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MICROSOFT (MS) DEFENDER ANTIVIRUS STIG REVISION HISTORY

Version 2, Release 7

05 January 2026

Developed by DISA for the DOD

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REVISION HISTORY			
Revision Number	Document Revised	Description of Change	Release Date
V2R7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Microsoft Windows Defender AV STIG, V2R6 - Microsoft Windows Defender AV Overview 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - WNDF-AV-000054 - Changed registry value reference from “HideExclusionsFromLocalUsers” to “HideExclusionsFromLocalAdmins”. - WNDF-AV-000069 - Removed duplicate requirement. - Updated verbiage in section 3. 	05 January 2026
V2R6	- Microsoft Windows Defender AV STIG, V2R5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rule numbers updated throughout due to changes in the content management system. - WNDF-AV-000018 - Altered setting from disabled to enabled. - WNDF-AV-000043, WNDF-AV-000044, WNDF-AV-000045, WNDF-AV-000046, WNDF-AV-000050, WNDF-AV-000051, WNDF-AV-000052, WNDF-AV-000054, WNDF-AV-000055, WNDF-AV-000056, WNDF-AV-000057, WNDF-AV-000058, WNDF-AV-000064, WNDF-AV-000065, WNDF-AV-000069, WNDF-AV-000070, WNDF-AV-000071, WNDF-AV-000072, WNDF-AV-000073, WNDF-AV-000074, WNDF-AV-000075, WNDF-AV-000076, WNDF-AV-000077 - Added registry path to check. - WNDF-AV-000047, WNDF-AV-000048, WNDF-AV-000049 - Altered setting from block to audit. Added registry path to check. - WNDF-AV-000053, WNDF-AV-000059, WNDF-AV-000060, WNDF-AV-000061, WNDF-AV-000062, WNDF-AV-000063, WNDF-AV-000066, WNDF-AV-000067 - Removed duplicate requirement. - WNDF-AV-000068 - Altered typo in check path. Added registry path to check. 	24 September 2025
V2R5	- Microsoft Windows Defender AV STIG, V2R4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rule numbers updated throughout due to changes in the content management system. - WNDF-AV-000010 - Altered to allow a value of 1 or 2. 	20 August 2025

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Revision Number	Document Revised	Description of Change	Release Date
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - WNDF-AV-000043 - Added requirement to block Adobe Reader from creating child processes. - WNDF-AV-000044 - Added requirement to block credential stealing from the Windows local security authority subsystem. - WNDF-AV-000045 - Added requirement to block untrusted and unsigned processes that run from USB. - WNDF-AV-000046 - Added requirement to use advanced protection against ransomware. - WNDF-AV-000047 - Added requirement to block process creations originating from PSEXEC and WMI commands. - WNDF-AV-000048 - Added requirement to block persistence through WMI event subscription. - WNDF-AV-000049 - Added requirement to block executable files from running unless they meet a prevalence, age, or trusted list criterion. - WNDF-AV-000050 - Added requirement to block Office communication application from creating child processes. - WNDF-AV-000051 - Added requirement to block abuse of exploited vulnerable signed drivers. - WNDF-AV-000052 - Added requirement to configure local administrator merge behavior for lists. - WNDF-AV-000053 - Added requirement to enable routine remediation. - WNDF-AV-000054 - Added requirement to control whether exclusions are visible to Local Admins. - WNDF-AV-000055 - Added requirement to randomize scheduled task times. - WNDF-AV-000056 - Added requirement to hide the Family options area. - WNDF-AV-000057 - Added requirement to enable file hash computation feature. - WNDF-AV-000058 - Added requirement to configure extended cloud check. - WNDF-AV-000059 - Added requirement to turn on behavior monitoring. 	

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Revision Number	Document Revised	Description of Change	Release Date
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - WNDF-AV-000060 - Added requirement to scan all downloaded files and attachments. - WNDF-AV-000061 - Added requirement to monitor file and program activity. - WNDF-AV-000062 - Added requirement to turn on real-time protection. - WNDF-AV-000063 - Added requirement to turn on process scanning whenever real-time protection is enabled. - WNDF-AV-000064 - Added requirement to turn on script scanning. - WNDF-AV-000065 - Added requirement to configure real-time protection and Security Intelligence Updates during OOBE. - WNDF-AV-000066 - Added requirement to configure monitoring for incoming and outgoing file and program activity. - WNDF-AV-000067 - Added requirement to configure controlled folder access. - WNDF-AV-000068 - Added requirement to control whether network protection is allowed to be configured into block or audit mode on Windows Server. - WNDF-AV-000069 - Added requirement to turn off Auto Exclusions. - WNDF-AV-000070 - Added requirement to enable EDR in block mode. - WNDF-AV-000071 - Added requirement to report Dynamic Signature dropped events. - WNDF-AV-000072 - Added requirement to scan excluded files and directories during quick scans. - WNDF-AV-000073 - Added requirement to configure cloud protection level. - WNDF-AV-000074 - Added requirement to convert warn verdict to block. - WNDF-AV-000075 - Added requirement to turn on asynchronous inspection. - WNDF-AV-000076 - Added requirement to scan packed executables. - WNDF-AV-000077 - Added requirement to turn on heuristics. 	

