ToolGPA

NOVEMBER 2026

Total Defense

The Insider’s Guide

Antivirus and internet security suites sold by the year



Every plan, grade, refund rule and rival among antivirus apps, read from Total Defense’s own pages.

Made by Total Defense · checked Nov 13, 2026 · toolgpa.com

2.4
GPA



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ToolGPA put this guide together from Total Defense's own pages, its app-store listings and our grades. Every fact in it is on Total Defense'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

2.4

GPA, above 32 of the 56 other antivirus apps we grade

Total Defense sells three consumer security suites: Essential Anti-Virus for Windows PCs, Premium Internet Security and Ultimate Internet Security, which cover Macs and Android devices as well. Each is sold for one, two or three years, and the vendor lists free US-based tech support, a 60-day refund window and a 30-day free trial with no credit card.

> "
>
> **Prices are shown as discounts with no end date and no renewal price.**
>
> From our report card of Total Defense

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

1 **Best for Windows antivirus with a 30-day free trial**

Essential Anti-Virus is Windows only, and Mac and Android cover starts at Premium.

2 **Paid plans start at $3.33 a month when paid by the year**

As its pricing page puts it: $39.99 per year for 3 PCs (sale price shown, $59.99 crossed out; renewal price not stated).

3 **You can try it first**

30-day free trial, no credit card needed, per the vendor's homepage.

4 **It runs on 3 platforms**

Windows, macOS and Android.

5 **Real-time malware protection**

All plans protect against viruses, spyware and ransomware, with on-demand and real-time scanning.

6 **Anti-phishing**

The Premium and Ultimate plans block suspicious websites, per the comparison table.

7 **Online backup**

Premium includes 10GB and Ultimate 25GB of secure cloud storage.

8 **A 2.4 GPA, above 32 of 56**

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

9 **Keep it**

To replace Total Defense you would be making an engine that recognises new malware as it appears. That is not a weekend's work, with an AI app builder or without one.

Total Defense at a glance

PRICING
Free trial, from $39.99 per year for 3 PCs (sale price shown, $59.99 crossed out; renewal price not stated)

FREE PLAN
No

FREE TRIAL
30-day free trial, no credit card needed, per the vendor's homepage.

RUNS ON
macOS, Windows, Android

MADE BY
Total Defense

CATEGORY
Antivirus & Malware Protection

OUR GRADE
2.4 GPA, fair

The report card

Best for Windows antivirus with a 30-day free trial

Total Defense sells antivirus and internet security by the year, with a 30-day trial that needs no card. Essential Anti-Virus is Windows only, and Mac and Android cover starts at Premium. Prices are shown as discounts with no end date and no renewal price.

TOOLGPA REPORT CARD

Total Defense

Graded Nov 13, 2026

SUBJECT	GRADE	COMMENT
Value for money	C	$39.99 a year for 3 PCs on sale, about $3.33 a month, in the middle of this category. The crossed-out $59.99 has no end date and no renewal price is given.
Free plan and trial	C	A 30-day free trial with no credit card, per the homepage. There is no free plan.
Features	C	Essential covers viruses, spyware and ransomware for Windows only. Mac and Android start at Premium, and online backup is 10 GB or 25 GB on the dearer plans.
Ease of use	B	No store rating on record, but it is a consumer antivirus you install and run.
Platforms and integrations	B	Windows, Mac and Android on the dearer plans, with no iPhone and no integrations on record.

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 Total Defense is for

- ✓ Fits if you want a card-free month to try a Windows antivirus first
- ✓ Works for 3 PCs on a yearly price

Who it is not for

- ✕ Skip it if you use a Mac or Android and want the cheap plan, since Essential is Windows only
- ✕ Pricey if you go to Ultimate at $109.99 a year
- ✕ Watch out: prices are shown as discounts with no end date and no renewal price
- ✕ Tight if you want the virus-removal assurance without auto-renew, as it applies only to customers on Automatic Renewal

Good to know

Good for

- ✓ Households wanting one yearly license across PCs, Macs and Android phones
- ✓ People who value phone support from a US-based team

Worth knowing

- ⓘ Essential Anti-Virus is Windows only; Mac and Android coverage starts with Premium.
- ⓘ The 1-year and 2-year prices are shown as discounts from crossed-out prices with no end date, and no renewal price is stated.
- ⓘ The virus-removal assurance applies only to customers enrolled in Automatic Renewal.
- ⓘ Supported Windows versions on the Essential page are Windows 11 (64-bit), 10 and 8.1.

