

Spying protection for Windows

[Spybot Anti-Beacon](#) is a simple tool that edits your hosts file to block a high number of Internet channels used by Microsoft in Windows and MS Office for “telemetry”, i.e. reporting back to Microsoft about your software and various activities – not only for Windows 10, but also for Windows 7 and 8.

[O&O ShutUp10](#) is a tool for Windows 10 that [configures privacy settings](#).

[W10Privacy](#) is a similar tool that aids [setting up Windows 10 for better privacy](#).

[DoNotSpy](#) is another one of the same kind, as is [Destroy-Windows-10-Spying](#).

An overview over these tools is given in a video [Which Windows 10 Privacy Tool Is Right for Me?](#)

An old tool for enabling certain security settings in Windows 2000, XP and 7 is [xp-Antispy](#) version 3.98, but it does not work properly for Windows 10. A beta version that is, however, adapted to Windows 10 is so far only available in German.

Some more tools are found here: [6 free tools that stop Windows 10 from spying on everything you do](#), more correctly: on much that you do...

It would be naïve to believe that you could achieve full privacy with Windows 10 using these tools. Not only could some settings be reversed by updates to Windows 10, but there will be more spying functions that you have no control over and some that are still unknown. In Windows 7 and 8, the spying functions were not yet as far developed as they are in Windows 10, but today they approach the functions in the latter through newer updates also in these versions.

That Windows 10 is effectively a malware is [admitted also even by Microsoft](#). After all, [Windows 10 is spyware...](#)

Yet it will be worth doing as much as you can for your privacy, bearing in mind that it will never be perfect.