Using Spybot

Spybot is a very simple program to use. To clean your computer with it, you just must start with the basics and follow a very simple pattern. No antivirus or antispyware tool is useful without running the updates. One additional step in using Spybot is the Immunize function. With each update, you should check to see if you need to further immunize your machine against infection.

With that being said, let us begin. Start Spybot. In starting, you may see a small window that looks like this the following. Just check “Don’t show this message again” and click OK.

On the main screen, click Search for Updates.
A new window will open over the Spybot window. It will ask you to select an update server. While it really doesn’t matter which server you select, I’ve found that you get best connections from an American server (due to connection distance) or a server in a region that is outside of normal business hours (due to lower traffic). You may choose as you wish.

Once you have selected a server, you will be asked to select your updates. It is easier to just Right Click in the screen and choose “Select All Updates” but you may not wish to do that. The ones that are checked on the loading of the screen are highly recommended. Please do those. Click Download.
Depending on the updates available, if there are any, you may be told to renew the Immunization of your machine. Just click Okay, then Exit.
Once the updates are completed and you have returned to the main screen, click Immunize.
Once the screen has loaded, there are two areas to notice. One is the Protected/Unprotected area. This area will list the number of unprotected and protected available openings. Basically, if they are not equal, there are available protections that have not been enacted. If that is the case, you move to the second area, a button that is marked Immunize. Click that.

![Image of Spybot - Search & Destroy](image)

The number of available protections will vary depending on the software that you have installed. Once the Immunization is complete, you may close the program. If, however, you wish to run a scan, click Search and Destroy.
Running a scan in Spybot is very simple. In the Search and Destroy screen, click Check for Problems. This scan may take a few minutes, so you may wish to do this before going to a meal or going to a class if you do not need the machine. You can run this in the background, but it will slow performance down severely.
Once the scan is complete, you will be given a list of everything that has been found. Items need to be checked and then click Fix Selected Problems. If, though not recommended, you find something that you want or need, uncheck it. If something appears in this list, it is more than likely a problem that should be addressed. Leaving a tool that you like when it comes in this list means that you are leaving yourself open to attack from possible malware. A better option would be to remove the tool and try to find a ‘clean’ replacement.

Once items are removed, you have completed all necessary tasks with Spybot. At this point, close the program.