

## Free antivirus software

### Pros and Cons:

- ♦ You can use your chosen antivirus, anti-spyware, anti-spam and firewall programs in tandem to completely protect your PC or Mac without spending a penny.
- ♦ They provide only a basic level of protection and lack the extra features of paid-for security software.
- ♦ You'll have to keep each individual program updated to ensure you're protected against the latest threats.
- ♦ Free antivirus software is typically for use on a single computer, so you'll need to download, install and manage a separate version if you have more than one computer.

### Are two anti-virus better than one in protecting your computer?

No! And it is not just about the competition on the antivirus market. Several antivirus solutions installed on one PC won't come together due to purely technical reasons, even if created by the same company. Each of the antivirus-es seek to gain control over a long list of operations, establishing network connection, writing files and alike, thus, 'arguing' over Windows functions they get in each other's way. The consequences may vary from slowing down the system to making it absolutely inoperable or even knocking down both antivirus-es.

### So which is the best antivirus to use

Antivirus is a personal choice and the best for you is likely to be the one that offers the features you need and works well on your system while coming in at a price point that works for your budget.

We are not a rating agency but we sure have nearly 10 years combined experience in this industry. Based on that, we have three recommendations that we think could work perfect especially if you live in Zambia :- Kaspersky, Avast, McAfee!

# ANTIVIRUS



## BUYING GUIDE



# SILVERKEY TECHNOLOGIES

## Do you really need Antivirus on your PC?

Well the answer is yes. The Internet is not a secure place! If you visit a bad website or download certain files, your PC will acquire computer viruses. Some viruses are distributed through emails, free programs, pop-up messages etc. Besides, if you insert removable media like CDs, USBs and DVDs which get infected with virus, so it is essential to have good Antivirus software to detect and remove viruses before they do harm to your system.

## Which antivirus should you choose?

To have a better picture on what the best antivirus is for you, there are areas you need to approach:

### \* **Detection**

Malware is a harmful type of software intended to secretly access a device without the user's knowledge. Malware most commonly gets access to your device through the Internet and via email, though it can also get access through hacked websites, game demos, music files, toolbars, software, free subscriptions, or anything else you download from the Web.

### \* ***Compatibility***

As there are many versions of antivirus programs out there, it's always important to look for the right version that will work or is compatible on your system (eg windows 7,8.1,10)

### \* **Security Features**

Almost every Anti-virus includes basic features like scheduled scan, anti-spyware tools, email security and USB drive scanner.

### \* **Download Scanning**

The other feature you should look for in antivirus software is download scanning. A lot of malware gets into your computer through downloads. No matter how careful you are, there is always a chance some virus will sneak into your system by this route. A good antivirus program protects your computer not just while you are browsing, but also when you are about to download any sort of file, be it from an e-mail or an online source.

### \* **Easy to use**

The antivirus software should not be too demanding or complicated to use. Since an antivirus is something that should be present on every computer, basic operations like download, installation, database updates and scans should be a piece of cake for any kind of user.

## What is the difference between a free and paid Antivirus?

### **Paid-for antivirus software**

#### **Pros and cons**

- ◆ Provides an all-round security solution.
- ◆ Individual components are automatically updated at the same time so you get protection against the latest threats.
- ◆ Comes with extra features such as parental controls and tools for maintenance, back-up and recovery that can help you restore your computer in the event of a disaster.
- ◆ Advanced security features to secure completely from any hacking attacks.
- ◆ They can be expensive.