

TOP 7 FREE

COMPUTER PROTECTION DOWNLOADS
YOU DIDN'T KNOW YOU NEEDED

(But Will Love)



Erik Keranen
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Introduction

But first, an Introduction..

We're all in a heck of a mess. Computers are a central tool in our lives at home and on the job. The number of threats to this important tool grows daily. Worried? You have reason to be. Let me explain.

You've probably come here looking for dust protection for your television, PC or supporting equipment. Great! But, when it comes to your computer there are many more threats than just the physical assault of dust and grime.

Like what, you ask? There is the constant and ever-growing problem of electronic dust too, like hideous viruses, malware and soul-less hackers relentlessly trying to worm their way in to cause damage and take your stuff.

What should you do? There are so many confusing options. Like, a million different virus scanners, spyware software, and other programs clawing for your hard earned dollars.

What's the difference between a virus scanner, firewall and malware protection anyway? Will one program do the job or do you need several? You have probably even tried a few. And you wonder, "Am I doing the right thing or doing enough?"

Most people throw up their little digital arms in confusion and just hope for the best. Not a recipe for success. You know better.

This little (free!) report should give you what is needed to completely protect your digital life. Think of your own private secret service detail of sun-glassed men in dark suits forming a protective shell as they whisk you around town. Yeah, just like that.

Why should you listen to my opinions? I should probably tell you where I am coming from so you can make an informed decision of whether to take my advice or not.

First, I have a confession to make. Just because I'm known as the computer dust expert does not mean I spend my time in my basement sewing up computer covers.

Our main product line consisting of ShopShield filter covers for electronics is hand made locally in Michigan's Copper Country. We also have antistatic vinyl covers available for immediate dispatch in a large range of sizes to accommodate most television, CPU, monitor and printer models. Orders are filled efficiently using a secure shopping cart system.

In addition to running Computer Dust Solutions, I work as a university researcher conducting wood preservative research. At home, I have a wife and six young kids. Each of these three areas of my life is a beehive of non-stop action where computers play a big part. Can you see why simple, effective computer security which doesn't require much thought is important?

To avoid getting stung I must protect several different systems.

First, the CDS office computer is a desktop system with internet access by satellite (We are in the boonies and nothing faster is

available.) This computer handles all downloading, processing and shipping of orders.

Secondly, our home computer also connects via satellite and is mainly used for browsing, shopping, kid games and to download/store family photos.

My university computer is a laptop with both wireless internet capability and T1 connection. If that's not enough, my university workshop has a desktop computer. Whew!

Of these four computer systems, only the university workshop computer is covered 24/7 with the ShopShield. The constant wood dust in the space makes this essential. The other computers are okay if left uncovered and cleaned annually. I do keep an antimicrobial Keyboard Cap cover on the office keyboard to prevent the spread of germs.

In recent years I have relied on a variety of software programs to protect my various computer systems, some paid, some free. I admit it has taken some time and unpleasant experiences with virus infections and hard drive crashes to fully convince myself to use *all* of the tools at my disposal.

Have you had similar experiences? I think a few simple downloads will put your mind at ease.

Free modern computer software is often nearly, or just as good as the paid options, often just missing a few unnecessary features or conveniences. That said, most experts continue to add a disclaimer that you should ****really**** consider a full paid protection suite of software to ensure you are getting the best possible protection

available. That's my advice, too. However, if you prefer to start with zero cost options, let's begin!😊 You can always upgrade later.

Don't worry about the order too much, just get started. If a particular program interferes with the installation of another program, temporarily deactivate it.

Let's get cracking. The sun is fading and I see the bees swarming in the distance.

Chapter - 1

Security Essentials

Type Of Software: Anti-Virus

Features:

[Microsoft Security Essentials](#) helps guard against viruses, spyware, and malicious software of all kinds. This free program runs quietly in the background without many of the pop-ups and interruptions you get from others.

It's easy to download and install. Once installed it updates automatically once a day. You don't have to do anything.

Green, yellow and red color codes are used to show the security status of your PC and you can see a colored icon in the taskbar. Green means good. However, if it's yellow or red the program will alert you and recommend what to do.

<http://windows.microsoft.com/en-us/windows/security-essentials-download>

Chapter - 2

Zone Alarm

Type Of Software: Personal Firewall

Features:

[A firewall](#) is a software program or piece of hardware that blocks hackers from entering and using your computer. Hackers search the Internet for unprotected computers by sending out pings (calls) to thousands of computers and wait for responses. Firewalls prevent your computer from responding to these random calls. A firewall blocks communications to and from sources you don't permit. This is especially important if you have a high-speed Internet connection, like DSL or cable.

