avast

Avast® Antivirus Solutions

REVIEWER'S GUIDE 2019

Contents

Avast® Antivirus Solutions
REVIEWER'S GUIDE 2019

Introduction
PC Security **A**

avast

A Introduction
For 2019, Security is more than Protection and Privacy

Ease of use and security are natural allies for creating a secure digital life

This year Avast was thrilled to celebrate 30 years of security protection for consumers. We have a mission to protect our users from the most vicious and unknown online threats at all times. The Avast Threat Labs on a moment to moment basis is aware of the must illusive and nastiest of malware on any given day. It is job #1 to protect digital users from the myriad of threats they stumble upon every day. In today's digital world with bad actors like WannaCry and CryptoLocker ransomware attacks and incessant data breaches being a part of life today. Users are all too familiar with the fact that they need reliable digital security from a brand who has created secure digital lives for people all over the world.

This year, as many users are very focused on personal privacy we are adding a feature designed to improve our privacy offense. We have developed a feature called Sensitive Data Shield that helps keep personal files with personal data away from unwanted eyes or potential thieves. Personal documents such as individual health documents, travel or ID documents, personal photos or even personnel files for your own business under lock and key so that only the authorized user can view them.

Also, in the 2019 edition, the focus included adding value in the overall user experience. Like a commuter who drives long hours to work, the PC user who spends hours on the PC, wants the whole ride to be smooth and without glitches. With the introduction of our new feature, Do Not Disturb, we take our former "Game Mode" feature and amplified the user scenarios it can enhance.

This feature now disables annoying notifications and interruptions by upgrading it to a feature that is designed to improve the user's experience whether they are playing games, watching a movie, or sharing a slideshow or presentation for family or friends.

Do Not Disturb mode means you never have to experience annoying or embarrassing notifications or IM's while presenting or sharing again. Remember when you were using your laptop to present some data to some co-workers and your children continually IM'd you to pick up ice cream and dog food on the way home? Now, with Do Not Disturb mode, you are safe. And, the best part is that it is automatic, it naturally activates when you go into "presentation mode" on your PC.

![avast logo]

A Introduction
Navigating the digital landmines of the everyday consumer

The world of cybersecurity has expanded beyond simple antivirus scans. Modern systems of threat detection include core processes such as structural analysis, behavioral scanning, and cloud-based intelligence.

Yet, for the common user, these terms and technologies are meaningless if we cannot communicate their functions clearly and enhance their usefulness beyond the realm of security. So today, we must address three main aspects when designing the best PC protection for our customers:

Protection

Protection remains our number one priority. Our 2019 security solutions feature an added emphasis on some of the most predatory malware issues, including the growing ransomware threat our users now face.

Performance

What good is protection that bogs down your computer? We've packed some of the world's most advanced security features into a lightweight application that's specifically designed not to slow you down.

Privacy

Because privacy is a paramount concern to our users, we've gone out of our way to protect them from prying eyes with new features like Avast Premier's always-on Webcam Shield.
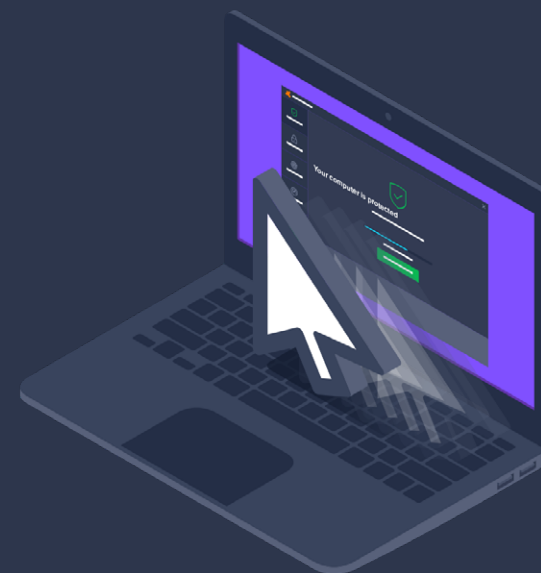
A Introduction
What's **NEW** in version 2019?

