ToolGPA

NOVEMBER 2026

Radio Silence

The Insider’s Guide

Mac firewall and network monitor that blocks apps from going online



Every plan, grade, refund rule and rival among desktop utilities, read from Radio Silence’s own pages.

Made by Juuso Salonen · checked Nov 13, 2026 · toolgpa.com

2.4

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Contents

01 Welcome
What it is, who it suits, its grades and the ten things to know first

02 What it costs
Every plan, the free plan, ways to pay less and how prices have moved

03 What it does
Its main features, where it runs, what it works with and who makes it

04 Where it stands
Its grades against its category, and whether to keep it or make your own

05 The alternatives
The tools it is most often weighed against, side by side

06 Quick answers
The questions people ask about it, each answered in a line or two

07 About ToolGPA
Who made this guide, what else is on the site, and how to cite it

ToolGPA put this guide together from Radio Silence's own pages, its app-store listings and our grades. Every fact in it is on Radio Silence's page too, where it is kept up to date. Checked Nov 13, 2026.

Welcome

What it is, who it suits, its grades and the ten things to know first

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GPA, above 35 of the 186 other desktop utilities we grade

Radio Silence is a macOS firewall and network monitor. It lists the connections that apps and background processes make in real time and lets you block any app from reaching the internet. The firewall runs in the background after you set it up, so the window does not need to stay open.

> **Install it and block an app with nothing to configure.**
>
> From our grade for ease of use

To get you started, here are **9 things to know about Radio Silence**, taken from its own pages and our grades.

1 **Best for blocking Mac apps from the internet**

Radio Silence is a Mac firewall and network monitor that blocks any app from going online.

2 **What it costs**

Paid plans start at $9 one-time, for personal use.

3 **You can try it first**

24-hour trial in the downloadable installer, with no feature limits

4 **It runs on macOS**

macOS.

5 **Outbound app blocking**

Build a list of apps that may not reach the internet. The FAQ says the built-in macOS firewall does not stop outbound traffic, while this one does.

6 **Live network monitor**

Shows every network connection made by apps and processes as it happens, so a misbehaving app can be found and blocked from the list.

7 **Helpers and background processes**

Finds helper apps, invisible background processes, daemons and XPC services that make connections, and blocks child processes of a blocked app.

8 **A 2.4 GPA, above 35 of 186**

That is against the other desktop utilities we grade, on value, the free plan, features, ease of use and platforms.

9 **Your call**

It depends on the utility: a converter or a calculator is an afternoon.

Radio Silence at a glance

PRICING
Free trial, from $9 one-time, for personal use

FREE PLAN
No

FREE TRIAL
24-hour trial in the downloadable installer, with no feature limits

RUNS ON
macOS

MADE BY
Juuso Salonen

CATEGORY
Desktop Utilities

OUR GRADE
2.4 GPA, fair

The report card

Best for blocking Mac apps from the internet

Radio Silence is a Mac firewall and network monitor that blocks any app from going online. But the trial is only 24 hours, blocking is per app with no port or address rules on record, and it runs on macOS only.

TOOLGPA REPORT CARD

Radio Silence

Graded Nov 13, 2026

SUBJECT	GRADE	COMMENT
Value for money	A	$9 one-time for personal use, far below a year of this category's typical subscription. The Team licence is $49.
Free plan and trial	D	The downloadable installer has a 24-hour trial with no feature limits. There is a 30-day money-back guarantee on purchases, which isn't a trial.
Features	C	Outbound blocking, a live connection monitor and background-process control. The vendor's pages describe no rules by port or address.
Ease of use	B	Install it and block an app with nothing to configure. No store rating is on record.
Platforms and integrations	C	Mac only, with version 3.4 needing macOS 10.15 or newer. No other platform.

Grade point average — Fair, out of 4.0 **2.4**

An A is worth 4 points, a B 3, a C 2, a D 1 and an F nothing. The GPA is the average of the five.

