USING: what is?

Sophos Virus Library
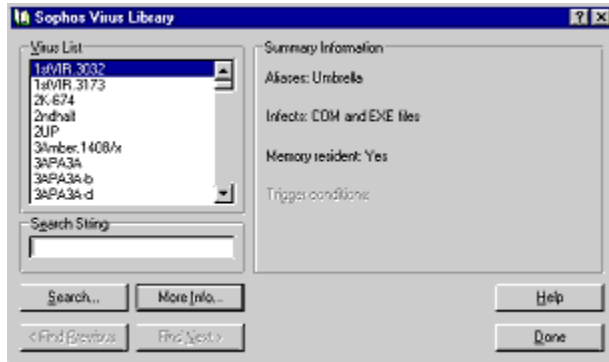
Help file contents

Overview of the Sophos Virus Library

The Sophos Virus Library holds information about viruses such as descriptions, aliases, files types at risk, trigger conditions, and disinfection advice.
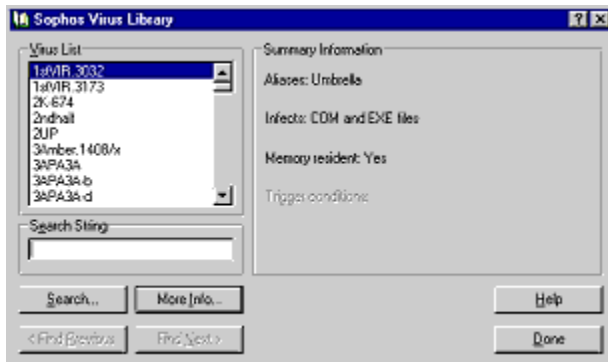

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Sophos Virus Library window

The **Sophos Virus Library** window appears when you click on the Sophos Virus Library icon from the Sophos Anti-Virus main interface.

This window has the following components:

■ Virus List	■ More Info…
■ Search String	■ <Find Previous
■ Search	■ Find Next>
■ Summary Information	

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Search for a virus… window

The **Search for a virus…** window appears when you click on the Search button located in the Sophos Virus Library screen.
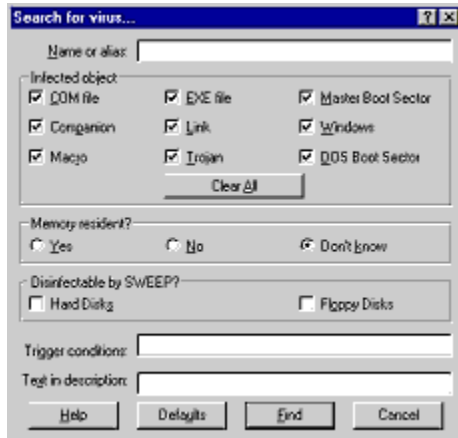
This window is used to search for a virus. By specifying search criteria, the library will highlight only viruses that match it. This window has the following components:
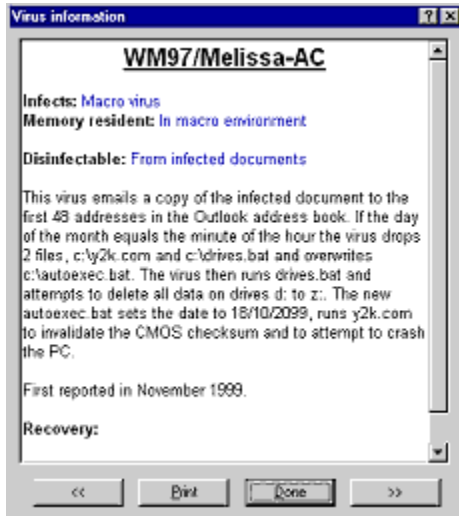
- Name or alias
- Infected object
- Clear All
- Memory resident?
- Disinfectable by SWEEP
- Trigger conditions
- Text in description
- Default
- Find

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Virus information window

The **Virus information** window appears when you click on More Info… from the Sophos Virus Library window.

This windows offers you more detailed information about the virus highlighted in the Virus List including recovery information when available. This window has the following components:
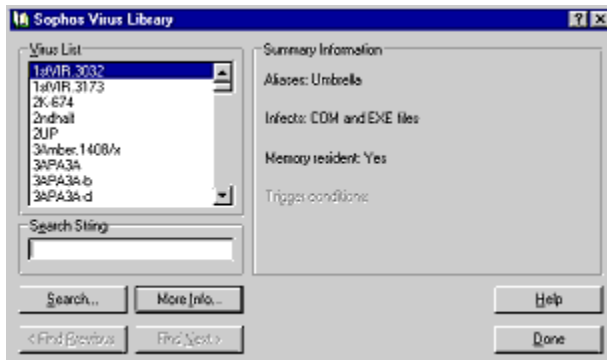
- ■   <<
- ■   >>

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Searching for a known virus

To search for a known virus, enter its name (or part of its name) in the Search String field of the Sophos Virus Library window and press the Search button.

Many viruses have variants with similar names, so even though you entered a full known virus name, more than one entry may be highlighted.