PROTECTION

NEW
Anti Phishing

Phishing is big business, and it's only getting bigger. Leading security companies and major carriers are noting dramatic increases in consumers falling prey to phishing lures. In 2017, Verizon reported that even after training, one in 14 users was attacked with spear phishing, spoofing, or impersonation emails or mobile text messages.

In light of this, we've tuned up our anti-phishing feature to deliver more advanced protection. With enhanced anti-phishing technology, your browser can now identify phishing sites without the need for a browser extension. Quicker scans now occur every five minutes ensuring safer browsing, without any delays to the browsing experience.

PRIVACY

NEW
Sensitive Data Shield

Tax files, health records, travel documents, and other sensitive documents are prime targets for hackers and identity thieves. Spyware can find these documents on your computer in just seconds, giving them full access to your name, address, birthdate, social security number, and more.

Sensitive Data Shield provides an extra layer of spyware protection, beyond what the free antivirus offers. Using advanced algorithms, it scans your computer for documents containing names, addresses, phone numbers, and other data it thinks you'd want to keep private. If it finds any, it will offer to seal them off from unknown apps and spyware.

There's no need to move your files or hide them in a secret folder, either. Sensitive Data Shield keeps everything right where you left it, and protects it all automatically. With Sensitive Data Shield, only trusted apps (e.g., Adobe Reader, Microsoft Word, etc.) can access or copy your private documents. Anything else is automatically blocked — unless you approve.

PERFORMANCE

NEW
Do Not Disturb Mode

Avast's new Do Not Disturb Mode silences notifications while you're running an app in fullscreen. Windows notifications, popups from other apps, and even our own Avast antivirus notifications are all blocked to keep distractions at bay.

Do Not Disturb Mode is a re-design of our previous Game Mode feature, which was limited to only fullscreen games. This new feature works with nearly any app running fullscreen and is included in all our antivirus offerings, from Avast Free Antivirus to Avast Premium. (Existing users will receive it via an automatic update.)

Avast® Antivirus Solutions
REVIEWER'S GUIDE 2019

Protection
Overview **B**

B Product Overview
Feature Benefits - **Protection**

Our most essential task is to keep PCs, their users, and their stored data safe from thieves, malware, or other forces that would seek to do them harm. This is the backbone of Avast's security, representing the cutting edge in the fight against malicious software and hackers.

CyberCapture

Avast's CyberCapture technology is one of our newest proprietary features that allows us to detect unknown files that might be a threat and analyze them in real-time. Whereas older technology ran locally on the user's PC, CyberCapture runs in the cloud to provide zero-second protection, detecting unrecognized files quickly.

At its core, CyberCapture is a cloud-based smart file scanner. Rather than relying on the latest definition updates, CyberCapture isolates unknown files in a safe environment and automatically establishes a two-way communication channel with the Avast Threat Labs.

This allows for immediate analysis, providing a first-response line of defense against new, never before reported threats.

To analyze the file, Avast clears away all the false code and misdirection that malware creators use to mask malware's true intentions. By peeling away layers of obfuscated code, CyberCapture is able to observe the binary level commands inside malware and better understand the instructions hidden there. While CyberCapture is analyzing, a user can run the file before CyberCapture has finished; however, we strongly recommend against this. Once a file has been analyzed, Avast tells the user whether the file is safe or dangerous.

Wi-Fi Inspector

We delivered the first Wi-Fi inspection tool to the market over five years ago and every year, we continue to improve this critical home network tool. This year our Wi-Fi Inspector has a new, sleeker look making it easier to use. This feature identifies weak passwords, vulnerable routers, compromised Internet connections, and enabled, but not protected, IPv6. It lists all the devices on the network so users can make sure that only trusted devices are connected. If an issue is found, we'll offer solutions for how to fix it to keep you safe on both public and private networks.

This proactive approach to security highlights our ongoing commitment to provide users with 360 degrees of protection that extends beyond the device to the user's Wi-Fi landscape, both now and in the future.

