

Chapter 5

MICROSOFT WINDOWS DEFENDER



Definition – Windows Defender is free antivirus software developed by Microsoft.

Like other antivirus softwares, windows defender prevents, quarantine, and removes malware from your computer system.

In other words, with Windows Defender you scan for threats on your device. You can also run different types of scans, see the results of your previous virus and threat scans, and get the latest protection offered by Microsoft Defender Antivirus.

Turn On Windows Defender

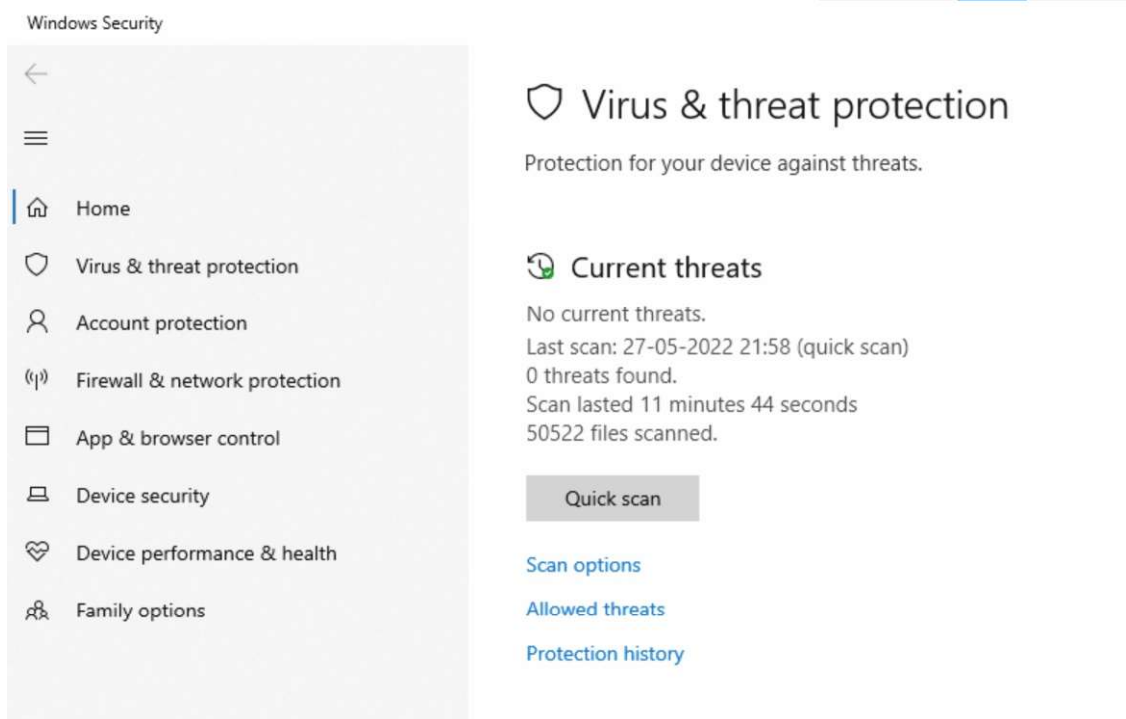
By default Windows Defender is enabled in Windows 10. However, you can cross check and enable it if disabled. Follow following steps

- **Step 1 - Open Start**  . Click the Windows logo in the bottom-left corner of the screen.
- **Step 2 - Open Settings**  . Click the gear-shaped icon in the bottom-left corner of the Start menu. The Settings window will open.
- **Step 3 - Click**  **Update & Security.** It's a circular arrow-shaped icon in the Settings window.

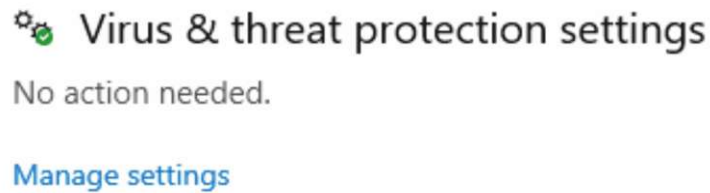
- **Step 4 - Click the Windows Security tab.** This tab is on the left side of the window. This should open the Windows Security options



- **Step 5 - Click Virus & threat protection.**



- **Step 6 - Click Virus & threat protection settings.** You'll find this link in the middle of the menu.



- **Step 7 - Check "ON" / "Off"  switch below the "Real-time protection" heading.** You'll find this heading near the top of the window.

Virus & threat protection settings

View and update Virus & threat protection settings for Microsoft Defender Antivirus.