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V2R4	- Microsoft Windows Defender AV STIG, V2R3	- STIG title: Revised from Microsoft Windows Defender Antivirus to Microsoft Defender Antivirus. - All requirements: In all Check text, revised configuration path reference to Microsoft Defender. Revised text as needed for grammar/punctuation.	31 May 2022
V2R3	- Microsoft Windows Defender AV STIG, V2R2	- In Overview Section 2.2, removed Windows 2012 and 8.1 references. - WNDF-AV-000030 - Revised registry path: HKLM\Software\Policies\Microsoft\Windows Defender\Signature Updates.	01 November 2021
V2R2	- Microsoft Windows Defender AV STIG, V2R1	- In Overview Section 3, Applicability and Usage, revised wording and removed conflicting guidance. - WNDF-AV-000004 - Removed 2016/2019 references because operating systems were updated 15 November 2019 with AV guidance.	04 May 2021
V2R1	- Microsoft Windows Defender AV STIG, V1R9	- DISA migrated the STIG to a new content management system, which renumbered all Groups (V-numbers) and Rules (SV-numbers). With the new Group and Rule numbers, DISA incremented the version number from V1R9 to V2R1. - WNDF-AV-000005 - Added exception language into rule to allow file/folders to be excluded from scanning. - WNDF-AV-000028 - Modified check text to "third-party anti-spyware".	13 November 2020
V1R9	- Microsoft Windows Defender AV STIG, V1R8	- V-75241 - Updated Check to include NA statement if third-party spyware is installed. - V-75243 - Updated Check to include NA statement if third-party antivirus protection is installed.	15 May 2020
V1R8	- Microsoft Windows Defender AV STIG, V1R7	- V-75147 - Revised requirement to configure Windows Defender AV to block Potentially Unwanted Application feature.	24 April 2020
V1R7	- Microsoft Windows Defender AV STIG, V1R6	- V-75153 - Corrected rule title and check content to reflect original requirement of joining Microsoft MAPs. - V-75167 - Corrected rule title and check content to reflect original requirement of	24 January 2020

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	- Microsoft Windows Defender AV Overview	joining Microsoft MAPs. - Modified Overview to include Windows Server 2019 as being subject to the Windows Defender STIG inspection.	
V1R6	- Microsoft Windows Defender AV STIG, V1R5	- V-75167 - Corrected back to properties for "Enabled" as the conflicting STIG ID in the Windows OS STIG has been removed.	26 July 2019
V1R5	- Microsoft Windows Defender AV STIG, V1R4	- V-75167 - Clarified requirement as it relates to the Windows Operating System and McAfee STIGS. - V-75153 - Added check and fix verbiage for both Win10 and Server 2016 versions.	26 April 2019
V1R4	- Microsoft Windows Defender AV STIG, V1R3	- Updated Overview document to add Applicability and Usage section. - V-75153 - Removed the allowance of the value "Disabled". - V-75247 - Separated out each threat level. Modified this requirement for threat level Severe. - V-79965 - Added requirement for threat level High. - V-79967 - Added requirement for threat level Medium. - V-79971 - Added requirement for threat level Low.	27 April 2018
V1R3	- Microsoft Windows Defender AV STIG, V1R2	- V-75207 – Updated Fix Text.	26 January 2018
V1R2	- Microsoft Windows Defender AV STIG, V1R1	- V-75161 – Added NA statement for unclassified systems. - V-75163 – Added NA statement for unclassified systems. - V-75167 – Added NA statement for unclassified systems. - V-75207 – Added NA statement for unclassified systems. - V-75147 – Updated to add custom admin template information. - V-77965 – Added new requirement to block executable content from email client and webmail.	31 October 2017

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Revision Number	Document Revised	Description of Change	Release Date
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - V-77967 – Added new requirement to block Office applications from creating child processes. - V-77969 – Added new requirement to block Office applications from creating executable content. - V-77971 – Added new requirement to block Office applications from injecting into other processes. - V-77973 – Added new requirement to impede JavaScript and VBScript to launch executables. - V-77975 – Added new requirement to block execution of potentially obfuscated scripts. - V-77977 – Added new requirement to block Win32 imports from macro code in Office. - V-77979 – Added new requirement to prevent user and apps from accessing dangerous websites. 	
V1R1	- N/A	- Initial Release.	26 July 2017