



Security and Snake Oil: Choosing the right encryption software

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WinEncrypt





Data Security and Snake Oil: Choosing the right encryption software for you



The staggering number of incidents of data theft has spurred on most large organizations to find ways to ensure data security. One of the best solutions to the need to protect sensitive information is through data encryption. Data encryption is easy to implement and economical.

The only problem that arises with companies clamoring to protect their systems from wrongful breaches is that numerous vendors have popped up all over the world, offering various forms of file and data encryption techniques. Snake oil or fraudulent encryption products masquerade easily as the real stuff because they usually make the same security claims and use the same algorithms as genuine products and programs.

How does encryption help?

Methods to conceal information through cryptographic means are as old as the Ancient Greeks. Today cryptography primarily refers to software that can transform data from one form to another, typically from plaintext to cyphertext. Such software ensures that the data is encrypted in such a way that it is unreadable to unauthorized users.



Use of e-mail gateways in order to encrypt emails is not a very successful method of corporate data security. Encryption software is automatic and does not require much intervention from the user. Encryption software can be installed to encrypt a complete system partition, while files can continue to be stored as usual. The software works automatically by encrypting the files in a transparent manner.

How to choose the right encryption software?



There are a number of elements that can differentiate between genuine security and snake oil:

- ✓ Encryption software can vary on the basis of security and speed
- ✓ You should also be aware of the kind of algorithm the software uses.
- ✓ Make sure that whichever encryption software you are choosing is put to test to ascertain its strengths and weaknesses.
- ✓ The chosen software should be compatible with the operating system and firewalls that you are using.

Hardware encryption tools are also available in the market for remote encryption.

There is a wide variety of encryption software available, compatible with various operating systems. You can even get encryption software free of charge online, depending upon your requirement. Some encryption software even work by creating partitions that are encrypted. Encryption software such as CompuSec, which is based on the AES algorithm, can encrypt the entire.



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- Keep your important files away from prying eyes.
- Create virtual "Encrypted Drives" upto 20 GB in size.
- Uses strong 448-bit Blowfish and 256-bit AES encryption.
- Easy to use, just drag-and-drop!
- Password-protects all types of files and folders.

[Read more about free encryption software at WinEncrypt.com](http://WinEncrypt.com)