

# Parental Control Software Comparison:

## Cyberpatrol 7.6:

Reviewers say the big advantage of CyberPatrol 7.6 parental control software is its versatility. This software program covers 13 categories of questionable content, allowing parents to choose which categories to block. Parents can block entire websites or just objectionable content within web pages, and they can even choose which words to block. This Windows-only program also allows you to restrict access to programs on the computer's hard drive, such as games or finance software. (The latest version of CyberPatrol protects up to three PCs with one license.) Reviews say the major drawback is cost of use, because the program requires annual subscriptions. If you're looking for a multiple-computer solution that comes in a Mac version, and don't need a wide array of customization options, reviewers recommend Safe Eyes 5.0 (\*est. \$50 per year).

We found the best reviews of CyberPatrol 7.6 parental control software at Computer Shopper magazine, which compares this program with similar programs, and the British website WebUser, which offers an older (but still valid) review of CyberPatrol. ( Review Courtesy of [www.consumersearch.com](http://www.consumersearch.com) )

### Best parental control software

#### ✓ Pros

- Flexible configuration options
- Customizable for multiple users
- Can block access to hard drive, as well as Internet
- Can be installed on up to three computers

#### X Cons

- Requires annual subscription

## Safe Eyes 5.0:

A few expert sources say Safe Eyes 5.0 parental control software is the best program of its kind, and it is also one of the few programs available for Mac users. The main advantage of Safe Eyes over the similarly well-rated CyberPatrol 7.6 (\*est. \$40 per year) is that this program can be controlled from a remote location, and remote changes become effective immediately -- which is helpful if you're at work and your child needs access to a blocked site or some extra time online. It's also a good choice if you need to block content on more than one computer (the license allows you to install it on up to three computers at the same time.) You can also create up to 10 user profiles. If you need to block access to hard-drive content as well as websites, reviewers recommend CyberPatrol.

The most thorough and convincing review of Safe Eyes 5.0 parental control software is at PC Magazine, which tests this program against others of the same kind. MoralMetric.com, a website devoted to appropriate web content for kids, also discusses Safe Eyes 5.0 in depth. (Review courtesy of [www.consumersearch.com](http://www.consumersearch.com))

### Best for Multiple Computers

#### ✓ Pros

- Can be installed on up to three computers
- Remote changes become effective immediately
- Available for Mac users

#### X Cons

- Not the most versatile
- Does not analyze data in real time

### **Net Nanny 5.6:**

Testers say that this version of Net Nanny parental control software is very easy to use. Its interface is intuitive and smooth for parents, yet hard for kids to circumvent. Reviewers add that one of the best things about Net Nanny 5.6 is that the poorly rated previous version of Net Nanny no longer exists. Besides blocking questionable web content, Net Nanny blocks peer-to-peer networks, allows remote management and provides effective filtering. However, additional licenses are needed to install the program on more than one computer, so it's not as economical as Safe Eyes 5.0 (\*est. \$50 per year) if your home has multiple computers. Net Nanny now is also available for the Mac OS X platform. For a program that offers more options, such as the ability to block hard-drive content, reviewers recommend CyberPatrol 7.6 (\*est. \$40 per year).

Net Nanny 5.6 parental control software is reviewed in depth by three sources: the Australian consumer magazine Choice, Computer Shopper and PC Magazine -- which all compare Net Nanny 5.6 to other programs and rate its performance. (Review courtesy of [www.consumersearch.com](http://www.consumersearch.com))  
**Easiest parental filter to use**

#### **Pros**

- Easiest parental filter to use
- Intuitive interface
- Can set controls for multiple users

#### **Cons**

- One installation only

### **Windows Vista Parental Controls:**

If you've just bought a new computer or plan to upgrade your operating system to Windows Vista, reviews recommend trying Windows Vista Parental Controls before buying standalone software. Reviewers say that Vista's controls are easy to use and difficult for kids to circumvent. The Vista operating system offers most of the major features of standalone software packages, including time-limit settings, adjustable levels of site and application blocking, IM blocking and usage logging. The lack of annual fees is a major competitive advantage. However, reviewers note that Vista doesn't allow parents to customize time limits as well as some other programs, and doesn't offer remote management. For a standalone program that offers remote management, reviewers recommend Safe Eyes 5.0 (\*est. \$50 per year).

Windows Vista Parental Controls software is reviewed in depth by three sources -- CNet.com, WinCustomize.com and NetSweeper.com -- which all go into great depth about the virtues and liabilities of this program. ( Review courtesy of [www.consumersearch.com](http://www.consumersearch.com) )

### **Integrated parental controls**

#### **Pros**

- No annual fees
- IM blocking
- Adjustable levels of blocking
- Restricts games based on ratings

#### **Cons**

- No remote access
- No time limit

### **OPEN DNS – INTERNET SAFETY & SECURITY CONTROLS**

<http://www.opendns.com/solutions/household/>

- Choose from over 50 filtering categories.

Easy to use filtering levels



Custom filtering by category



<input type="radio"/> <b>Whitelist Only</b>	Enabling this feature will <b>block all websites</b> except those listed below under your "Never block" individual domains.
<input type="radio"/> <b>High</b>	Protects against all adult-related sites, illegal activity, social networking sites, video sharing sites, and general time-wasters. <b>26</b> categories in this group - <a href="#">View</a> - <a href="#">Customize</a>
<input type="radio"/> <b>Moderate</b>	Protects against all adult-related sites and illegal activity. <b>13</b> categories in this group - <a href="#">View</a> - <a href="#">Customize</a>
<input type="radio"/> <b>Low</b>	Protects against pornography. <b>4</b> categories in this group - <a href="#">View</a> - <a href="#">Customize</a>
<input type="radio"/> <b>None</b>	Nothing blocked.
<input checked="" type="radio"/> <b>Custom</b>	Choose the categories you want to block.

<input type="checkbox"/> Academic Fraud	<input type="checkbox"/> Adult Themes	<input type="checkbox"/> Adware
<input type="checkbox"/> Alcohol	<input type="checkbox"/> Auctions	<input type="checkbox"/> Automotive
<input type="checkbox"/> Blogs	<input type="checkbox"/> Business Services	<input type="checkbox"/> Chat

For more information and reviews check out

<http://internet-filter-review.toptenreviews.com/>

Questions Contact - Stefanie Thomas – Victim Advocate Seattle Police Dept. Internet Crimes against Children Task Force

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