B Product Overview

Feature Benefits - **Protection**

Avast Secure Browser

Included with all of Avast Antivirus products is our new Avast Secure Browser. Designed by our Avast browser development team to offer a smart, secure browsing experience while up to four times as fast as competitors, Avast Secure Browser is packed with features including a new Security and Privacy Center for a customized browsing experience. With features like Stealth Mode for a "truly stealth" online experience and "Bank Mode" for safe banking to AntiTracking for keeping your fingerprints off of the sites you don't want to leave a trace or following you once you bounce. Avast Secure Browser is packed with features designed to keep all of your online time safe, private and secure.

Web/Mail/File Shield

As more and more online services are moving to HTTPS-by-default or even HTTPS-exclusive, hackers are increasingly targeting these sites. That's why it's imperative for security software to check even these encrypted websites. To address this, our trusted Web Shield technology scans HTTPS sites for malware and other dangers without any man-in-the-middle (MITM) methods. We offer the strongest HTTPS security without having to sacrifice convenience, as we verify website certificates rather than replacing them with our own.

HTTPS scanning detects and decrypts TLS/SSL-protected traffic. Additionally, this feature adds compatibility for SPDY+HTTPS/HTTP 2.0 traffic. So in summation, we check HTTPS sites without disrupting users' browsing experience.

Like the Web Shield, our File Shield and Mail Shield protect essential, often times vulnerable parts of your PC. Mail Shield scans emails received in your inbox to ensure they're free of malware, while File Shield quickly scans files that are launched on a PC to ensure they're free of any recognizable malware. Users can adjust or disable HTTPS scanning, as well as our other shields, from the Scan screen of our updated UI.

Ransomware Shield

Avast Free Antivirus already stops ransomware thanks to its included Shield technologies (Email, File, Web, Behavior), but our Internet Security and Premier versions now go a step further by giving you an additional layer of ransomware security.

Ransomware Shield stops both ransomware and untrusted apps from changing, deleting, or encrypting personal photos and files in your protected folders.

Feature Benefits - **Protection**

Real Site

One of the biggest risks that online users face is DNS hijacking. Malware exploits vulnerabilities in a user's router and surreptitiously redirects them away from their intended destination, such as their bank's website, to a fake site that looks just like the real thing. When the user tries to log in, thieves capture the user's login details and then use them to access the real site.

Avast, however, has everything users need to keep their browsers honest. Real Site (previously called Secure DNS) is available in all of Avast's paid antivirus products to encrypt the traffic between an Avast-protected device and our DNS server. This way, users can relax knowing that they'll always go to the right destination every time.

Hardened Mode

There are 3 file types: good, bad, and unknown. When users trigger Hardened Mode, our antivirus will block all bad and unknown files from running. Only the good files will be allowed. There are two levels of severity the user can set Hardened Mode to:

- Moderate, which simply blocks files that would normally go through the CyberCapture process

- Aggressive, which won't run any applications with low prevalence (or any application that very few Avast users have installed and used)

By using data collected by our 400 million users, we can determine if an application's reputation is good or not. Since all the processing and rule checks are done in the definition updates, users enjoy greater flexibility without suffering any interruptions.

In Hardened Mode, if Avast detects an issue while trying to run an application, a message will appear warning the user that their PC may be at risk if they choose to continue.

Rescue Disk

People can lose days of time and chunks of saved data while trying to purge malware from their systems. To smooth out this process, Avast allows users to create a version of their Avast installation and save it to a USB or CD. This way, if a user's PC becomes so infected that it can't even run Avast properly, the user has the disk version ready to give their PC a clean reboot and restore its functionality.

The Rescue Disk is built on Windows PE (a pre-installation environment), which allows users to boot a PC even when there's no functioning OS. The Rescue Disk function is available in all Avast products.

Avast® Antivirus Solutions
REVIEWER'S GUIDE 2019

B Product Overview
Feature Benefits - **Protection**

Sandbox

Users often find themselves unsure if software they've installed on their system is safe to run, or if it may hide some malignant malware. This is especially true if the user doesn't trust the source of the file. Sandbox, a feature of our Internet Security and Premier antivirus, is a virtual space that allows users to run files safely, separated from the rest of their PC, so they're at no risk of any lurking malware sneaking onto their drive and corrupting or stealing their data.

