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Tips for Choosing a Next-Generation Firewall

If your midsize organization needs advanced threat protection, read on!



Strong Security

Choose a **threat-centric approach**.

Sophisticated attackers will exploit any security gap regardless of how small. Take a threat-centric approach to security to protect your midsize organization from threats and attacks. Look for a next-generation firewall (NGFW) that integrates these key features:

- Advanced malware protection (AMP) with cloud security intelligence to detect and control advanced malware outbreaks, APTs, and targeted attacks.
- Next-generation intrusion prevention system (NGIPS) capabilities to efficiently detect threats with contextual awareness for an actionable response.
- Precise application visibility and control (AVC) to support a myriad of applications and risk-based controls.
- Reputation-based URL filtering to accurately analyze URLs and associate a reputation score with each website.
- Tightly integrated always-on, application-level VPN with site-to-site and remote access including any-time support for mobile devices.

▶ **Selecting a NGFW with these features will help keep your network secure and compliant. Attacks can be stopped more quickly and accurately.**



Low Total Cost of Ownership

Minimize acquisition, management, and remediation costs.

Prioritize both affordable procurement and long term total cost of ownership when selecting a NGFW for your midsize organization. Look for a NGFW that can help lower your total cost of ownership by delivering:

- Advanced threat defense that tightly integrates multiple leading threat defense technologies such as AVC, AMP, NGIPS, and VPN.
- Built-in ability to reduce false-positive alerts with automated tuning, analytics, and threat correlation.
- AMP support that can flag previously unknown malware with retrospective security capabilities.

▶ **A NGFW solution with these features can drastically reduce remediation time, often from weeks to hours. This can free up IT staff allowing them to focus on real threats instead of false alerts.**



Ease of Management and Reporting

Get simplified access to security details.

In addition to requiring robust threat-focused capabilities, your midsize business needs simplified access management and built-in reporting. Look for a NGFW that does not require the integration of disparate security solutions and provides:

- Flexibility to suit your environment with options for streamlined on-box or centralized management.
- Ability to include threat correlation capabilities that can highlight risks to the network.
- Effective monitoring prioritization and attack remediation capabilities.
- Support for compliance activities and assessments to meet internal policies and industry regulations.

▶ **A NGFW solution with these features can easily support single-instance deployments or deployments at distributed locations and branch offices. Managing security policies for users, devices, applications and more is simplified. Compliance can be maintained for external regulations such as the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA) and the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA).**

Resources

Next-Generation Firewalls (NGFW) for SMBs White Paper

Discover three NGFW requirements to protect your business from attacks.

[Read Now.](#)

Cisco Midsize Business IT Assessment Tool

Answer a few targeted questions to find out what security solutions are best for your organization.

[View Now.](#)

Cisco Midsize Security Website

Stay up-to-date on the latest trends and see what's new in security from Cisco.

[Learn More.](#)



Take a **threat-centric approach to security**. Don't settle for costly security point solutions or less secure Unified Threat Management (UTM) products. Keep your midsize organization secure from threats before, during, and after an attack—today and into the future.



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it's what we make possible.

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