

WINDOWS ANTIVIRUS AND SECURITY UPDATE 2022

BY BOB PRIMAK

-- FOR LCTG. WED., FEB. 9, 2022 -- ZOOM Meeting --

(Sharing Chrome Beta web browser tabs, unless there's something I've downloaded. All Master Links are in a Document format, not the usual slide show, so that Tables and Listings can be readily accessed by clicking on Links in the Document.)

Master Chart of Links possible to use in the presentation about Windows Antivirus 2022:

(Need at least to make this into a proper Document!) (So as to be able to follow the Links to the original online charts and roundup lists.) (Done!)

Goal: to make this List and sub-list the rankings in the Roundup Articles into a proper Document, so as not to have to scroll through online articles while giving the talk. The Ranked Test Results posts do list and rank everything in neat tables. Others do not do this.

Ranked Testing Tables:

The best Windows antivirus software for home users

<https://www.av-test.org/en/antivirus/home-windows/>

<https://www.av-test.org/en/>

Summary Report 2021

Date December 2021

Last Revision January 17th 2022

<https://www.av-comparatives.org/tests/summary-report-2021/>

Consumer Test Charts

Report

<https://www.av-comparatives.org/comparison/>

SE Labs Annual Report

Oct-Dec 2021 (PDF) **USE THE DOWNLOAD!**

<https://docs.google.com/viewerng/viewer?url=https://selabs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/oct-dec-2021-home.pdf&hl=en>

Non-Ranked Testing:

The following do not rank products in tables, but do substantial testing. One of these was referenced in the Reddit post. I could not find one of the labs referenced in the Reddit Post. (CS = Computer Solutions):

VB100 Certification

<https://www.virusbulletin.com/testing/vb100>

This lab does not rank products.

TPSC -- Videos of AV and security testing (UK)

<https://thepcsecuritychannel.com/about>

<https://thepcsecuritychannel.com/best-antivirus>

I haven't taken the time to look at any of these videos.

Summary of AV Test Results -- January 2022 (Results from June, 2021)

https://www.reddit.com/r/antivirus/comments/rzw1me/summary_of_av_test_results_january_2022/

New lab test results and those from new videos by TPSC and CS are included. AVs with no new results in over a year have been removed.

Removing DNFs, those older than 1 year, and then all products with 2 or fewer remaining results, gives the following table.

(Show Table)

[https://preview.redd.it/x4101f4ozoa81.png?](https://preview.redd.it/x4101f4ozoa81.png?width=815&format=png&auto=webp&s=91fc5d757b82e9d08122ff0702083376c4da3d5b)

[width=815&format=png&auto=webp&s=91fc5d757b82e9d08122ff0702083376c4da3d5b](https://preview.redd.it/x4101f4ozoa81.png?width=815&format=png&auto=webp&s=91fc5d757b82e9d08122ff0702083376c4da3d5b)

This Reddit Post is updated periodically, and summarizes test results from a variety of testing labs.

Some of these labs I am not able to verify.

Others do not rank products, so how the figures in this Reddit Post were compiled, I don't know.

General Interest Articles on AV Testing:

Can general security tests be useful? (Blog)

<https://blog.selabs.uk/2022/01/useful-real-world-security-reports/>

How to test for 'false positives' (Blog)

<https://blog.selabs.uk/2022/01/how-to-test-for-false-positives/>

Reviews and Roundups: (List rankings in each article.)

The best Windows 10 antivirus software in 2022

<https://www.tomsguide.com/best-picks/best-windows-10-antivirus>

Reviewed (in ranked order):

The best antivirus software 2022: Free antivirus and paid options tested

<https://www.tomsguide.com/us/best-antivirus.review-2588.html>

1st Bookmark.

Reviewed (in ranked order):

The best free antivirus software

<https://www.tomsguide.com/us/best-antivirus.review-2588.html>

2nd Bookmark.

Reviewed (in ranked order):

(Tom's Guide Lists on next page.)

Tom's Guide Windows Antivirus Roundup 2022:

(Ranked) PAID (Jan 2022)

1. Kaspersky Anti-Virus
2. Bitdefender Antivirus Plus
3. Norton AntiVirus Plus
4. ESET NOD32 Antivirus
5. McAfee AntiVirus Plus
6. Trend Micro Antivirus+ Security

(Ranked) PAID (Feb 2022)

1. Kaspersky Total Security
2. Bitdefender Antivirus Plus
3. Norton 360 Deluxe
4. McAfee Internet Security
5. Trend Micro Maximum Security
6. ESET Smart Security Premium
7. Sophos Home Premium

(What changes so fast that these rankings got juggled by the same publication in one month?)

(Ranked) FREE (Feb 2022)

1. Kaspersky Security Cloud Free
 2. Bitdefender Antivirus Free Edition
- Bitdefender has officially discontinued Antivirus Free Edition
3. Windows Defender Antivirus
 4. Avast Free Antivirus
 5. AVG AntiVirus Free

Honorable Mention

Malwarebytes Free

Not ranked, because this is not a full-service active antivirus program. It's only a second-opinion scanner.