Sandbox can run individual files with just a click, and can continue to run them for as long as the user sees fit. Any changes made by the executable, or within the executable, are not saved once Sandbox is closed.

Firewall

While Windows offers a free firewall, it is not nearly robust enough for most security needs and offers very few configuration options. The Avast Firewall, on the other hand, offers better outbound protection and configurability than Windows, while remaining nicely invisible to the user. The silent Firewall also uses crowd-sourced data from our 400 million global users to identify what file types and applications are whitelisted, even those from remote corners of the world. The firewall feature is available in Avast Internet Security and Avast Premier.
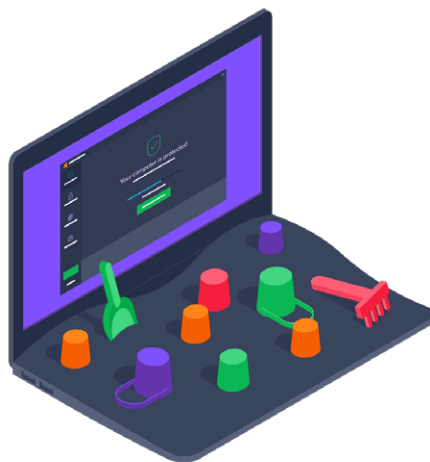
No Registration
Performance

Since PC protection has become ubiquitous and necessary, more customers are putting value in a service's ability to protect them without interference. In Avast Free Antivirus, we've removed the registration barrier so you can start protecting yourself as quickly as possible.

![Avast logo]

Performance
Overview **C**

![avast logo]
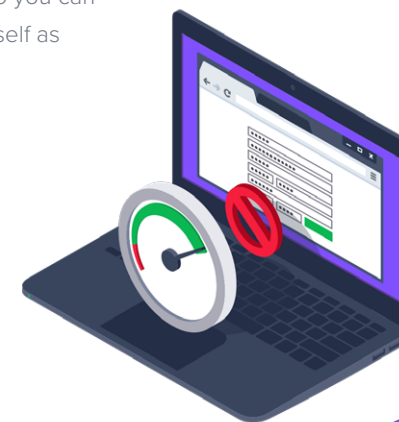
C Product Overview
Feature Benefits - **Performance**

It's not enough to protect our users from malicious software.
The best defense is useless if it bogs you down and is hard to use.

We've built advanced performance features like Software Updater, Streaming Updates, and Game Mode into our antivirus products to keep our users' PCs running as smoothly as possible. And our new, user-friendly UI makes it all incredibly easy to use.

User-Friendly UI

There's more to upgrading our UI than simply ensuring our antivirus remains easy to use. The design is uniform across the entire client, and separates all our products into three categories: protection, performance, and privacy. Informative tabs quickly and clearly identify the product and its functions, and each product follows a simplified flow that reduces the number of clicks it takes to get the results you're looking for.

Streaming Updates

While we now do much of our heavy lifting on the cloud, we continue to keep our antivirus up to date with regular definition updates. This is especially important for when users find themselves offline.

We send more than 200 micro-updates per day — approximately one every six minutes — and have expanded the types of signatures provided over streaming updates to include DynaGen and manually created signatures, along with TrojanGen/EvoGen, URL blocks, and whitelist signatures. In short, we're delivering near real-time signature updates to protect against the newest emerging malware.

Smart Scan

Smart Scan lets users scan for a plethora of issues with one click and to discover features that could further improve their PC. To speed up the scanning process, Smart Scan combines scans for viruses, software updates, network problems, new features and performance issues into one concentrated scan.

Once completed, it shows the itemized results and, if there are any issues, offers tools and suggestions to fix them.

