

The internet world has become very complex and multifaceted. Most transactions can now be done via the net because of the usefulness it continues to possess. If computer users are not cautious enough, especially those users whose lives revolve around their computers, the next thing they would know is that they have already been victimized by the equally competent viruses. Although some viruses can only do so little to computers, other viruses have been known to harm the memory disks, steal personal information and can make computer systems crash.

Computer users should always be aware of the importance of having antivirus software installed in their computers, as well as the benefits and advantages of having them. Aside from installing an antivirus software, it is best to choose among those which computer experts consider the most effective and the most efficient antivirus software. These software should be fully loaded with features and have the highest virus removal rate.

There are a lot of different antivirus programs available in the market and how to choose is not a worry. Here are a few guidelines that can help computer users choose the antivirus software that best suits them and their computers:

**Good Reputation in the Market:** Before deciding on an antivirus program and purchasing one, it will always be beneficial to analyze the reputation of the brand in the market. Research and find out about whether users find the software effective and if it does its job well. It is always advisable to check that the software has all the essential features that the company is actually claiming.

**Extent of Protection:** The best antivirus software must be effective enough to provide you optimum protection from all kinds of the major online threats such as spyware, Trojans, rootkits and worms. There has been a dramatic rise in hacking activities over the years, so, to combat this problem, a software must be able to provide an outstanding defense from these cyber criminals.

**Compatibility:** You must not simply purchase a software according to your friends' suggestions or your retailer's recommendation. If that particular software is not compatible to your operating system, then all the money you spent on wanting to have the best protection for your computer will be put to waste. Always go for those companies who offer different versions of the software

to make it compatible with the different operating systems.

**Ease of Installation:** Most of the antivirus programs have very lengthy installation processes that are at times too complex to understand. A good antivirus software must be user friendly and can be installed with just a few clicks.

**Automatic Scanning and Updating:** When choosing an antivirus software, you must make sure that the antivirus software has the feature to automatically scan the computer and once it detects threats, it must be able to instantly remove them. It must be also able to update itself on a regular basis so that it can continually protect the computer even from the latest threats.

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