Some operating systems have built-in firewalls (like Windows Firewall) that may be in the "off" mode. Windows Firewall is on by default in Windows 7, so you don't need to set it up—and with its increased flexibility it may be all you need. In that case make sure it's turned on and forget about installing ZoneAlarm.

ZoneAlarm does not recommend running two firewall software products at the same time because you may experience performance problems. ZoneAlarm disables Windows Firewall upon installation so that ZoneAlarm is the only firewall running. If you uninstall the program ZoneAlarm re-enables Windows Firewall.

The Two-Way ZoneAlarm Firewall makes your PC invisible to hackers, blocks them and prevents viruses and spyware from stealing your personal data and sending it out to the Internet. Also, it works with any antivirus software.

<http://www.zonealarm.com/security/en-us/zonealarm-pc-security-free-firewall.htm>

Chapter - 3 Malwarebytes

Type Of Software: Anti-Malware

Features:

[Malwarebytes](http://www.malwarebytes.org/) is an effective anti-malware tool that gets very high reviews from both users and tech magazines.

<http://www.malwarebytes.org/>

Chapter - 4 CCleaner

Type Of Software: Clean-Up Utility

Features:

[CCleaner](#) is an established and timetested clean-up utility. It is perhaps the number one tool for cleaning your Windows PC. It helps you remove unnecessary programs, clear cookies from your browsers, tidy your system's Windows Registry, and perform similar tasks. I highly recommend this utility to help keep your PC free of useless junk that gets left behind from everyday use and downloading and uninstalling programs. It may even make your computer faster and more secure. It is easy to use and fast to download.

<http://www.piriform.com/ccleaner/>

Chapter - 5

EaseUS ToDo

Type Of Software: Back-up

Features:

[Easeus Todo Backup](#) is a great backup suite. Although EaseUs has discontinued their free version of the software, except for a 15 day free trial, I could not bear to delete it from my list. For \$29 it is still a bargain.

Features include drive imaging, file and folder backup, mounting of backup images as virtual drives, scheduling, and a lot more. Even the less technically inclined user should be able to set up a backup without much trouble.

The software provides full disaster recovery features, including a Windows PE-based recovery boot disc. Unlike many competitors, it also supports Windows Dynamic disks and RAID.

<http://www.todo-backup.com/home/>

Chapter - 6

Dropbox

Type Of Software: Back-up/File Sharing

Features:

[Dropbox](#) is often considered the industry standard for simple cloud storage. It is very easy to use and integrates well with your desktop. It shows up on your computer just like another drive or folder. Once you drop files into the drive, it will sync with Dropbox.com and allow you to access your files anywhere with just your login.

Dropbox is FREE up to 2GB. The killer feature here is the interface and ease-of-use. 2GB is a lot and if you're just uploading documents or smaller files, you won't fill this up fast. You also don't necessarily have to keep all your files in the Dropbox folder. I typically just switch out what I need, when I need it. If you want more permanent cloud storage or you just need more space, Dropbox offers some upgraded accounts at a VERY reasonable rate.

Installing Dropbox is very easy at the URL above. The program is available for Windows, Mac, Linux, and Mobile users.

We can both get an additional 500MB storage space if you use this referral link to sign up:

<http://db.tt/q7GpgZN>

Feel free to use this link – I would appreciate it, but no hard feelings if you don't! I just want you to take full advantage of the software.

Chapter - 7

LastPass

Type Of Software: Password Manager

Features:

LastPass is a password manager. When you log in to a secure site, a password manager captures the username and password. Then when you revisit that site it offers to fill in the saved credentials. LastPass 2.0 manages your passwords thoroughly and flexibly, with features that go way beyond the competition.

<https://lastpass.com/download.php>

Chapter - 8 SpeedFan

Type Of Software: Temperature And System Monitor

Note: This is a bonus listing for advanced users.

Features:

SpeedFan is a program that can access digital temperature sensors and monitor **voltages**, **fan speeds** and **temperatures** in computers with hardware monitor chips. The program can even access **S.M.A.R.T.** info and show **hard disk temperatures**. It works with Windows 9x, ME, NT, 2000, 2003, XP, Vista, Windows 7 and Windows 8. It works with Windows 64 bit too.

It is fully configurable and can create custom events to handle every situation automatically. This all costs you absolutely nothing!

The download link is a little tricky to find. Go to the URL above and click on "Speedfan 4.49" hyperlink in the "Download" paragraph

(The software version may change over time).

Read the instructions regarding possible conflicts with your firewall. You will find useful information on how to get the most from the software, like finding the source of computer hangs and adjusting fan speeds to reduce noise.

Read the disclaimer too. This is powerful software; you can do some damage to your system if you aren't careful.

Note: This program is not essential to protect your PC. If you don't have an issue with high CPU temperatures feel free to ignore it.

<http://www.almico.com/sfdownload.php>