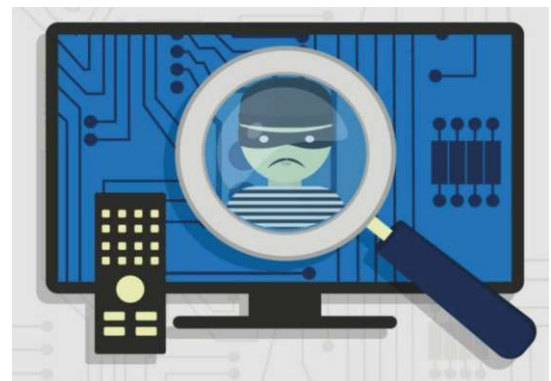
Real-time protection

Locates and stops malware from installing or running on your device. You can turn off this setting for a short time before it turns back on automatically.



- **Step 8 -** If the Real-time protection is already ON. This means that the Windows Defender is enabled. Nothing is to be done.
 - But if it is Turned OFF then this means that the Windows Defender is disabled.
 - Click on OFF switch to Toggle it to ON state.

Time to scan



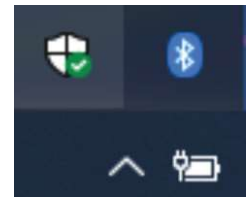
Run Windows Defender Scan

Microsoft Windows Defender is the built-in antivirus that comes with Windows 10. We will learn to

- Run a Quick Scan
- Run a Full Scan
- Run a Custom Scan
- Run an Offline Scan

Run a Quick Scan - A quick scan only scans the most commonly infected folders and files. It typically takes less than an hour to run.

- **Step 1 – Open Microsoft Defender.** Click on the shield icon in the bottom right corner of the screen.
 - You can also click on the search bar and search for "Windows Security".
 - This should open "Security at a glance" Window
- **Step 2 – Click on Virus & threat protection**



- **Step 3 – Choose Quick scan.** This will scan your user directory and startup items for any potential malware.
 - A quick scan will also scan USB drives that are connected to the computer.

Virus & threat protection

Protection for your device against threats.

Current threats

No current threats.
Last scan: 01-06-2022 21:52 (quick scan)
0 threats found.
Scan lasted 8 minutes 10 seconds
21431 files scanned.

Quick scan

[Scan options](#)

[Allowed threats](#)

[Protection history](#)

- **Step 4 – Wait for the scan to finish.**
Hopefully, no threats will be detected, but if they are, then Microsoft Defender will automatically remove them.

Run a Full Scan - A full scan scans every file on the system. A full scan can take many hours to run, especially if you have a lot of files, but it will find any virus on your PC.

- **Step 1** – Same as mentioned in “Run in Quick Scan” section.
- **Step 2** – Same as mentioned in “Run in Quick Scan” section.
- **Step 3 – Select Scan Options.** [Scan options](#) . This will open various options to select for scan.

Virus & threat protection

Protection for your device against threats.

Current threats

No current threats.

Last scan: 01-06-2022 21:52 (quick scan)

0 threats found.

Scan lasted 8 minutes 10 seconds

21431 files scanned.

Quick scan

[Scan options](#)

[Allowed threats](#)

[Protection history](#)

Scan options

Run a quick, full, custom, or Microsoft Defender Offline scan.

No current threats.

Last scan: 01-06-2022 21:52 (quick scan)

0 threats found.

Scan lasted 8 minutes 10 seconds

21431 files scanned.

[Allowed threats](#)

[Protection history](#)

☐ Quick scan

Checks folders in your system where threats are commonly found.

☒ Full scan

Checks all files and running programs on your hard disk. This scan could take longer than one hour.

☐ Custom scan

Choose which files and locations you want to check.

☐ Microsoft Defender Offline scan

- **Step 4 – Select Full scan**  **Full scan** and Click on Scan now .
 - This will begin the scan.

Scan now

You can use your computer during the scan, but your computer may be slower

Run a Custom Scan - A custom scan allows you to manually select which folders you want to be scanned.

- **Step 1** – Same as mentioned in “Run in Quick Scan” section.
- **Step 2** – Same as mentioned in “Run in Quick Scan” section.
- **Step 3 – Select Scan Options.** [Scan options](#) . This will open various options to select for scan.

Virus & threat protection

Protection for your device against threats.

Current threats

No current threats.

Last scan: 01-06-2022 21:52 (quick scan)

0 threats found.

Scan lasted 8 minutes 10 seconds

21431 files scanned.

Quick scan

[Scan options](#)

[Allowed threats](#)

[Protection history](#)

☐ Quick scan

Checks folders in your system where threats are commonly found.

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Checks all files and running programs on your hard disk. This scan could take longer than one hour.

☒ Custom scan

Choose which files and locations you want to check.