C Product Overview
Feature Benefits - **Performance**

Passive Mode

Passive Mode triggers automatically when another antivirus program is installed with Avast already on the system. When activated, Passive Mode shuts down our active shielding components and Firewall, which allows Avast and an alternative antivirus to share the same system space without competing. Thus, users can enjoy our scans and other tools alongside another antivirus solution chosen for real-time protection. Passive Mode can be toggled on and off manually from the settings, regardless of the presence of another antivirus on the system. However, we don't ever change the settings of any other antivirus currently on your machine, so turning Passive Mode on without manually turning on another security program may leave your PC without active protection. It may seem counter-intuitive to be willing to shut down our own protection to make room for another, but we feel flexibility and inclusivity allow our users greater control over their devices.

Software Updater

Software updates can be a real hassle, as they interrupt work and disrupt system functions. Because they can be so annoying, many users postpone installing them, which leaves their devices vulnerable.
Many PC users are not aware that cybercriminals take advantage of vulnerabilities in outdated, commonly used software such as browsers, Flash Player, Skype, and other programs.

Through security flaws, hackers can access a user's system to install malware like spyware and adware, which can affect performance and, perhaps most importantly, lead to identity theft. Therefore, it is important to keep software updated. Avast makes this chore much easier with Software Updater. Helping users update faster than ever, Avast lists all the out-of-date programs and applications on the device and allows users to update them with a single, convenient click.

For Avast Premier users, updates can be downloaded and installed automatically and unobtrusively, through our own system servers, so as to not disturb system functions. All this so our users can relax knowing the most vulnerable holes in their PC's security are covered.
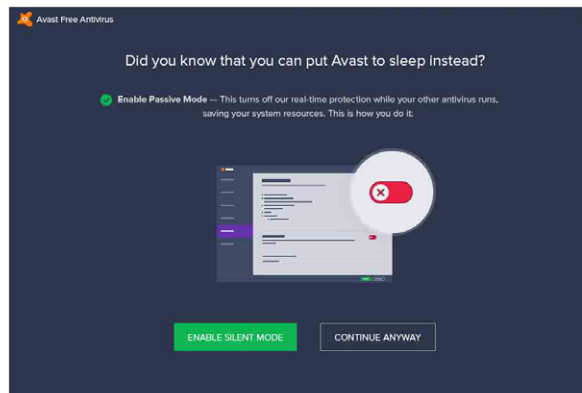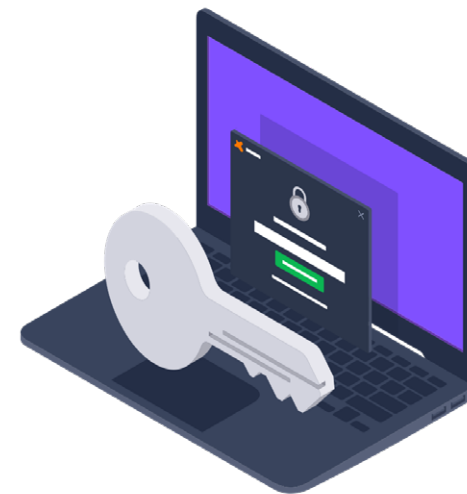

'Passive Mode' allows you to run the tools you want alongside the Avast solution with ease.
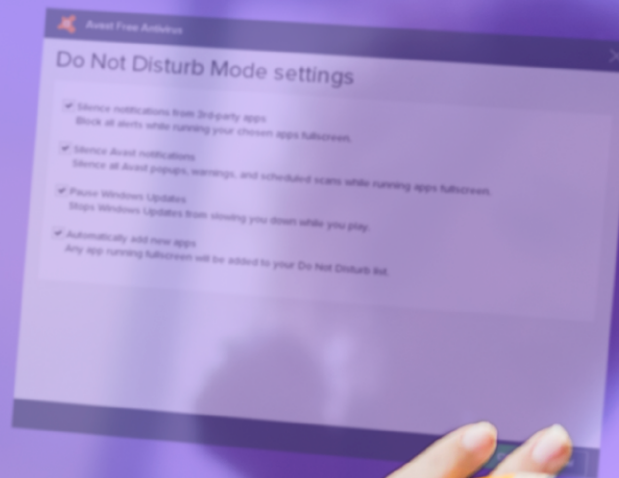
Privacy
Overview **D**

D Product Overview
Feature Benefits - Privacy

Closely linked with protection, a privacy feature is anything that expressly works to keep you anonymous, and your activities secret, from any prying eyes online.

