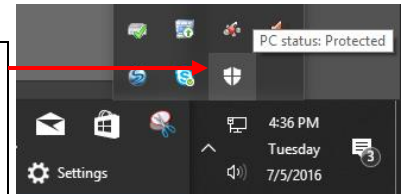# Windows 10

Microsoft Quick Start

Quick Start: Windows Defender

ITS (2017)

Windows Defender helps keep your device safe from malicious or unwanted software. It's always on, protecting you, and pretty much runs by itself. You could just stop reading now.
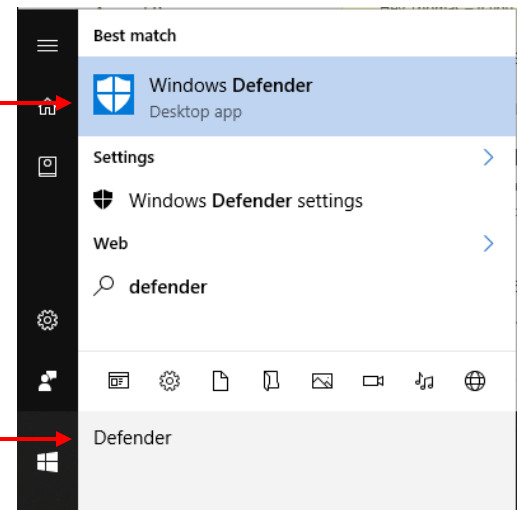
PC status: Protected

How do you know it's running?
In the lower-right corner of the desktop, select the Show hidden icons⌃, and then hover over the Windows Defender ⊞icon. You'll see a message that says PC status: Protected.

4:36 PM
Tuesday
7/5/2016
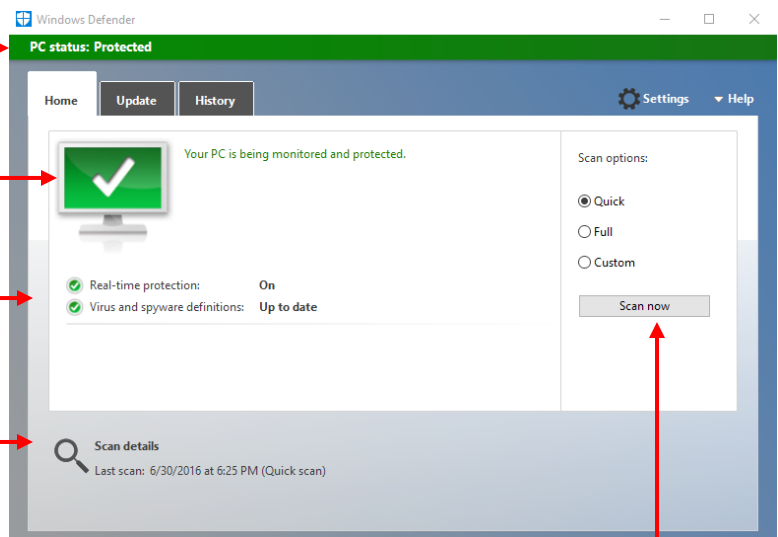
Settings

Best match

Windows **Defender**
Desktop app

Here's how to open it
In the search box on the taskbar, type Defender and then select Windows Defender from the list of results.

Settings

Windows **Defender** settings

Web

defender

Get oriented

Defender

Windows Defender

PC status: Protected

Home   Update   History

Settings   ▼ Help

Confidence at a glance
Green means all systems go!

Your PC is being monitored and protected.

Scan options:
○ Quick
○ Full
○ Custom

Real-time protection: On
Virus and spyware definitions: Up to date

Scan now

When was the last scan?

Scan details
Last scan: 6/30/2016 at 6:25 PM (Quick scan)

Need more assurance?
If your PC is acting weird and it's been a day since your last scan, run another scan whenever you want. If you suspect a virus, try a full scan.

Updates just happen

Select the Update tab to see what's up

Updates are automatic
They arrive through Windows Update.

When was the last update?

If you're going to do a scan...
Look for a newer update first.

Windows Defender

PC status: Protected

| Home | Update | History |

Settings ▼ Help

Virus and spyware definitions: **Up to date**

Your virus and spyware definitions are automatically updated to help protect your PC.