☐ Microsoft Defender Offline scan

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

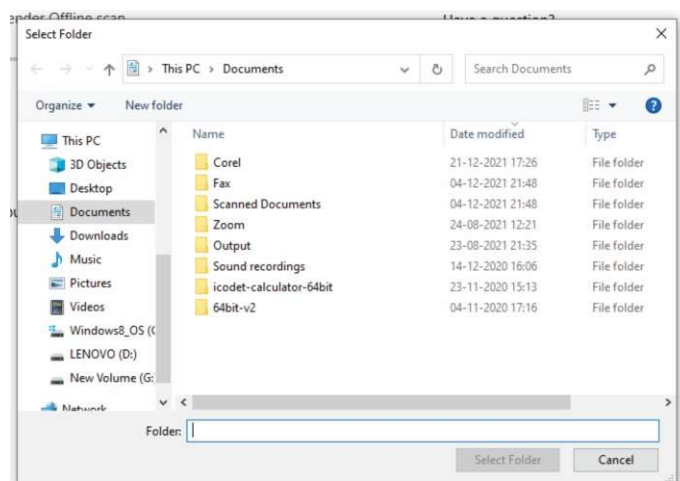
Scan now

- **Step 4 – Select Custom scan**  **Custom scan** and Click on Scan now .

- This will open a new window to select Scan Location.

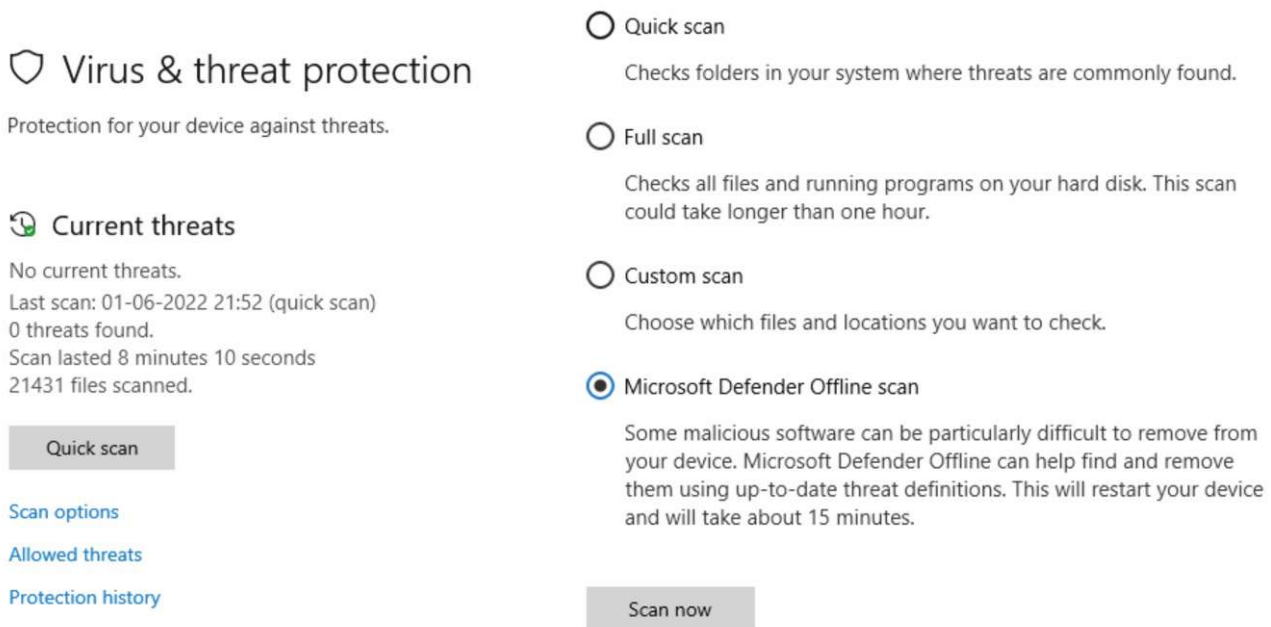
- **Specify which folder you want scanned.** Click on the folder, and then click on **Select Folder**. This will start the Custom Scan

Scan now



Run a Offline Scan - An offline scan runs outside of Windows inside of a separate environment. It can be useful when dealing with rootkits.

- **Step 1** – Same as mentioned in “Run in Quick Scan” section.
- **Step 2** – Same as mentioned in “Run in Quick Scan” section.
- **Step 3 – Select Scan Options.** [Scan options](#) . This will open various options to select for scan.



- **Step 4 – Select Microsoft Defender Offline scan** [Scan now](#) and Click on Scan now .
 - Wait for the scan to finish and review the results.

When you start the scan, your computer will restart, and a scan window will open when it comes back on. When the scan finishes, the results will display, and you'll have the option to remove the threats, and then restart.