Who Radio Silence is for

- ✓ Fits if you want to stop specific Mac apps from phoning home
- ✓ Works for people who want a one-time purchase instead of a subscription

Who it is not for

- ✗ Skip it if you use Windows or Linux, as only macOS is covered
- ✗ Tight if you want to evaluate it properly: the trial lasts 24 hours
- ✗ Too light for you if you want rules by port or address, as only per-app blocking is described
- ✗ Watch out: it isn't sold on the Mac App Store, since the vendor says firewalls can't be

Good to know

Good for

- ✓ Mac users who want specific apps kept offline
- ✓ People who prefer a one-time price over a subscription
- ✓ Households or small teams covered by one license

Worth knowing

- ⓘ macOS only: version 3.4 needs macOS 10.15 or newer, and older systems use legacy versions.
- ⓘ Not sold through the Mac App Store; the vendor says firewalls cannot be, because of the system access they need.
- ⓘ The trial lasts 24 hours, though the vendor adds a 30-day money-back guarantee on purchases.
- ⓘ Blocking is per app; the vendor's pages describe no rules by port or address.

PART 02 · PRICING

What it costs

Every plan, the free plan, ways to pay less and how prices have moved

$9 one-time

To start

Radio Silence is a paid product with a free trial, starting at $9 one-time, for personal use.

PERSONAL

$9

one-time, for a single user

One license for one person; the FAQ says it can be installed on all of that person's Macs.

TEAM

$49

one-time, for a whole team

Covers an entire team with no seat limit. Not a subscription.

Trying it first

24-hour trial in the downloadable installer, with no feature limits

Read from radiosilenceapp.com on Nov 13, 2026.

What it does

Its main features, where it runs, what it works with and who makes it

1

Place it runs: macOS

Mac firewall and network monitor that blocks apps from going online. Here is what it does, as its own site describes it, and what it covers: one-time purchase, system monitor.

"

Outbound blocking, a live connection monitor and background-process control.

From our grade for features

Outbound app blocking

Build a list of apps that may not reach the internet. The FAQ says the built-in macOS firewall does not stop outbound traffic, while this one does.

Live network monitor

Shows every network connection made by apps and processes as it happens, so a misbehaving app can be found and blocked from the list.

Helpers and background processes

Finds helper apps, invisible background processes, daemons and XPC services that make connections, and blocks child processes of a blocked app.

Runs without the window open

The firewall starts with the Mac and stays active after the window is closed; the interface is only used to change the block list.

Local traffic still allowed

A blocked app cannot reach the network but can still talk to local processes on the same Mac.

Where it runs

macOS

What it works with

Its own pages name no integrations.

Radio Silence is made by Juuso Salonen.

PART 04 · STANDING

Where it stands

Its grades against its category, and whether to keep it or make your own

35/186

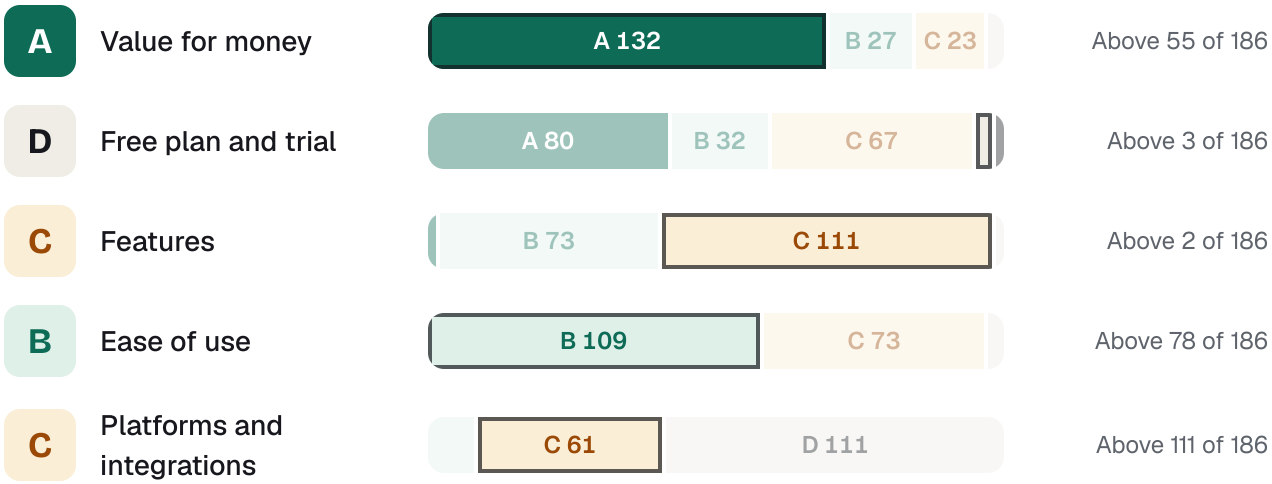
Other desktop utilities it is graded above