Passwords

Avast Passwords makes managing your passwords safe and convenient. Avast Passwords can be used either exclusively on the user's PC, with all data stored there, or it can be synced across all of the user's devices (PC, Android, iOS, and Mac). If it is, all data is encrypted and stored on Avast's secure servers as well as on the user's local hard drive.

Approximately 80% of all users have passwords stored on their browser, where they are easy for spies and hackers to access. Most users either aren't aware of the danger or are too fond of the convenience to care. Avast Passwords, however, offers the best of both worlds — it keeps the user's passwords and credit card details in one convenient location, locked behind one master password. When unlocked, and when the accompanying web add-on has been installed on a browser, Avast Passwords will auto-fill a user's information every time they go to log into an account online with the same speed and convenience as a browser.

Avast Passwords also comes with several other features, such as Secure Notes, which is a digital notepad safely hidden away from the rest of the world. And for premium users, Avast Passwords can monitor if any of their passwords have been leaked by comparing them to a database of stolen passwords, and warn the user if their accounts are vulnerable, so they can change their passwords. According to an Avast survey, only 63% of users around the world took action after being affected by a data breach. Users can also access all their online accounts across all their devices with the convenience of One-Touch Login, which lets them unlock their Avast Passwords with one touch on their phone.

D Product Overview
Feature Benefits - **Privacy**

Webcam Shield

Avast Premier eliminates the need for an ugly piece of tape attached to your PC webcam. Our new Webcam Shield is your computer's personal bodyguard, blocking untrusted apps from hijacking your webcam to spy on you and your family. With this feature, you have complete control over what uses your camera. When selected in settings, it can even ensure that all apps (even the safe ones) ask your permission before accessing your webcam.


Avast Online Security

The Avast browser extension features a number of browser plug-ins, such as a Do Not Track, which identifies tracking software and lets the user decide whether or not to allow that software to keep tracking them. For each website a user visits, they'll see a number attached to the Avast plug-in icon (located in the upper right-hand corner of their browser menu bar).

When users click on the number, they'll see a list of all the tracking and analytics programs that are trying to follow them. From there, they can enable or disable them as they choose, creating a selectively private online browsing experience. While most modern browsers already come with some form of Do Not Track support, Avast's is very different: instead of relying on HTTP DNT headers, it uses proprietary technology that servers can't override.
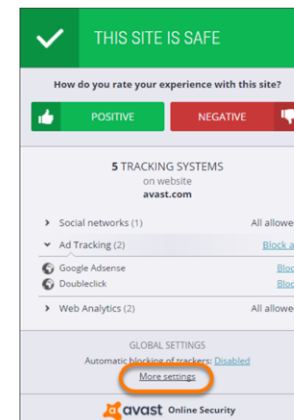
Each of our browser plug-ins also include an anti-phishing feature that blocks webpages from loading if Avast detects malicious sites. The SiteCorrect function corrects typos in URLs to prevent users from accidentally going to websites they didn't intend to visit.

The Chrome browser plug-in is distributed via the Chrome Web Store or the program installer. Similarly, the Firefox plug-in is available from the Firefox store or the program installer. Both of these can be used independently of Avast. Plug-ins for Internet Explorer and Safari are offered through the program installer only.

avast

D Product Overview
Feature Benefits - **Privacy**

Data Shredder

Even deleting a file doesn't remove it for good — and it's no challenge at all for someone to recover deleted files on recovered hard drives. Avast Premier's Data Shredder, however, encrypts deleted data, so even if it's recovered, no one can extract anything from the files.
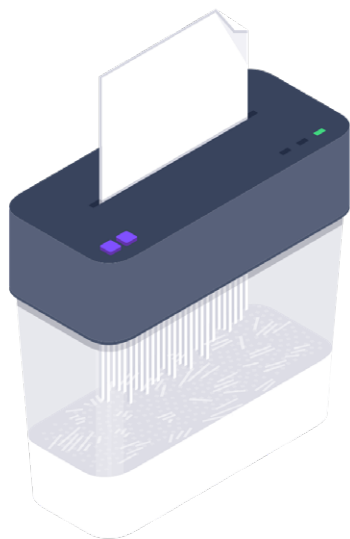
Privacy Detection Within Applications

Potential Unwanted Programs (PUPs), such as toolbars and advertising networks that a user installs without knowing, can slow down a PC. While PUPs are not really malware, users often don't know about them or don't use/need them, and they can frequently give your data away to third-party advertisers.

