Help protect my PC with Microsoft Defender Offline – Microsoft Support

Windows · https://cleversupport.ca/docs/windows/help-protect-my-pc-with-microsoft-defender-offline-microsoft-support/

Windows 11 Windows 10 Windows 8.1 Windows 7

Microsoft Defender Offline is a powerful offline scanning tool that runs from a trusted environment, without starting your operating system.

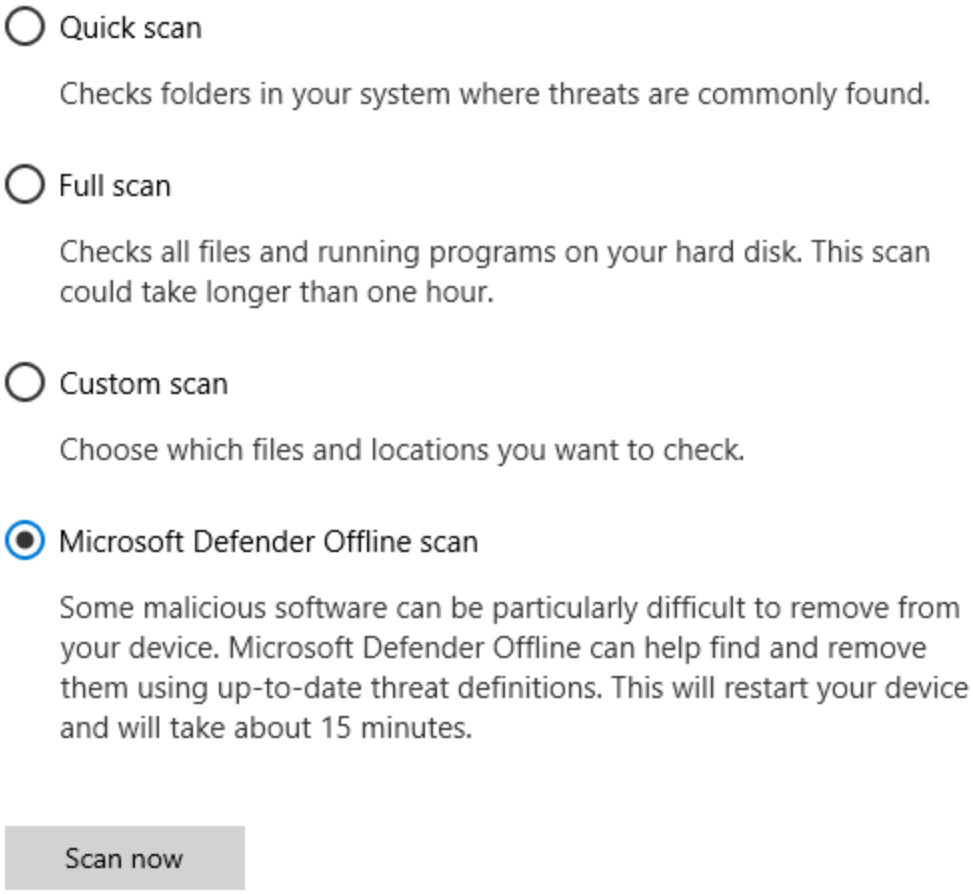
When should I use Microsoft Defender Offline?

Run Microsoft Defender Offline if:

- Windows Security (also called Windows Defender Security Center in previous versions of Windows) detects rootkits or other highly persistent malware on your PC and recommends you use Microsoft Defender Offline.
- You suspect your PC might have malware hiding on it, but your security software doesn’t detect anything.

How do I use Microsoft Defender Offline

1. Save any open files and close all apps and programs.
2. Select **Start** , and then select **Settings** > **Update & Security** > **Windows Security** > **Virus & threat protection** .
3. On the Virus & threat protection screen, do one of the following:
   - In an up-to-date version of Windows 10 or Windows 11: Under **Current threats**, select **Scan options**.
   - In older versions of Windows 10: Under **Threat history**, select **Run a new advanced scan**.
4. Select **Microsoft Defender Offline scan**, and then select **Scan now**.



You'll be prompted that you're about to be signed out of Windows. After you are, your PC should restart. Microsoft Defender Offline will load and perform a quick scan of your PC in the recovery environment. When the scan has finished (usually takes about 15 minutes), your PC will automatically restart.

Notes:

- You typically need administrator rights on the PC on which you plan to run Microsoft Defender Offline.
- If you experience a Stop error on a blue screen when you run the offline scan, restart your device and try running a Microsoft Defender Offline scan again. If the blue-screen error happens again, contact Microsoft Support.

Where can I find scan results?

To see the Microsoft Defender Offline scan results:

1. Select **Start** , and then select **Settings** > **Update & Security** > **Windows Security** > **Virus & threat protection** .
2. On the Virus & threat protection screen in Windows 10, under **Current threats**, select **Scan options**, and then select **Protection history (**In previous versions of Windows it may say **Threat history)**.