



PC410: A Division of Science Translations

Managed IT Services, PC Service and Sales in Central Maryland

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Ransomware and Backups: Basic Prevention

There's some nasty malware showing up in inboxes right now, disguised as fake receipts and documents, or delivered on web sites from a very fake 'You must update your... ' message. While these have always been a major source of computer attacks, the current batch deserves special prevention and backups. CryptoWall 2.0, CryptoLocker, and other ransomware arrive quietly, encrypt all your documents in the background, and then place a ransom notice on your screen, asking for payment in Bitcoins or an untraceable money order. The encryption is not breakable on most variations of this ransomware; the best defenses are to never work with an administrator account (use 'standard' or 'limited'), and to backup your entire computer on a schedule, and unplug the backup drive between backups-- these programs encrypt every document they can see, even on backup drives and networks.

We have more information on prevention, either do-it-yourself or as a service, on the PC410.com website, [here](#).



Regular cleaning of your computer keeps it running longer. We clean computers, if needed, but if you keep them off the floor, and turn them off when not in use, they

will stay cleaner, run cooler, and last longer.



Free Keyboard Shortcuts Chart

The fastest way to use Windows is to keep your hands on the keyboard. How? There are dozens of keyboard shortcuts to do things in Windows, like Copy, Paste, or Print. There are too many to learn them all--try out the shortcuts on our [shortcuts list](#); there are a few you don't know, and will use constantly. (It's a free PDF.)

Contact US

PC410.com is the local computer services division of Science Translations, serving central Maryland, including Baltimore and Westminster.

Call us at 410-871-2877, or from Baltimore, at 410-205-9250.

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