Radio Silence's GPA of 2.4 is higher than 35 of the 186 other desktop utilities we grade, and level with 33.

It stands best on value for money (A, above 55 of 186) and worst on free plan and trial (D, above 3).

Each grade against the category

Every bar is all 187 desktop utilities we grade, cut by the letter each got. Radio Silence's own letter is outlined.



Keep it, or make your own?

Whether this is something you could build for yourself with an AI app builder, and what you would give up.

Your call

It depends on the utility: a converter or a calculator is an afternoon.

Radio Silence sits between: not beyond making, and not a weekend's work either. What you would give up is listed below. Whether that is worth the price is your call. At $9, paid once, it costs less than the weekend it would take to replace, which is the argument for keeping it.

What you could not

- ✕ Readings from inside the operating system.
- ✕ A real app for macOS. Something home-made would be a web page.

What this rests on. Radio Silence's listing: what it does, where it runs, what it plugs into and what it costs. It is a judgement about the kind of software this is. We have not built a replacement for it, and making your own means looking after it too. How we decide, and every tool's verdict.

The alternatives

The tools it is most often weighed against, side by side



LuLu, NetLimiter, GlassWire and TripMode

The 4 tools Radio Silence is most often weighed against, with where each one differs from it.

2.6 GPA

LuLu

Free

Free open-source Mac firewall for outgoing connections.

- LuLu has a free plan. Radio Silence does not, though it has a free trial.
- Radio Silence can be bought with a one-time purchase.
- LuLu is open source, according to its own site.

Radio Silence and LuLu compared in full

2.2 GPA

NetLimiter

Free trial

Per-app internet bandwidth limits and monitoring for Windows.

- Only Radio Silence lists a macOS app.
- Only NetLimiter lists a Windows app.
- Radio Silence can be bought with a one-time purchase.

Radio Silence and NetLimiter compared in full



2.4
GPA

GlassWire

Free plan · from $2.99/mo

Windows network monitor and firewall with a traffic time machine.

- GlassWire has a free plan. Radio Silence does not, though it has a free trial.
- Only Radio Silence lists a macOS app.
- Only GlassWire lists Windows and Android apps.

Radio Silence and GlassWire compared in full



2.6
GPA

TripMode

Free plan · from $14.99/yr

Mac app that blocks background data use on slow or metered networks.

- TripMode has a free plan. Radio Silence does not, though it has a free trial.
- TripMode also covers site & app blocker and reports.

Radio Silence and TripMode compared in full

PART 06 · QUESTIONS

Quick answers

The questions people ask about it, each answered in a line or two

10

Questions, each answered in a line or two

The short version of everything above, for when you only need the answer. Each one is told in full in its part of the guide.

Is Radio Silence free?

No, Radio Silence is a paid product, but you can try it first. 24-hour trial in the downloadable installer, with no feature limits.

How much does Radio Silence cost?

Radio Silence lists 2 plans. Personal: $9 one-time, for a single user.

What platforms does Radio Silence work on?

Radio Silence is available on macOS.

Does Radio Silence have an Android app?

No Android app was listed when its pages were read on Nov 13, 2026. Radio Silence is listed for macOS.

Does Radio Silence have an iPhone app?

No iPhone app was listed when its pages were read on Nov 13, 2026. Radio Silence is listed for macOS.