Note: Sophos Anti-Virus applies a naming convention to viruses (e.g. the Melissa virus is stored under WM97/Melissa because it infects Word 97 documents).
See www.sophos.com/virusinfo/articles/virustypes.html.
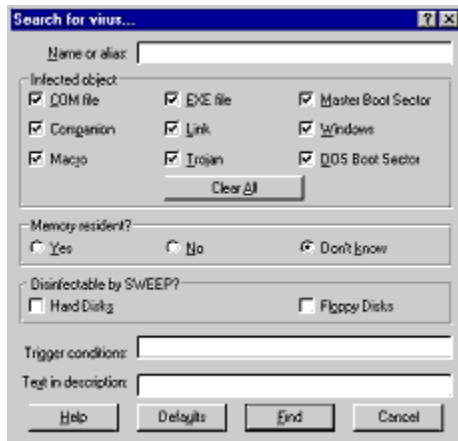
The Virus List highlights the first virus name (in alphabetical order) that matches your entry. Use the <Find Previous and Find Next> buttons to locate the virus you are looking for.

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Searching for an unknown virus

If a virus name is unknown, click the Search button located in the Sophos Virus Library window. This opens the Search for a virus… window.

The window opens in default mode. You can modify any of the criteria to narrow your search.

Once you complete entering the relevant information, click the Find button. The window will revert to the Sophos Virus Library window. The Virus List will highlight the first virus name (in alphabetical order) that matches your entry. If the highlighted virus was not the one you intended, use the <Find Previous and >Find Next buttons to locate it in the Sophos Virus Library.

If your search was unsuccessful, you can edit your search criteria in the Search for a virus… window.

Once you locate the virus, ensure that it is highlighted. In the Summary Informationwindow, an abstract of the virus is available. For more information about the virus, you can click the More Info… button. Alternatively, you can double-click on the virus name to open the Virus information.

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Narrowing or widening a search

Narrowing a search

If too many viruses match your criteria, click the Search button, which will open the Search for a virus… window. By adding any extra information that you know about the virus (a partial name, trigger condition, descriptions, etc…), you can remove some unwanted entries.

Widening a search

If your search did not locate a particular virus name, change the specifications in your search by eliminating some criteria you may have specified. If you know the virus name only in part, eliminate the other criteria and attempt a search with only the partial name. From here, you can add one criterion at a time.

If you are certain that a virus name you are aware of cannot be located in the Virus List, please contact Technical Support at Sophos.

UK and worldwide	+44 1235 559933
USA	(781) 213-3456
Germany	06136 91193
France	01 46 92 24 42
Australia	02 8217 7111
Email	support@sophos.com

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USING: Why can't I?

Finding a particular virus

It may be that your virus name search is too wide or narrow. See <u>How do I narrow or widen my search?</u> for more information.

If you are certain that a virus name you are aware of cannot be located in the list, please contact Technical Support at Sophos.

UK and worldwide	+44 1235 559933
USA	(781) 213-3456
Germany	06136 91193
France	01 46 92 24 42
Australia	02 8217 7111
Email	<u>support@sophos.com</u>

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Contains all the virus names known to Sophos at the time of the release.

Contains a text box where you can enter a virus name. Useful if the full virus name (or part of the virus name) is known.

Opens the [Search for a virus…](#) window. Here, you can specify particular virus information, narrowing the search.

Opens the [Virus information](#) window which contains more detailed information about the virus.

Searches the **Virus List** (in alphabetical order) for the next virus that matches the search criteria specified in the [Search for a virus…](#) window.

Searches the **Virus List** (in alphabetical order) for the previous virus that matched the search criteria specified in the [Search for a virus…](#) window.

Summary information

Shows an abstract of a highlighted virus. It includes the following information: alias names, types of files infected, whether the virus is memory resident or not, and trigger conditions. For more detailed information, you can open the Virus Information window by clicking the More Info… button, or by double-clicking on the virus name.

Lists all known aliases for the highlighted virus.

Shows whether the highlighted virus is memory resident or not.

Lists the types of files that are infected by the highlighted virus.

Lists trigger conditions of the highlighted virus.

Search for a virus…

Allows you to enter the full virus name, part of the virus name or any known aliases in the text box.

By default, all the options in the **Infected object** section are selected. Deselect any target file types and virus types that you know are not applicable to a particular virus search.

Click to deselect all the virus classifiers in the **Infected object** section.

Allows you to specify whether the virus you are searching for is memory resident or not. If you are not sure, select **Don't Know**.

Select the appropriate box if SWEEP can disinfect the virus you searching for on hard disks and/or floppy disks. If you are not sure, select nothing.

If known, enter the trigger conditions for the virus for which you are searching. Normally, trigger conditions are time-based, e.g. every 14 days, every Tuesday or every January.

If known, enter part of the text from the virus description for which you are searching.

Restores the default settings, overriding all changes that you may have made to the search settings.

Once you have completed the virus specifications, press Find to locate the viruses that match your criteria.

Virus information

Click to jump to the previous virus listed in the alphabetical list.

Click to jump to the next virus in the alphabetical list.