PART 02 · PRICING

What it costs

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

$3.33

A month to start, paid by the year

Total Defense is a paid product with a free trial, starting at $39.99 per year for 3 PCs (sale price shown, $59.99 crossed out; renewal price not stated).

ESSENTIAL ANTI-VIRUS, 1 YEAR

$39.99

per year for 3 PCs, sale price shown, renewal price not stated

Windows-only protection against viruses, spyware and ransomware. Shown as $20 off a crossed-out $59.99.

ESSENTIAL ANTI-VIRUS, 2 YEARS

$79.99

for 2 years for 3 PCs, renewal price not stated

Same product on a two-year term; the page crosses out $89.99.

ESSENTIAL ANTI-VIRUS, 3 YEARS

$119.99

for 3 years for 3 PCs, renewal price not stated

Same product on a three-year term, with no discount shown.

PREMIUM INTERNET SECURITY, 1 YEAR

$69.99

per year for 5 devices, sale price shown, renewal price not stated

Covers PCs, Macs, smartphones and tablets, and adds 10GB of online backup. Shown as $20 off a crossed-out $89.99.

ULTIMATE INTERNET SECURITY, 1 YEAR

$109.99

per year for 10 devices, renewal price not stated

Covers PCs, Macs and Android devices and adds 25GB of online backup.

Trying it first

30-day free trial, no credit card needed, per the vendor's homepage.

Read from totaldefense.com on Nov 13, 2026.

PART 03 · FEATURES

What it does

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

3

Places it runs: macOS, Windows and Android

Antivirus and internet security suites sold by the year. Here is what it does, as its own site describes it, and what it covers: file sync, malware protection.

> **Essential covers viruses, spyware and ransomware for Windows only.**

From our grade for features

Real-time malware protection

All plans protect against viruses, spyware and ransomware, with on-demand and real-time scanning.

Anti-phishing

The Premium and Ultimate plans block suspicious websites, per the comparison table.

Online backup

Premium includes 10GB and Ultimate 25GB of secure cloud storage.

Family protection

The comparison table lists family protection for children on the Premium and Ultimate plans, not on Essential.

US-based support

Free installation and upgrade help by phone or email, weekdays 9am to 5pm Eastern, according to the support section of each product page.

Virus Protection Assurance

A program for customers enrolled in the Automatic Renewal Service; the vendor says it will remove a virus for free or refund the money.

Where it runs

macOS · Windows · Android

What it works with

Its own pages name no integrations.

Total Defense is made by Total Defense.

PART 04 · STANDING

Where it stands

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

32/56

Other antivirus apps it is graded above

Total Defense's GPA of 2.4 is higher than 32 of the 56 other antivirus apps we grade, and level with 8.

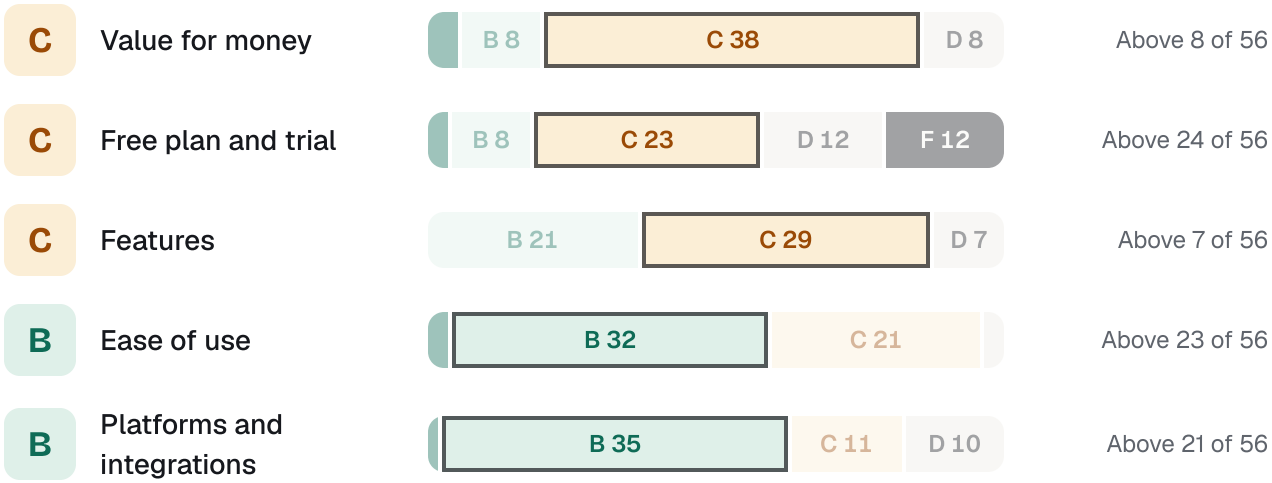
It stands best on ease of use (B, above 23 of 56) and worst on features (C, above 7).

