Here is a simple and clear explanation of **Antivirus** for **beginners** using plain and easy English.

**What is Antivirus?**

**Antivirus** is a **computer program** that helps **protect your device** from **viruses** and other **dangerous software** like **malware**, **spyware**, **ransomware**, and **worms**.

It works like a **security guard** for your computer.

**What Does Antivirus Do?**

* **Scans your files** and programs to find anything harmful
* **Warns you** if there is a virus or threat
* **Removes** or **blocks** viruses before they can damage your computer
* **Keeps your personal information safe**

**Why Do You Need Antivirus?**

* It **protects your computer** from being damaged or hacked
* It helps stop **password theft** and **data loss**
* It lets you use the internet more **safely**
* To **stop hackers and malware** from controlling your device

**How Does Antivirus Work?**

* It has a **list of known viruses** (called virus definitions)
* It checks all files and programs on your computer against this list
* If it finds something harmful, it **warns you or removes it**
* It also watches for **new and unknown threats** using smart tools

**When Does Antivirus Work?**

* **All the time in the background** (real-time protection)
* When you **open a file or download something**
* When you **run a full system scan**
* When you **visit websites** – it can block unsafe ones

**Types of Antivirus**

* **Free Antivirus:** Basic protection (e.g., Windows Defender, Avast Free)
* **Paid Antivirus:** Advanced features like **firewall**, **parental control**, and **identity protection** (e.g., Norton, McAfee, Kaspersky)

**How to Use Antivirus**

* **Install** it on your computer or phone
* **Update** it regularly so it can catch new viruses
* **Scan your system** often to check for threats
* Let it **run in the background** for real-time protection

**Good Habits with Antivirus**

* **Keep antivirus updated**
* **Do not turn it off**, even if your computer is slow
* **Only install one antivirus** program at a time
* **Listen to its warnings** and follow the advice

**Summary**

* **Antivirus keeps your computer safe** from harmful software
* It works by **finding, blocking, and removing viruses**
* You should always **keep it on and up to date**

Would you like a list of good free antivirus software for Windows or Android?