

eScan Anti-Virus v11 **VS** Net Protector AntiVirus 2011

Why do we need an Anti-Virus?

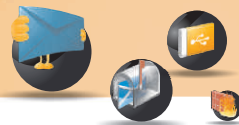
An Anti-Virus is considered to be one of the most important applications that your PC should have. It's a well known fact that the Internet is plagued with all kinds of malware; computer programs written to infect or even take control of unprotected PCs. An Anti-Virus on the other hand is designed to thwart such malicious programs from infecting your PC.

With the ever increasing number of security threats, organizations and individuals find the need to secure their personal details from identity thieves at far more alarming rate than it was a few years ago. In this day and age where broadband services have become a necessity, personal information can easily be hacked into in a matter of minutes. This can include anything from debit/credit card details, passwords for your personal accounts, bank details etc. That's the main reason why eScan Anti-Virus v11 also features a firewall. Apart from keeping potential hackers at bay the firewall also acts as a barrier between the user and the Web, where it only allows legitimate and known data packets to pass through to your computer.

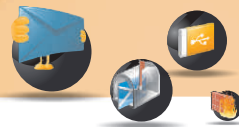
Spam is another major concern that has plagued the Internet. With a large number of unsolicited emails targeted towards mail servers, receiving emails using clients as Outlook, Thunderbird or even The Bat can be extremely time consuming. Moreover, unnecessary usage of bandwidth slows down other applications from accessing the Internet. To help prevent this, eScan Anti-Virus comes built with an Anti-Spam module. To enhance the overall functionality the module makes use of a feature called NILP (Non Intrusive Learning Pattern) that not only uses the Bayesian Filtering module but also works on the principles of Artificial Intelligence (AI) which is capable of categorizing emails as either spam or ham. Other advanced options include RBL (Real-time Blackhole List) and SURBL (Spam URL Realtime Blacklist). The RBL module basically checks the IP address of the senders against various RBL sites. So if the sender is found blacklisted on any of the RBL sites the mail will be automatically blocked from being downloaded. However the SURBLs main function is to check the URLs in the message body of an email. So if the URL is listed on the SURBL site the email is immediately blocked from being downloaded.

To help protect your digital identity eScan Anti-Virus provides a much needed secure environment in comparison to other Anti-Virus products. This would include the certification level reached by well known testing bodies such as AV-Comparatives, VirusBulletin and ICSA Labs. However another aspect that also needs to be taken into consideration is the number of false positives detected by the application. Therefore, just having a higher detection rate is never enough but being able to differentiate between malware (known/unknown) and genuine OS files is of utmost importance.

The first half of this document provides a brief explanation of the features that are overlooked by our competitor but are made available in eScan AV v11. The second half displays the effectiveness of the protection offered by both security companies – eScan and Net Protector.



Product Name	eScan Anti-Virus v11	Net Protector AntiVirus 2011
Manufacturer/Developer	MicroWorld	India AntiVirus
VB 100% Certified	✓	✓
Unique Technology	MicroWorld Winsock Layer	Not Documented
Proactive Security	✓	X
Real-Time AV Scanning	✓	✓
Spyware, KeyLogger, Rootkit Blocker	✓	✓
Real-Time File Monitor	✓ (Intelligent and Faster)	✓
On-Demand Scan	✓ (with Cache Technology)	✓
Anti-Spam	✓ (NILP, RBL, SURBL)	✓
Firewall (Inbound & Outbound)	✓	✓
Anti-Phishing	✓	X
Malware URL Filter	✓	X
History / Reports	✓	✓
Web based Help	✓	X
Asset Management	✓	X
Network Monitoring tool	✓	✓ (Process Check)
Update Rollback	✓	X
Hotfix Rollback	✓	X
Auto download / update software version	✓	✓
Auto Backup / Restore	✓	X
Remote Support Application	✓	X
Virtual Keyboard	✓	X
Entertainment / Gaming /Silent mode	✓	X
Files and Folders Protection	✓	X
Creating/Burning Bootable Rescue CD	✓ (Windows Based)	X
Automatic Patching of Windows® Operating System Vulnerabilities	✓	X
Laptop/Battery / Power saving mode for schedule scan	✓	X
Advanced Self-Protection Feature	✓	X
Real-Time E-mail Scan	✓	✓
Password protection	✓	✓
Heuristic Scanning	✓	X
Registration/Activation: (via Web / SMS / E-mail / FAX)	✓	X
Real-Time Web Page Scan	✓	X