Its paid plans start at $3.33 a month when paid by the year, against a middle price of $4.17 for the category: 11 of the 34 others that charge start lower.

On features, ease of use and platforms it scores 2.7 out of 4. 4 tools score higher and cost less.

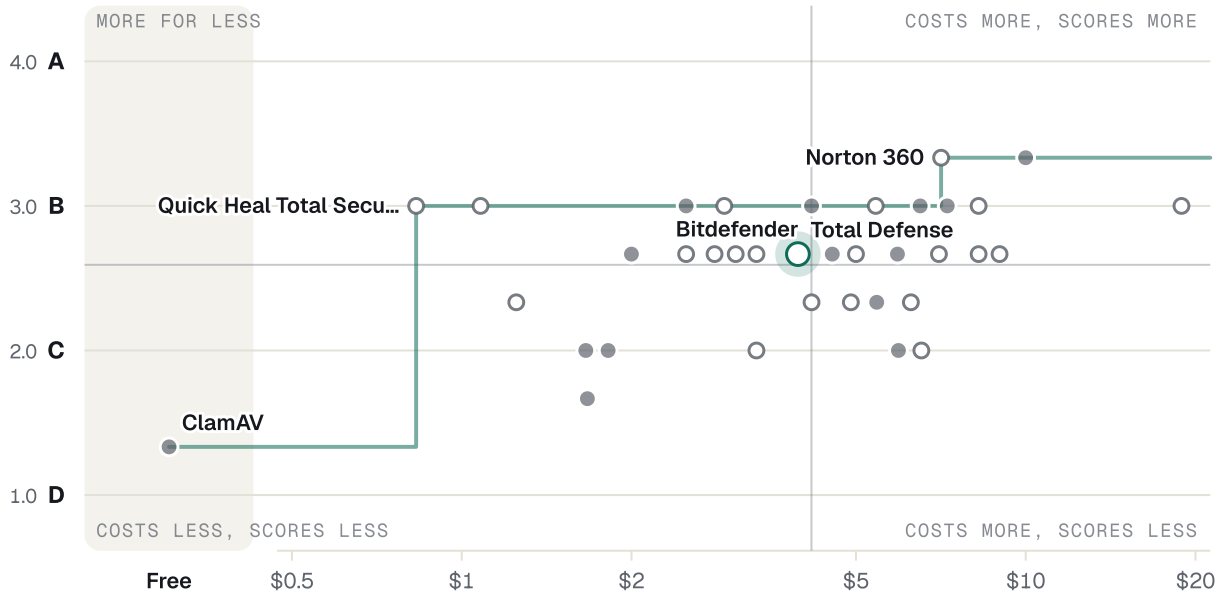
Each grade against the category

Every bar is all 57 antivirus apps we grade, cut by the letter each got. Total Defense's own letter is outlined.



Price against what you get

Each dot is one of 36 antivirus apps. Further left costs less; higher up scores better on features, ease of use and platforms. Total Defense is the marked dot.



What paid plans start at, a month (each step along is roughly double)

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.

Keep it

To replace Total Defense you would be making an engine that recognises new malware as it appears. That is not a weekend's work, with an AI app builder or without one.

It costs $39.99 a year.

What you could not

- ✕ An engine that recognises new malware as it appears.
- ✕ Files kept in step across devices without losing one.

- ✕ Apps for macOS, Windows and Android that stay in step with each other.

What this rests on. Total Defense'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



Norton 360, McAfee, VIPRE, Avast and ESET

The 5 tools Total Defense is most often weighed against, with where each one differs from it.

2.8 GPA

Norton 360

Free trial · from $84.99/yr

Antivirus suite with VPN, password manager and PC cloud backup.

- Only Norton 360 lists an iOS app.
- Total Defense also covers file sync.
- Norton 360 also covers password manager, vPN and ad and tracker blocking.

