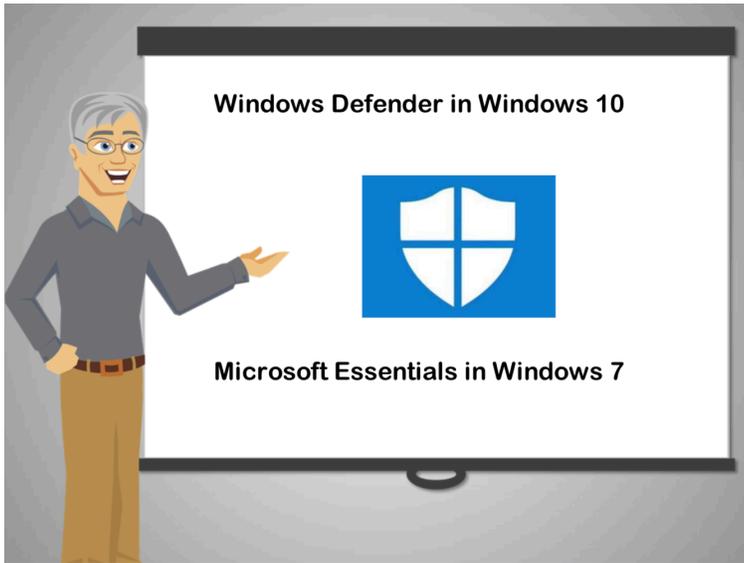


Use Protective Software



Besides keeping all software in your computer up to date, using anti-malware software is highly recommended and can be very helpful to avoid malware.

Emily wants to use anti-malware software to scan her computer for known viruses and spyware. Emily's nephew told her that every Microsoft computer comes pre-installed with malware protection.

This anti-malware software is known as Windows Defender in Windows 10 or Microsoft Essentials in Windows 7. Windows Defender is malware protection that helps identify and remove viruses, spyware, and other malicious software.

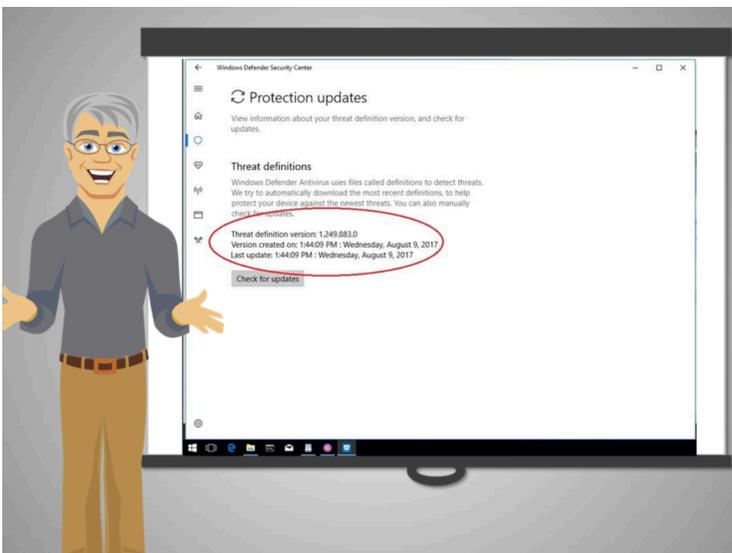
Windows Defender runs in the background, without being noticed, and will notify Emily when she needs to take specific action. She can use it anytime to scan for malware if her computer isn't working properly or if she clicked a suspicious link online or in an email message.



To scan her computer with Windows Defender, Emily uses the start menu's search bar and types Defender.

She clicks on the first result to open Windows Defender.

On the Home tab, she selects a Virus & threat protection, and then clicks Quick scan.



Protection software will automatically stay up to date on all recent threats to protect your computer from new malware.

Emily needs to make sure to enable this option to stay safe!



Even though some computers may come with pre-installed protection software, it might be a good idea to get an additional layer of security.

There are many different options to choose from: Some are free, some are paid, but they all do a similar job.

Emily wonders if she needs additional anti-malware software.

Just like when you have a really bad cold you may need to take 2 different medicines: one for your bad cough and one for a headache, sometimes computers are better defended with more than one type of anti-malware software.

She recalls her nephew saying that multiple anti-malware software may slow down her computer and make it harder to use. He said two is a good number to set as a maximum.

Some good free programs to know are Norton, McAfee and AVG.

Emily decided to install one and turned on all protective settings.



If you have a Mac computer, it's probably still a good idea to install and turn on anti-malware software to keep your computer secure.

Using protective software, Emily needs to make sure to:

Check all that apply.

- Update the software often!
- Have all protective settings turned on
- Do a weekly full scan of her computer

What does Emily need to do to take advantage of protective software?