

Simple & Easy tips to check if an exe file is safe.

We all are using **executable file** for installation of a software or application in our desktop or PC. Or maybe the program is causing your computer to crash or it's using too much memory or CPU resources. Or perhaps you downloaded an **.exe** and you're not sure if it's safe to run.

If you're concerned about a file on your PC just follow the 5 easy steps or tips below to see if it's safe.

Let's check that file for threats!

5 Tips are:

- **Windows Defender**
- **Analyze the file with Online Web Portals**
- **Does the .exe have a publisher?**
- **Windows Sandbox**
- **Network Security Monitoring app**

Windows Defender



These days all Windows versions come with Windows Security (formerly Microsoft Defender), and Windows Security has a built in easy way to scan specific .exe files. If the file is on your desktop right click it and choose "scan with Microsoft Defender".

If you found the **.exe** you want to scan in the Windows task manager and you're not sure of its location, then right click it and choose "open file location". The file should then automatically be highlighted. Now right click the file once and scan it. If it's marked as safe, then it's probably safe to be on your PC.

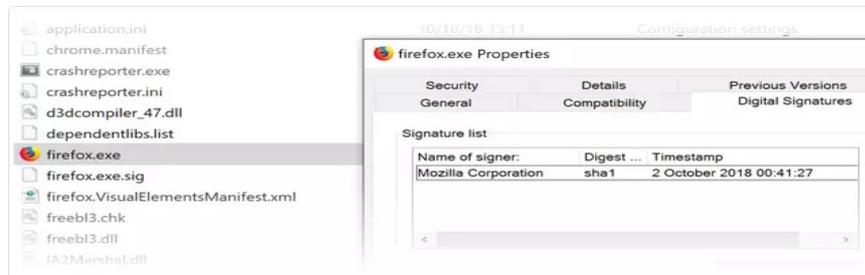
Analyse the file with online web portal



There are various web portals like “[VirusTotal.com](https://www.virustotal.com)” where we may check details of any files and URLs. Upload a file and VirusTotal is a file analysis service that will analyze the file with over 25 different anti malware engines.

Does the .exe have a publisher?

Are you still not sure about the file? Right click the file and check its properties to see if it has a known publisher. If a file is signed by Microsoft or a major company then it's most likely safe. If the file isn't signed at all then all bets are off. Look under “**Digital Signature**” to see once you check the file properties.



Windows Sandbox



The latest versions of Windows 10 or 11 have a free sandbox feature that allows you to safely run applications in a protected environment on your PC? Search for Windows Sandbox in the Windows search box to run it. Now copy the file, and then paste it into the Windows Sandbox. You can then run it and see what it does after it's executed.



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Network Security Monitoring application



If you are already running the .exe on your PC and you think it's suspicious then it's very useful to see what hosts the .exe is connecting to along with the types of traffic it is sending and receiving. free network security application like "[GlassWire](#)" can show you that data in real-time. If you find the .exe is behaving badly you can then block it instantly with their firewall.