Is Radio Silence open source?

Radio Silence is not described as open source on its own site, as read on Nov 13, 2026.

Who makes Radio Silence?

Radio Silence is made by Juuso Salonen.

What are the alternatives to Radio Silence?

The closest alternatives to Radio Silence in our directory are LuLu, NetLimiter, GlassWire and TripMode.

How does Radio Silence compare with other desktop utilities?

Radio Silence's GPA of 2.4 is higher than 35 of the 186 other desktop utilities we grade, and level with 33.

Could I make my own version of Radio Silence?

It depends on the utility: a converter or a calculator is an afternoon.

Where this guide comes from

The prices, plans, platforms and features were read from Radio Silence's own pages on Nov 13, 2026, and the grades were given on Nov 13, 2026. Graded from this listing, whose facts were read from Radio Silence's own pages on 13 November 2026. Not based on using the product, and shorter than our full reviews.

Every tool we list gets five grades, A to F, each with its reason, and a GPA that averages them. How each is decided is at toolgpa.com/grades. This guide is ToolGPA's own work; it is not made, paid for or approved by Juuso Salonen. Prices change, so check radiosilenceapp.com before you buy.

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About ToolGPA

Who made this guide, what else is on the site, and how to cite it

7,721

Tools graded, in 95 categories

ToolGPA grades software the way a school report grades a pupil: five subjects, a letter for each with the reason written beside it, and a GPA that averages them. Prices, plans and platforms are read from each maker's own pages and dated, so you always know how fresh a figure is.

Every grade, review and ranking on ToolGPA is our own judgement. No company can pay for a grade or change one. Every tool on the site has a guide like this one, free to download and pass on. It all lives at toolgpa.com.

7,721	95	739	579
tools graded	categories	price changes on record	apps priced in 12 countries

What else is on toolgpa.com

Radio Silence, kept up to date

Everything in this guide, with prices and grades as they are today

toolgpa.com/tools/radio-silence

How grades are given

The rules behind every letter and every GPA

toolgpa.com/grades

Value charts

What each tool costs against what it scores, for every category

toolgpa.com/charts

Compare

Any two tools side by side, plan by plan

toolgpa.com/compare

Price changes

Every price rise and cut on record, each with its source

toolgpa.com/price-changes

Prices by country

What apps cost on the App Store in 12 countries

toolgpa.com/prices-by-country

Pay less

Every public discount: yearly billing, students, nonprofits

toolgpa.com/save

Keep or make

Which tools are worth paying for, and which you could build yourself

toolgpa.com/keep-or-make

Scan for the live page

Prices and grades as they are today

Quoting this guide?

Please name ToolGPA and link to the live page, so readers can check the figures for themselves:

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ToolGPA, "Radio Silence: The Insider's Guide",
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https://toolgpa.com/tools/radio-silence
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Know someone choosing between desktop utilities?

Send them this guide:
toolgpa.com/tools/radio-silence/guide

ToolGPA elsewhere: youtube.com/@toolgpa

See our other guides

The best-graded desktop utilities after Radio Silence, each with an Insider's Guide of its own.

Desktop Utilities Insider's Guide

Every one of the 187 desktop utilities we grade, compared

Just Color Picker Insider's Guide

Free portable color picker and editor for Windows and macOS

3.2 GPA

LocalSend Insider's Guide

Open-source file sharing between nearby devices, no cloud

3.2 GPA

Mos Insider's Guide

Free Mac menu bar utility for smooth mouse wheel scrolling

3.2 GPA

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Choosing software? Every tool graded, every price dated.

Compare tools at toolgpa.com ›

Everything in this guide is ToolGPA's own summary of what Radio Silence's pages, its app-store listings and public reviews said on the dates shown. Grades are our judgement under the rules at toolgpa.com/grades. Every grade, review and ranking on ToolGPA is our own judgement. No company can pay for a grade or change one. Radio Silence is a trademark of its owner, and this guide is not made, paid for or approved by Juuso Salonen. Prices and plans change: check radiosilenceapp.com before you buy.