Enhanced Spam Management

Non Intrusive Learning Pattern (NILP): Unlike most of our competitor's eScan AV comes featured with NILP technology (Non Intrusive Learning Pattern) that not only uses the Bayesian Filtering module but also works on the principles of Artificial Intelligence (AI). This drastically prevents junk email from reaching your inbox. In addition to this, NILP also uses a behavioral pattern that is capable of categorizing emails as either spam or ham.

Realtime Blackhole List (RBL): The RBL module basically checks the IP address of the senders against various RBL sites. So if the sender is found blacklisted on any of the RBL sites the mail will be automatically blocked from being downloaded.

Spam URL Realtime Blacklist (SURBL): The functionality of this is almost the same as that of RBL. However the SURBLs main function is to check the URLs in the message body of an email. So if the URL is listed on the SURBL site the mail is immediately blocked from being downloaded.

On-Demand Scan (with cache-technology)

eScan features cache technology that creates a record or Whitelist of all files that are scanned on the first run. This ensures faster scan speeds and lower usage of system resources every subsequent runs. Only new or modified files are examined by the scanner.

Proactive Detection

To further enhance the overall detection of malware, eScan's real time module comes with a Proactive scanning feature. The need for implementing a Proactive scanner is to help detect unknown strains of malware from infecting the system. Moreover it keeps a watchful eye on the way applications interact with one another. If any suspicious activity is detected the Proactive scanner automatically blocks and quarantines the suspicious file.

Parental Control

The Internet has always been a one stop junction for a vast number of topics. It has come to such a state that anything and everything is available at the click of a button. However apart from the beneficial aspect it is also home to a magnitude of unwanted information. This would include information on various undesirable aspects such as pornography, drugs and gambling.

With the help of this module parents can prevent kids from accessing undesirable sites or even block content that would otherwise damage the normal functionality of the computer. Moreover, Administrators can also use this feature to prevent employees from accessing sites that are not related to work.

Application Control

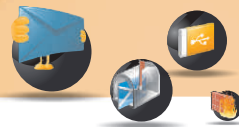
Another aspect of Endpoint Security is the Application Control feature. This added feature allows you to block applications from running on your PC. It includes pre-defined computer games, instant messengers, video/music players and P2P applications. In addition to this users can also add applications that need blocking.

Web based help

An aspect that is also well taken care of is the eScan Wiki which is just a click away on our home page. The eScan Wiki is a comprehensive coverage of all our products. Here users can find product related information, tips as well solution based content that help resolve specific product related issues.

Update/Hotfix rollback

At the start of every update eScan v11 makes a backup of the current database. So if the event the application downloads an update/hotfix that's corrupt it automatically rolls back to its previous stable database. However to keep user interactivity at its bare minimum the roll back process has been automated and doesn't require the user to intervene.



Auto-backup/restore

The auto backup/restore feature of eScan is probably the most striking feature that our product has. The basic functionality of this is to create backups of critical files that correspond to the Windows OS. So in the event of an infection the auto backup and restore kicks in and restores critical OS related files that cannot be disinfected. This whole process is automated and requires no user intervention.

eScan Remote Support

Unlike our competitors eScan comes bundled with a special feature called eScan Remote Support. This module basically allows our support team to remotely connect and troubleshoot eScan related issues. The USP of this feature is that it allows most problems to be resolved remotely without having any support technician sent across. So as a user, you save a lot on time as the waiting period is almost negligible.

