

How to enable sandbox feature on Windows Defender

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Microsoft Integrated Virus Removal Tool Windows Defender has become the first antivirus software capable of running in the sandbox environment. Sandbox is the process of running applications in a safe environment, completely separate from both the operating system and other applications / software on the computer. If the sandbox application is attacked, the sandbox technique will help prevent the spread from spreading.

Because antivirus software, anti-malware are highly privileged tools, are allowed to scan all corners of the computer for malicious code, so it is also an object easily targeted by attackers.

The antivirus software sandbox becomes necessary after the most powerful tools also suffer from vulnerabilities being exploited, causing the attacker to have full control over the victim computer, which Windows Defender has also encountered.



A software sandbox will separate it from other software and operating systems

That's why Microsoft added the ability to turn on Windows Defender in sandbox mode. Even if an attacker or a malicious application exploits a vulnerability in Defender, it will not affect other parts of the machine.

Google Project Zero researcher Tavis Ormandy discovered and published many vulnerabilities last year that talked about the Windows Defender sandbox on Twitter that this is a 'game changer' feature.

How to sandbox Windows Defender Antivirus

Currently, Windows Defender running on Windows 10 version 1703 (aka Creators Update) or newer has been supported with the sandbox feature, and is not enabled by default, but you must turn it on manually by following these steps:

1. Open Start and type **CMD** or **Command Prompt**.
2. Right-click on it and select **Run as Administrator**.
3. Type **setx /M MP_FORCE_USE_SANDBOX 1** and press **Enter**.
4. Restart the computer.

Microsoft is gradually launching Preview in Windows Insider that supports the sandbox feature for Defender Antivirus. This feature will also be released soon to all users.

See more:

1. 7 best Sandbox apps for Windows 10
2. Top free antivirus software, no bloatware and requires upgrade to free of distractions

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