I am not covering such specialty products today, due to time limitations.

This one just happens to show up in a Roundup article.

(Next Page – PC Mag Lists)

The Best Antivirus Protection for 2022

<https://www.pcmag.com/picks/the-best-antivirus-protection>

Reviewed (in ranked order):

The Best Free Antivirus Protection for 2022

<https://www.pcmag.com/picks/the-best-free-antivirus-protection>

Reviewed (in ranked order):

PC Mag 2022 Windows Antivirus Roundup:

PAID

Table Summary (Rankings by Stars Given)

- 1a. Bitdefender Antivirus Plus (5.0)
- 2a. Kaspersky Antivirus (4.5)
- 2b. Webroot Secure Anywhere(4.5)
- 3a. ESET NOD32 (4.0)
- 3b. Malwarebytes Premium (4.0)
- 3c. McAfee Antivirus Plus (4.0)
- 3d. Norton Antivirus Plus (4.0)
- 3e. Sophos Home Premium (4.0)
- 4a. Cylance Smart Antivirus (3.5)
- 4b. Emsisoft Anti-Malware (3.5)
- 4c. F-Secure Antivirus (3.5)
- 4d. G Data Antivirus (3.5)
- 4e. Trend Micro Antivirus+ Security (3.5)

FREE

Table Summary (Rankings by Stars Given)

- 1a. Avast Free (4.5)
- 1b. Kaspersky Free (4.5)
- 2a. AVG Free (4.0)
- 3a. Avira Free (3.5)
- 3b. Microsoft Defender (3.5)
- 4a. Adaware Free (3.0)
- 4b. Zone Alarm Free (3.0)

Malwarebytes Free is not reviewed here because it is not a full antivirus program.
There are specialized security programs for free, but these are also not reviewed here.

(Next Page – Other Tech Publication Lists)

The best antivirus software 2022

<https://www.techradar.com/best/best-antivirus>

Reviewed (in ranked order):

ALL (Ranked) (Mostly Paid versions)

1. Bitdefender Antivirus
2. Norton AntiVirus
3. Kaspersky Anti-Virus
4. Trend Micro Antivirus
5. Avast One
6. Microsoft Defender
7. Avira antivirus
8. McAfee antivirus
9. Webroot SecureAnywhere AntiVirus
10. Sophos Home

Best antivirus: Keep your Windows PC safe from spyware, Trojans, malware, and more

<https://www.pcworld.com/article/407277/best-antivirus-for-windows-pc.html>

Reviewed (in ranked order):

Mostly PAID except Windows Security

(Star Rankings)

- 1a. Avast One (4.5)
- 2a. Avira Prime (4.0)
- 2b. Total Security (4.0)
- 2c. Kaspersky Security Cloud 2020 (4.0)
- 2d. Norton 360 Deluxe (4.0)
- 2e. Trend Micro Maximum Security (4.0)
- 2f. AVG Internet Security (4.0)
- 2g. Bitdefender Total Security (4.0)
- 2h. McAfee Total Protection (4.0) *misplaced in article*
- 3a. Panda Dome Premium (3.5)
- 3b. Sophos Home Premium (3.5)
- 3c. Windows Security (3.5)
- 4a. PC Matic 4.0 (3.0)
- 4b. Total Defense Essential Anti-Virus (3.0)
- 4c. ZoneAlarm Extreme Security (3.0)

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(Next Page – More Tech Publications Lists)

Best antivirus software 2022: Protect your devices

<https://www.zdnet.com/article/best-antivirus/>

Reviewed (Not Ranked):

Not ranked. Some Mac and Android.

Listing only Windows programs.

Kaspersky Total Security 2022

Malwarebytes

Norton Antivirus

Bitdefender Total Security 2022

McAfee Total Protection 2022

Best antivirus software for 2022

<https://www.cnet.com/tech/services-and-software/best-antivirus/>

Not Ranked. “Best of” Categories.

Best free Windows antivirus

Microsoft Defender

Best antivirus subscription for Windows

Norton 360 with LifeLock Select

Best free antivirus alternative for Windows

Bitdefender Antivirus Free Edition

Best on-demand Windows malware removal

Malwarebytes

Solid subscription antivirus alternative

McAfee Total Protection

Another good subscription option

Trend Micro Maximum Security

Worthwhile subscription alternative

ESET NOD32 Antivirus

Alternative free Windows antivirus

Sophos Home

What about Avast?

(And Kaspersky)

Note: CNET has a problem with Kaspersky and with Avast. This is based on outdated rumors about CCleaner malware, spyware, foistware (Avast/CCleaner) data selling and Russian State Sponsored hacking. Though, right now, Russian hacking may be back in the news.

Well, that's it for this year! Discussion? Questions? Comments? What do we use on our computers?

-- Bob Primak, for Lexington Computers and Technology user Group (LCTG). --

-- Mon., Feb. 07, 2022 --

-- 07:53:23 PM EST --

-- Updated with Lists and Rankings from Review Articles --

-- Tue., Feb. 08, 2022 --

-- 09:34:30 AM EST --