

Does Windows 10 Protect Your Data While You Surf the Internet?

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In brief

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Be it corporations or scammers; everyone is after your data. It is essential to take steps and use tools that ensure data protection. Luckily most of the major IT service providers, including software vendors and hardware manufacturers, are very particular in security.

Microsoft is one of those big names helping consumers with their products remain safe when interacting with the world through the internet. However, the question remains whether the operating system is strong enough or users will have to seek 3rd-party security help like VPNs or Virtual Private Network. It is essential to know how a Windows VPN helps with the inbuilt security features of the operating system.

One of Microsoft's latest versions, Windows 10, has a lot of security features to offer. Microsoft has made massive efforts related to security in this version. To be specific, the latest operating system comes up with a feature known as Device Encryption. This tool encrypts the entire processed data and stores it on your device. So if anyone is trying to access your machine remotely, they won't be able to read the content you have on your device.

Moreover, this version also has a feature of Microsoft Defender SmartScreen. This tool is known to identify and automatically block phishing activity, malware and restricts the downloading of any malicious files. With this, Windows 10 also has in-built security features in its Edge browser.

This Windows Defender App Guard does not protect you from accessing websites due to security threats; but instead, it forms a particular container that helps you interact with the content given on the website without contaminating your applications or planting malware that can harm your data.

The User Account Control in Windows 10 OS prevents the installation of applications without any prior permission from the machine's owner. Undoubtedly, Windows 10 is known to give the user a considerable amount of control over what happens on their computer, the applications they run, how they interact on the internet and how their data is stored.

What Windows 10 is Unable to Do

Despite all the fantastic features that this operating system has, there are few things that Windows 10 cannot do when it comes to security.

Firstly, Windows 10 OS is unable to hide your IP address. It is not able to encrypt the data that enters and leaves the machine. The data can only be encrypted once it is on the device, and this is a significant loophole due to which hackers might hijack the data and read the content.

Moreover, any 3rd-party with the correct tools can tell the websites you visit and the content you consume, and this can be a significant breach of your privacy. For example, you can target top personalized marketing campaigns, and it can overwhelm you. The security features offered by Windows 10 do not provide you with the ability to avoid the censorship that is imposed due to geographical location.

There are many occasions when you need to access content, such as movie streaming services like Hulu and Netflix are examples of such platforms that can lock you due to your location.

At times it is not the platform's creator or publisher of the content that restricts your access. Some governments also censor the key to online platforms to manage the narratives. If you are in such a country, you will look for a way to avoid this censorship.

Due to all these reasons, it becomes essential for Windows 10 users to use 3rd-party security tools. For instance, a Windows VPN like Surfshark enables you to have secure communication between your machine and the internet.

It is essential to note that a VPN never interferes with the functioning of security features; in fact, it secures the communication channel between the internet and the device and compliments them. Without a doubt, Windows 10 has some excellent security tools, but there are certain things it cannot do for you, and you have to look for alternates.