To help keep these in check, we offer Browser Cleanup. Browser Cleanup scans a user's browsers and identifies all poorly rated add-ons, extensions, search engines and toolbars that it may find. From there, it allows users to disable them, remove them or just leave them be.

Anti-Spam

Spam isn't just annoying — it can be a privacy risk, offering users phishing links built specifically to exploit their PC or credit card data. These emails try to convince users they're from legitimate senders, but our anti-spam technology catches them, protecting our users' data and time for a cleaner, safer inbox.

Anti-Spam's thoroughness can be adjusted so users can select how tightly Anti-Spam controls the flow of emails into their inbox.

Avast® Antivirus Solutions
REVIEWER'S GUIDE 2019

E Summary
Portfolio Comparison

Avast now offers three antivirus products, from essential to complete protection, to fit just about anyone's security needs.

	Free AntiVirus Essential	Internet Security Advanced	Premier Complete
Anti-Malware	●	●	●
Anti-Spyware	●	●	●
Streaming Updates	●	●	●
Hardened Mode	●	●	●
CyberCapture	●	●	●
Do Not Disturb Mode NEW	●	●	●
Behavior Shield	●	●	●
Do Not Track, SiteCorrect, Anti-Phishing NEW	●	●	●
Wi-Fi Inspector	●	●	●
Web / File / Mail Shield	●	●	●
Smart Scan	●	●	●
Passwords	●	●	●
Software Updater	Manual	Manual	Automatic
Sensitive Data Shield NEW		●	●
Ransomware Shield		●	●
Sandbox		●	●
Real Site		●	●
Anti-Spam		●	●
Firewall		●	●
Data Shredder			●
Webcam Shield			●

E Summary
Big data defeats big predators

Avast combines the strength of big data, artificial intelligence and deep threat inspection to identify, detect and destroy cyber threats in real time, making the Internet safer for all.

400 million connected sensors from our active users provide a continual stream of data facilitating learning at unprecedented speeds.

Our security cloud checks over **200 billion URLs** and **300 million new files** monthly. We employ local monitoring and detection which gives us the ability to use specialized baits and traps to detect, diffuse and defeat any malicious activity on any device.

Avast users protect more than just their own devices. As an Avast user, you become an active sensor feeding the insight to identify and eliminate threats for the entire network.

avast

E Summary
Download

Download a trial or purchase the products from the links below.
Reviewers licenses are available from your local press contact.

Avast (www.avast.com), the global leader in digital security products, protects over 400 million people online. Avast offers products under the Avast and AVG brands that protect people from threats on the Internet and the evolving IoT threat landscape.

The company's threat detection network is among the most advanced in the world, using machine learning and artificial intelligence technologies to detect and stop threats in real time.

Avast digital security products for Mobile, PC or Mac are top-ranked and certified by VB100, AV-Comparatives, AV-Test, OPSWAT, ICSA Labs, West Coast Labs and others.

Free Antivirus
Essential

Now with
No Registration
required

FREE DOWNLOAD

Internet Security
Advanced

$59.00 - 1 year
$109.99 - 2 years
$159.99 - 3 years

all prices for one PC

DOWNLOAD

Premier
Complete

$69.00 - 1 year
$139.99 - 2 years
$209.99 - 3 years

all prices for one PC

DOWNLOAD

Minimum system requirements for all products in the Avast Antivirus product line: Pentium 4 processor, 256 MB RAM, 2 GB of free hard disk space, Microsoft Windows XP SP3/Vista/7/8/8.1/10 (32/64 bit)

Avast® Antivirus Solutions
REVIEWER'S GUIDE 2019

avast

Contact
Information **F**