

Most internet security software ratings and reviews you'll find online are written by customers. And a few others are written by comparison sites that highlight the features and tools.

These ratings and reviews play an important part in helping you find the right internet security software. And that's because they're based on customer experience; meaning you're likely to get the same level of protection when you use one of these security programs.

However, there's an even better way to finding the best internet security programs. And that's by reading ratings from experts who actually test these security programs. They carry out independent comparative tests of internet security and antivirus software programs. And they're widely recognised in the industry and are officially known as Test Labs.

There are about 5 reputable test labs and they are ICSA, West Coast Labs, Virus Bulletin, AV-Comparatives and AV-Test. And this is how these expert testers rate the following security programs:

BitDefender

BitDefender has been tested by Virus Bulletin and has been awarded a VB100% rating. This is the highest award they give and shows that it managed to detect 100% of 'viruses in the wild', without causing any false alarms. And this is one of the reasons BitDefender is considered one of the best internet security software programs.

Another expert rating agency that has tested and certified BitDefender is AV-Test. It's a Germany-based test lab which shows that BitDefender is the best at protecting against malware (malicious software).

BitDefender has also been certified by ICSA, an independent organisation that has set criteria for certifying firewalls. And BitDefender is one of the few programs that has been approved by ICSA and received certification.

Kaspersky

Kaspersky is another leading internet security program that has been tested and certified by the leading test labs. It has received the VB100% rating for effective malware protection from viruses and other threats. And because of this, it has more than 120 companies licensed to use its antivirus solution in their products.

Other ratings from expert testers also show that it is one of the most effective at protection from all kinds of malware threats. It has received a positive rating for its anti-spyware solution. It shows that Kaspersky submitted its software for testing and passed the ICSA certification.

Not all internet security software programs submit their software for testing; and some that do actually fail the test. Its antivirus software also passed the test and received a high positive rating.

Webroot

Webroot Internet Security has recently joined the list of leading security programs. And this is reflected in the positive ratings it has received from expert reviewers. Its antispware program is the number one rated spyware removal program. And it successfully prevents spyware, parasites, data miners, adware and other programs from changing your PC configuration.

Its antivirus software has received the VB100% rating from Virus Bulletin. And this shows that it caught all viruses through on-demand and on-access scanning. But no test results appear for Webroot on the West Coast Labs site, although its standalone Webroot Antivirus and Spy Sweeper did receive the certification; and it's a major part of the internet security suite.

Summary

The advantage in reading expert ratings above other ratings and reviews is that you get an unbiased assessment of the software. And this will be specific information on how the internet security software dealt with malware threats.

Most other reviews and ratings are biased and some are written by customers who have little experience using security software. And then there are comparison sites that want to make a quick buck - so you should be careful.

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