Definitions created on:	7/5/2016 at 10:41 AM
Definitions last updated:	7/5/2016 at 1:59 PM
Virus definition version:	1.225.527.0
Spyware definition version:	1.225.527.0

Update definitions

Did you know?
Virus, spyware, and other malware definitions are files that are used to identify malicious or potentially unwanted software on your PC. These definitions are updated automatically, but you can also click Update to get the latest versions whenever you want.

Make sense of the present by understanding the past

Why was something blocked?
Select the History tab.

What's in quarantine?
You'll find malicious software here.

What's been allowed?
Each thing you decided was OK is listed here.

Everything we found

Get info about the stuff that was found

Windows Defender

C status: Protected

| Home | Update | History |

Settings ▼ Help

View the items that were detected as potentially harmful and the actions that you took on them:

◉ **Quarantined items**
   Items that were prevented from running but not removed from your PC.

○ **Allowed items**
   Items that you've allowed to run on your PC.

○ **All detected items**
   Items that were detected on your PC.

To help protect user privacy, these items are hidden.
Click View details to see the items.
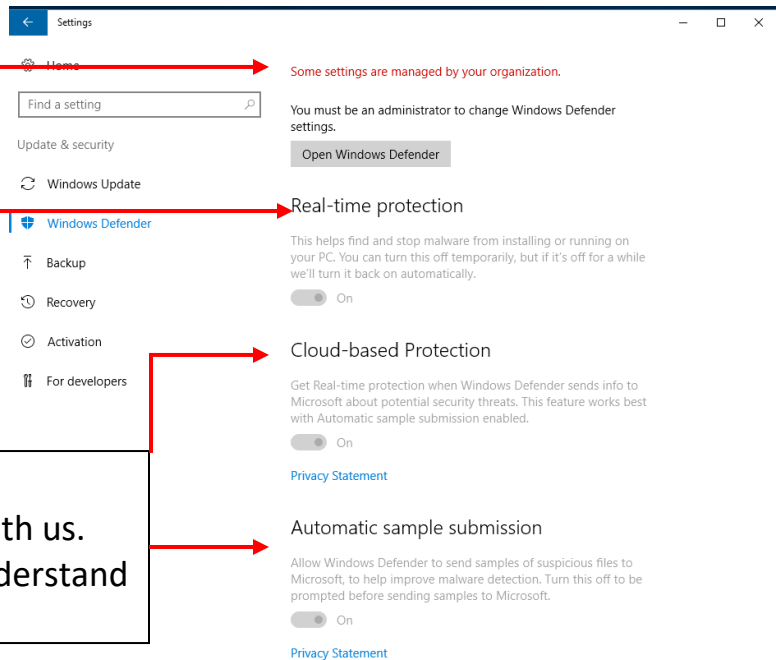
🛡 **View details**

Dig deep with Settings

If you like to get under the hood and customize, there are ways to improve the security of Windows Defender. (Or you can choose to make it less secure, but we don't recommend it.) All the knobs you can tweak are found in the Settings app.

If you're at work...
You might not be able to change everything.

If you're asked to turn off your antivirus software...
You need to be 100% confident you know and trust who is asking.

You're better protected...
When you choose to share info with us. Read the Privacy Statement to understand how we use the info.

Settings

Home

Find a setting

Update & security

⟳ Windows Update

🛡 Windows Defender

↑ Backup

↺ Recovery

⊘ Activation

⫘ For developers

Some settings are managed by your organization.

You must be an administrator to change Windows Defender settings.

Open Windows Defender

Real-time protection
This helps find and stop malware from installing or running on your PC. You can turn this off temporarily, but if it's off for a while we'll turn it back on automatically.
On

Cloud-based Protection
Get Real-time protection when Windows Defender sends info to Microsoft about potential security threats. This feature works best with Automatic sample submission enabled.
On
Privacy Statement