Total Defense and Norton 360 compared in full

2.8 GPA

McAfee

Free plan · from $119.99/yr

Antivirus, VPN and identity monitoring for PCs, Macs and phones.

- McAfee has a free plan. Total Defense does not, though it has a free trial.
- Only McAfee lists an iOS app.
- Total Defense also covers file sync.

Total Defense and McAfee compared in full

2.4 GPA

VIPRE

Free trial · from $14.99/yr

Home antivirus in three tiers, from basic scanning to a VPN bundle.

- Only Total Defense lists macOS and Android apps.
- Total Defense also covers file sync.
- VIPRE also covers vPN.

Total Defense and VIPRE compared in full

3.0 GPA

Avast

Free plan · from $77.99/yr

Free antivirus for PC, Mac and phones, with paid Premium and Ultimate.

- Avast has a free plan. Total Defense does not, though it has a free trial.
- Only Avast lists an iOS app.
- Only Avast lists a browser extension.

Total Defense and Avast compared in full

2.6 GPA

ESET

Free trial · from $12.99/yr

Antivirus and home security plans priced by device count.

- Total Defense also covers file sync.
- ESET also covers vPN.

Total Defense and ESET compared in full

Quick answers

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

11

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 Total Defense free?

No, Total Defense is a paid product, but you can try it first. 30-day free trial, no credit card needed, per the vendor's homepage.

How much does Total Defense cost?

Total Defense lists 5 plans. Essential Anti-Virus, 1 year: $39.99 per year for 3 PCs, sale price shown, renewal price not stated.

What platforms does Total Defense work on?

Total Defense is available on Windows, macOS and Android.

Does Total Defense have an iPhone app?

No iPhone app was listed when its pages were read on Nov 13, 2026. Total Defense is listed for Windows, macOS and Android.

Does Total Defense have a Linux app?

No Linux app was listed when its pages were read on Nov 13, 2026. Total Defense is listed for Windows, macOS and Android.

Is Total Defense open source?

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

Who makes Total Defense?

Total Defense is made by a company of the same name.

What are the alternatives to Total Defense?

The closest alternatives to Total Defense in our directory are Norton 360, McAfee, VIPRE, Avast and ESET.

How does Total Defense compare with other antivirus apps?

Total Defense's GPA of 2.4 is higher than 32 of the 56 other antivirus apps we grade, and level with 8.

Is Total Defense good value for money?

ToolGPA grades Total Defense C for value for money. Its paid plans start at $3.33 a month when paid by the year, against a middle price of $4.17 for the category: 11 of the 34 others that charge start lower.

Could I make my own version of Total Defense?

To replace Total Defense you would be making an engine that recognises new malware as it appears.

Where this guide comes from

The prices, plans, platforms and features were read from Total Defense'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 Total Defense'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 Total Defense. Prices change, so check totaldefense.com before you buy.

totaldefense.com/
totaldefense.com/shop/anti-virus/
totaldefense.com/shop/ultimate-security/
totaldefense.com/compare/
totaldefense.com/shop/premium-security/

PART 07 · ABOUT

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

Total Defense, kept up to date

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

toolgpa.com/tools/total-defense

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, "Total Defense: The Insider's Guide",
checked Nov 13, 2026.
https://toolgpa.com/tools/total-defense
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Know someone choosing between antivirus apps?

Send them this guide:
toolgpa.com/tools/total-defense/guide

ToolGPA elsewhere: youtube.com/@toolgpa

See our other guides

The best-graded antivirus apps after Total Defense, each with an Insider's Guide of its own.

Antivirus & Malware Protection Insider's Guide

Every one of the 57 antivirus apps we grade, compared

Avast Insider's Guide

Free antivirus for PC, Mac and phones, with paid Premium and Ultimate

3.0 GPA

AVG Insider's Guide

Free antivirus for Windows, with paid Internet Security and Ultimate

2.8 GPA

Bitdefender Insider's Guide

Antivirus suites for computers and phones, with a free Windows tier

2.8 GPA

ToolGPA

Choosing software? Every tool graded, every price dated.

Compare tools at toolgpa.com ›

Everything in this guide is ToolGPA's own summary of what Total Defense'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. Total Defense is a trademark of its owner, and this guide is not made, paid for or approved by Total Defense. Prices and plans change: check totaldefense.com before you buy.