

Should you use paid antivirus software?

Should you use paid antivirus software? Are free antivirus programs or Windows Defender, built into Windows 10, sufficient to combat virus attacks, variants, and malware?

If you're still wondering whether you should spend money on **paid antivirus software**, and what the differences are between paid and free antivirus software, then read on to find the answer in this article from TipsMake.



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Free and paid antivirus software

With threats, malware, botnets, keyloggers, and viruses becoming increasingly sophisticated and dangerous, coupled with constant attacks, it's time for users to equip their computers with antivirus software to protect their data and avoid becoming victims of attacks.



There are many free and paid antivirus software options available on the market. Some paid programs even include free trials for users to try out before deciding to purchase.

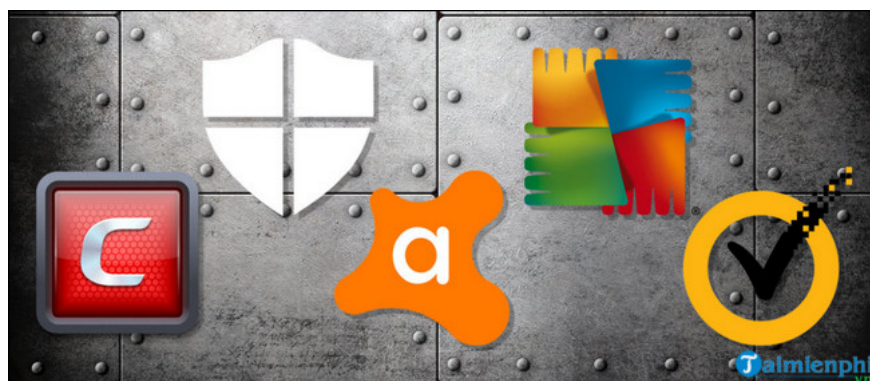
Although free, some antivirus programs like Avast Free Antivirus , Avira Free Antivirus, AVG AntiVirus Free, and Bitdefender Antivirus Free Edition, etc., can be powerful enough to "defeat" threats to Windows computers, though certainly not as good as paid software in some aspects.

On Windows operating systems, the software giant Microsoft also includes a standalone antivirus application called Windows Defender (on Windows 8.1 and 10), formerly known as Microsoft Security Essentials (on Windows 7 and 8.1). This application is designed to scan the system for threats and remove vulnerabilities, as well as scan files that users download.

Compared to free antivirus programs, paid software like Bitdefender, McAfee, Norton/Symantec, and Kaspersky Lab offers more advanced features and enhanced security.

Specifically, Avast's Internet Security package (priced at \$49.95 per PC per year) includes spam filtering and protection for user information such as passwords and bank account details when conducting online transactions.

Typically, paid antivirus programs offer users three subscription packages. For example, Bitdefender offers three packages: Bitdefender Antivirus Plus for \$59.95/3 PCs, Bitdefender Internet Security (with added features like Parental Control, two-way firewall, etc.) for \$79.95, and Bitdefender Total Security (with options for system performance checks and anti-theft tools) for \$89.95.



A breed that isn't a breed

Essentially, both free and paid antivirus software are capable of scanning and removing previously known viruses and malware.

The biggest difference is that paid software can detect and remove some new threats, such as websites containing new malware designed to trick users, etc. In addition, paid products are equipped with more sophisticated system behavior monitoring, capable of identifying and alerting users to potential dangers.

Another difference between free and paid antivirus software lies in their features, including advanced features, ease of use, and supported platforms (Windows, Mac, Android, and iOS).

Free programs often come with ads that constantly appear on the screen, annoying and distracting users; some programs may even change the browser's homepage and default search engine.

Conversely, paid programs and software are easier to install and use, and are less likely to conflict with other applications and programs installed on the system.

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For organizations and businesses, TipsMake recommends using paid antivirus software to enhance the security of company documents and systems. Some of these programs also include features to block users from accessing specific websites; this allows you to prevent employees from accessing Facebook , etc., so they can focus on their work.

Individual users can also consider spending money to purchase and use paid antivirus software to monitor and protect their devices in real time. In addition, McAfee's paid plans also include features to detect and prevent unauthorized use of your home Wi-Fi.

By now, you've probably found the answer to the question of whether or not to use paid antivirus software. Hopefully, this article from TipsMake has provided you with useful information.

If you don't have the financial means to purchase paid antivirus software, you can absolutely get free antivirus software like Avast Free or Avira Free Antivirus, which are listed below.

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