Automatic sample submission
Allow Windows Defender to send samples of suspicious files to Microsoft, to help improve malware detection. Turn this off to be prompted before sending samples to Microsoft.
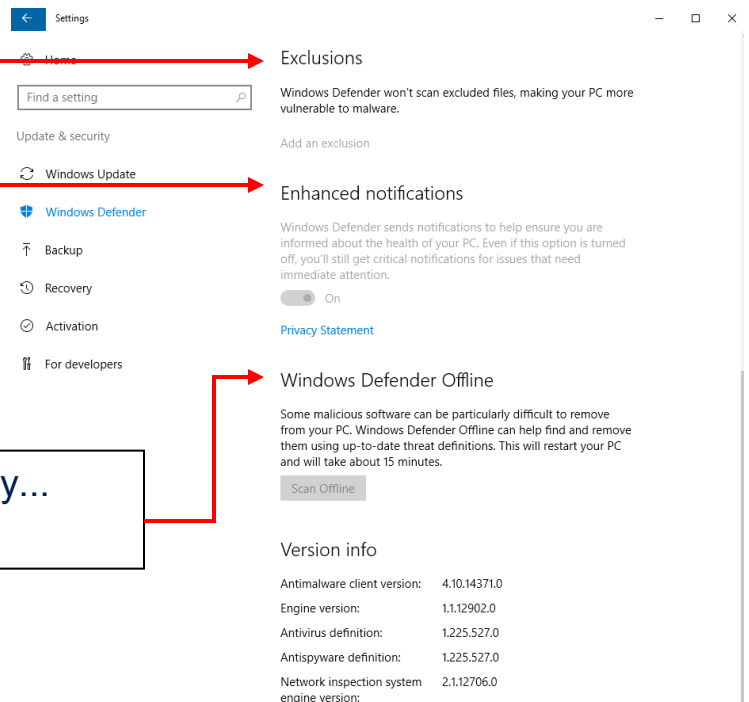On
Privacy Statement

Dig even deeper with Settings

Keep scrolling the Settings page and you'll find even more to tailor.

Be careful with this
You might have good reasons to exclude specific files from a scan, so we give you the power (just be careful, please).

Want fewer notices?
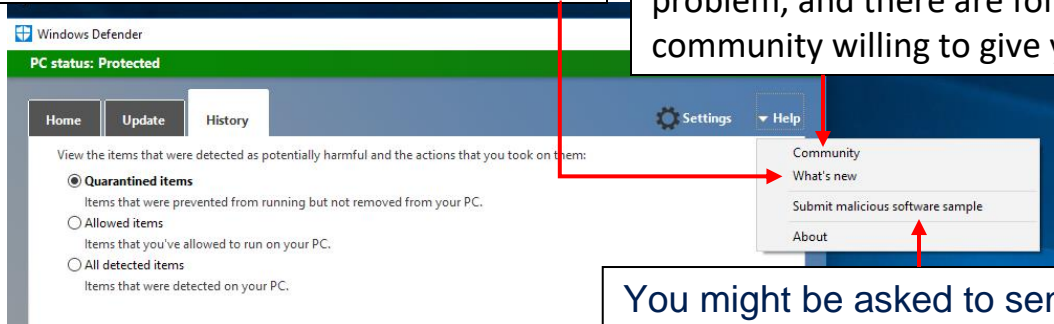We get it. But we'll still notify you when it's crucial.

If a regular scan isn't possible or is risky...
Try running a scan offline.

Settings

Home

Find a setting

Update & security

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Exclusions
Windows Defender won't scan excluded files, making your PC more vulnerable to malware.

Add an exclusion

Enhanced notifications
Windows Defender sends notifications to help ensure you are informed about the health of your PC. Even if this option is turned off, you'll still get critical notifications for issues that need immediate attention.
On
Privacy Statement

Windows Defender Offline
Some malicious software can be particularly difficult to remove from your PC. Windows Defender Offline can help find and remove them using up-to-date threat definitions. This will restart your PC and will take about 15 minutes.

Scan Offline

Version info

Antimalware client version:	4.10.14371.0
Engine version:	1.1.12902.0
Antivirus definition:	1.225.527.0
Antispyware definition:	1.225.527.0
Network inspection system engine version:	2.1.12706.0

Got a problem you can't fix yourself? Find help.

Want news about the latest features?
This page can help.

Ask the community
Other people have probably had the same problem, and there are folks in our online community willing to give you a hand.

Windows Defender

PC status: Protected

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Community
What's new

Submit malicious software sample

About

View the items that were detected as potentially harmful and the actions that you took on them:

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○ All detected items
   Items that were detected on your PC.

You might be asked to send a sample
This can help us identify and fix the problem.