The U.S. Department of Homeland Security advises computer users to disable Java temporarily.

How to Disable Java

Because of the complexity of disabling Java on Internet Explorer, it might be best to uninstall Java completely from a computer by following the uninstall instructions below or not to use Internet Explorer at all.

To completely uninstall Java from Windows 7 or Vista:

1. Click on the left hand Windows circle on the bottom of the screen
2. Click on Control Panel (visible in the right column above)
3. After the Control Panel window is open, click on Add/Remove Programs. If you do not see Add/Remove Programs, look at the right hand top side of the Control Panel window where it says, "View by: Small icons" Click on "Small icons" (or it might say "Large Icons) and click on "Category". Under "Category" you will be able to see the "Uninstall a Program" option.
4. After you see the list of all of your programs, find Java.
5. Highlight Java and choose Uninstall. Windows will prompt you to confirm. Say yes.

To disable Java in Chrome only:

1. Open Chrome
2. In the address bar type or copy/paste in: chrome://plugins (see above picture)
3. A browser window will open showing all the Plug-ins
4. Scroll down to Java and click the link to disable it.

To disable Java in Mozilla Firefox only:

1. Open Firefox
2. On the top left hand corner of the browser window, click on the word "Firefox."
3. Click on the word "Add-ons" which is visible in the right column.
4. A new browser window will open. Click on "Plugins" viewable on the left column.
5. Click on the "Disable button" next to "Java(TM) Platform."

To disable Java in Safari only:

1. Open Safari
2. Select the Safari menu
3. Choose Preferences
4. Choose the Security tab
5. Uncheck the box next to "Enable Java."

To disable Java in Opera only:

1. Open Opera
2. Type "opera:plugins" into the location bar.
3. Click "Disable" next to the Java related items in the list.