matter how you try to close it, that's what I'm facing with "WINDOWS ERRORS, for immediate clean, press OK"

Since I've never seen this ad anywhere else except on SP, I'm assuming they have approved of it. I understand the need for ads to pay the bills and keep this site free, however, there is a limit to my patience. I cannot close this thing.

The only thing I can do is log off SP, but when I log on again, it returns. It's a good thing that I'm 4 years into maintenance, or this frustration would make me reach for one of DH's honeybuns instead of blogging about it.

Edit (also posted as comment below)

Right now I'm looking at SP ads for AT&T and assorted watches (Rolex?) and these don't bother me. I can read them and go on with my SP activities. I want to keep the site free and occasionally I even check out their information.

The one I'm describing wouldn't let me do anything else until I dealt with it and the flashing made me want to scream.

I wouldn't click on it since I couldn't find a "close" button and I'm distrustful of any ad that wants to "fix" my computer. It doesn't need fixing.

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Member Comments About This Blog Post



GONNALOSE5

That sounds terrible. I block pop up ads but allow SP ads, that ad sounds like a virus type ad not from SP, it tries to get to you click on the ad to "fix" your computer. Many years ago I clicked on one, it became the bane of my existence. I was finally able to get rid of the virus. You made the right move.

2702 days ago



CELIAMINER

I agree with Bookaphile. I hate ads in general and despise, loathe, and abominate ones with videos that auto-start. I can't load ad killers on my browsers at work, because doing so requires Admin privileges I don't have, but I have NO problem with ad killers at home. And while I'm on the





subject of browsers, I am mad as Hell at Microsoft. My crappy Windows 8 that was forced on me after my I had to get a new computer auto-updated yesterday and hosed my Chrome browser. I've tried everything I know, but it appears I will have to reinstall Chrome and the ad killer again, and I will lose all my favorites. Grrrrrr!

2704 days ago



IDICEM

I agree about the ads. To keep the site free, having ads and occasionally clicking through is worth it. But the annoying ones are too much. The one you describe does sound suspicious, but there are other intrusively annoying ads that are legitimate. Thanks for posting.

2704 days ago



DOVESEYES

I don't think they are approved as these ones can affect your computer. I don't click on anything on the pages besides what I'm using. I'm "computer phobic" :)

2704 days ago



MERRYMARY42

I get the same thing, makes me crazy, and I also would leave the site, with a bit of encouragement, seems like our computers are holding us hostage, if there is a solution let us ll know,

2704 days ago



TRAVELGRRL

I have a popup blocker. This sounds like a "spoof" ad that would infect your computer.

2705 days ago



GINIEMIE

I like you tolerate ads because it helps the site stay free, I too check some out. I do not click on anything that says it will "fix" my computer. I'm not savvy enough to unfix their messes and have the ability to create my own that need fixing-by my children!
Glad you dealt with it.



2705 days ago



BOOKAPHILE

I tolerated the ads until the some began to have audio start automatically. Ugh! Not being able to close one would have driven me to adblock as well. I'm perfectly willing to have ads at the side that don't interrupt my reading, but I take issue with those embedded in the text or automatically running or pop-ups that won't close. All their advertisers lose when some are allowed to annoy us so thoroughly.

If they stopped the pop-ups, embedded text that looks like part of the article, and ads that won't close, I'd disable Adblock on this site because I DO want to support Sparkpeople.

2705 days ago



DR1939

If you don't have malware on your computer you should get it. It's free and helps to get rid of those kinds of programs. I agree, the windows clean ads often are a gateway to a virus.

2705 days ago



MARYJEANSL

That does sound really dreadful. Right now I am seeing zero ads - and I don't think that I have ever seen that one. How did I get so lucky? It doesn't hurt to try complaining to SP. We all know that they need ad revenue to keep the site free, but for something as annoying as that, they might even be able to do something.

I suspect the reason I am not seeing ads may be that I am using free wifi at a military hospital and maybe the military wifi is able to block them. If so, I am grateful. I certainly see enough of them at home.

2705 days ago



OBIESMOM2

I wouldn't go so far as to say Spark endorses the ads. From my VERY limited knowledge - parent companies pay for ad space on a site. The parent company covers a multitude of off-shoots that, without really digging, you would never connect with the parent company. Or it could be an advertising firm buying space to use for any/all of their own clientele.

I know that Clark Howard (consumer advice guru; he's local, but his show is syndicated) constantly reiterates that he DOES NOT endorse the ads that appear on his web site.

the flashing, blinking, expanding, and talking ads are extremely annoying. I know those 'fix your PC' ads very well. They block you from doing anything! I also don't like the totally inappropriate ads (adult only gaming sites, Asian brides, etc.)

our work computers have a really good pop-up blocker installed, and some of the ads from Spark are starting to get around the block.

at home, it's a tiny bit better using Firefox.

I appreciate that the site is free, and I don't mind that SunTrust ad that is just sitting off to the left right now.

I also understand the complexity of keeping the ads within Spark's guidelines (well...kind of, anyway).

It's tough for Spark to police the ads, which is why they ask members to report them. The 'adult only gaming' and the 'Asian bride' ads did go away within a couple of weeks. I'm guessing the were reported many times.



good for you on the venting instead of eating!

2705 days ago



CD12146214
ONEKIDSMOM:

Thanks for posting that warning!

2705 days ago



ALIHIKES

I agree! VERY annoying. I installed AdBlocker at the suggestion of some other Sparkers, but they do not block these ads. I also have been driven off the site some days

2705 days ago



CD13099273

I have ad block also , when the new Sparkpage changed I noticed the increase of pop-ups here on Spark - I did mention that to Chris on the blog he wrote in regards to the new Sparkpage - and was BOOED by a few suck up as being a naysayer - guess I am not as stupid as I look , cause now everyone is complaining about it - stay away from the Buns Honey ! Karen

2705 days ago

Comment edited on: 1/16/2014 9:34:36 AM



JUST_TRI_IT

Argh big time when you cannot close them. I also use Adblock and it seems to help :)

2705 days ago



BROOKLYN_BORN

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2705 days ago



PHOENIX1949

Ad blockers not compatible with other software on our home PC's (both work from home).

The fast-blinking, running marquis, Vegas type ads have brought on migraines in the past. I have to quickly get away from them or the effects last for days.

Have I noticed more junk-foods ads recently or is it that my Achilles Heel -- peanut M&M's -- appeared on my Nutrition Tracker page? Yet, I am grateful for this free tool and wonder if too many folks try to get this type ad removed that the free factor would go away.



2705 days ago



MISCHAKEO

Those ads can be annoying and seem to be getting worse. When you try to click to get rid of them, you get a message saying ads keep SP free.

Good for you staying healthy while frustrated.

2705 days ago



SLIMMERJESSE

I've blogged about my many issues with SP ads - pop-ups or otherwise. Most responded that, since the site is free, nothing bothers them. Guess we all have our limits.

2705 days ago





ONEKIDSMOM

I would advise checking for a virus. Those "Windows Clean" popups are often the intro TO viruses! NEVER, EVER click on them. EVER!

2705 days ago



GARDENCHRIS

put ADBLOCK on your machine never see it or ANY ads ever again! Been using it for years

2705 days ago



WATERMELLEN

Agreed! And although BOSS61 and others have offered help through links to popup blockers, they're not compatible sob sob with my virus protection needed for work purposes . . .at least so far.

SOOOOOOOOO annoying!!

2705 days ago

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