

# Antivirus & Security Software



# Protecting Your Device from Malware



## Malware Threats Overview

Malware includes viruses, spyware, and ransomware that threaten data security and system stability.

## Role of Antivirus Software

Antivirus software scans and removes malware by detecting known signatures and suspicious behaviors.

## Built-in OS Protections

Modern OS like Windows and macOS include built-in security features for real-time malware protection.

## Importance of Active AV Software

Keeping antivirus software active and updated is essential to prevent data breaches and system damage.

# Free vs. Paid Antivirus



## Features of Free Antivirus

Free antivirus offers essential protection like virus scanning and real-time defense but lacks advanced features.

## Limitations of Free Antivirus

Free software may include ads and prompts to upgrade, and often misses advanced security tools.

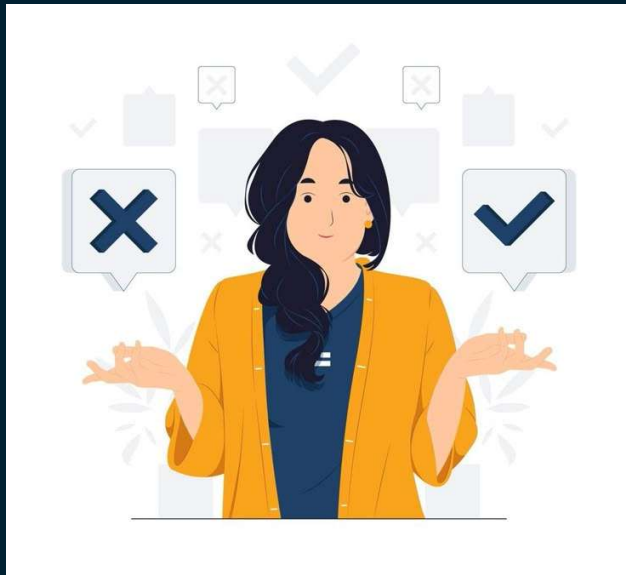
## Advantages of Paid Antivirus

Paid suites provide comprehensive security including firewalls, VPNs, password managers, and 24/7 support.

## Choosing Based on Needs

Users should select antivirus based on their security needs, technical skills, and desired protection level.

# Choosing What's Right for You



## **Basic Protection Options**

Built-in and reputable free antivirus tools offer real-time scanning and automatic updates for basic user protection.

## **MacOS Antivirus Needs**

Mac users can install free antivirus software to enhance protection despite fewer widespread virus threats.

## **Paid Security Suites Benefits**

Paid antivirus suites offer advanced features like vulnerability scans and phone support for complex issues.

## **Importance of Updates**

Keeping antivirus software updated and active is critical to defending against evolving cyber threats.

# Safety Tips & Antivirus Scams



## Scareware Tactics

Cybercriminals use fake virus alerts to trick users into downloading malware or revealing personal info.

## Legitimate Antivirus Behavior

Real antivirus software never demands payment or calls for immediate action via pop-ups or phone calls.

## User Response Tips

Avoid clicking suspicious pop-ups; close browser tabs or use task manager to exit unresponsive apps safely.

## Trustworthy Practices

Only trust alerts from installed antivirus programs and download software from official, trusted sources.