However, do keep in mind that this feature doesn't allow you – the user – to connect to our support department but will require you to call our support department and provide the Unique ID and Password that is generated. For security reasons the password is designed to change each time the eScan Remote Support is invoked.

Virtual Keyboard

User privacy is of our highest concern – reason why eScan 11 features a virtual keyboard. The implementation of a virtual keyboard allows users to enter confidential information such as banking passwords, credit/debit card details without any fear of your online identity being stolen. So even if your system is compromised by an unknown keylogger/spyware, the username and password that is entered during login remains protected.

Gaming mode

With the inclusion of the gaming mode users can now enjoy uninterrupted gameplay. Having said that, eScan v11 can now automatically switch to gaming mode once an application is run in full screen. For instance – this mode gets enabled the moment movies, games, PowerPoint presentations are run in full screen. In addition to this, as a user you also have the ability to enable this mode manually. This generally helps when you are in the midst of work that is of importance.

File and Folder Protection

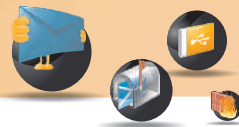
There are a number of ways in which data can be lost – the first would include corruption of files in the event of a virus attack, the second would be the deletion of a particular file or folder which could happen knowingly or unknowingly. To prevent data loss, eScan comes with a special feature called 'Folder Protection'. Once a folder is specified the module prevents any further modifications from being made. This safeguards important data from corruption in the event of an infection. In addition to this the module also prevents deletion, creation and modification of files and folders.

Bootable rescue CD

Not only do we provide a bootable CD (eScan installation disk) but the program also allows you to create a bootable rescue disk. This helps in eradicating pests such as Viruses, Trojans, Rootkits, Bots, etc. that at times are difficult to remove with the Windows OS loaded. The file can either be downloaded using eScan's built-in download manager or you have the choice of downloading the file using a third-party download tool.

Automatic Installation of Windows Critical Security Patches

A salient feature that our product implements is the vulnerability patching of the Windows Operating System. OS Vulnerabilities are the first cause of concern as most hackers scan for loopholes that allow them to bypass already implemented security settings. The implementation of OS patching in eScan v11 allows the application to directly connect to Microsoft's website and download only critical security patches for the Windows OS. This whole process is automated and doesn't require user intervention. So as a user you can be rest assured that your OS stays patched and secured from critical Windows related security vulnerabilities.



Laptop Battery Power Saving Mode

eScan AV v11 now features a built-in Battery mode wherein it prevents its own system intensive processes such as scheduled scan from running whenever the laptops power saver mode is detected – thereby increasing the overall runtime of the laptop. This feature is totally automated and requires no user intervention

Advanced Self-Protection Feature

Malware not only have the potential of infecting PCs but are also capable enough to turn off or disrupt the on-access scanning module of an Anti-Virus. To prevent this, the installation path of eScan comes write-protected. This basically prohibits creation and even modification of installed files. To be more precise – only the product is capable of creating and modifying files.

Malware URL Filter

With social networking on the rise, malware writers are using sites such as Facebook and Twitter as a platform to infect PCs. This is achieved either by appearing as a legitimate social networking application or it could spread via spoofed links that make their way to your Inbox. To help prevent this, eScan 11 features a malware URL filter that prevents access to infected sites.

Restore Windows Default Settings

Users can eliminate modifications made to their desktop and background settings in the event of a virus attack. This is made possible by accessing the Restore Windows Default Settings via the Tools menu. Once activated, eScan automatically performs a virus check and then sets the system variables to their default values.

Grid-based Web Access/Timing

Apart from its Web Filtering/Parental Control module the program also allows you to define time restrictions. Here you can limit the number of hours that a particular user is allowed to access the web or you could simply block web access on certain days.

No other data or comparisons are available as the company hasn't taken part in the tests carried by any of the testing bodies.