GCN LAB

Seven vigilant security guards turn away systems riffraff

Product	Ad-aware 6	Google Toolbar	PC-cillin Internet Security	McAfee SpamKiller 5.0	McAfee AntiSpyware	Norton Internet Security 2004	Panda Platinum Internet Security
Vendor	Nicolas Stark Computing AB Falköping, Sweden tel. 46-515-503-00 www.lavasoft.de/	Google Inc. Mountain View, Calif. tel. 650-623-4000 toolbar.google.com	Trend Micro Inc. Cupertino, Calif. tel. 800-228-5651 www.trendmicro.com	Network Associates Technology Inc. Santa Clara, Calif. tel. 972-963-8000 www.nai.com	Network Associates Technology Inc.	Symantec Corp. Cupertino, Calif. tel. 408-517-8000 www.norton.com	Panda Software Inc. Glendale, Calif. tel. 818-543-6901 www.pandasoftware.com
Reviewer's comments	Scans only for spyware but works extremely well. Ad-watch offers real-time protection	Good interface; blocks pop-up ads well but can be fooled	Above-average spam filtering, but only tags spam instead of segregating it	Good interface, but SpamKiller below par at catching spam	Great interface and average security performance	Spyware filters had a difficult time removing malware. Anti-spam software OK, but consumes significant system resources	Disappointing spam and spyware filters. No pop-up blocker for the most expensive package in the review
List price	Plus Edition $26.95, Professional Edition $39.95	Free	$49.95	$34.95	$39.95	$69.95	$79.95
Overall grade	A REVIEWER'S CHOICE	A- REVIEWER'S CHOICE	B+ BANG FOR THE BUCK	B	B	B-	C