



Checklist:

Top 5 tips for enterprises choosing a firewall

Reimagine the firewall as your foundation for comprehensive security.





1 Think bigger than a single control point.

Once upon a time, the firewall sat on the network edge and protected an entire organization. But times change, and so has your network. Today, hard-and-fast perimeters are a thing of the past. Firewalls must enforce common policy with control points everywhere. Intelligent control points and comprehensive visibility where you need it—that’s *firewalling*—delivered by appliances, virtual appliances, cloud-delivered firewalls, and application and workload control.

With a comprehensive firewalling strategy, consistent security controls are deployed everywhere you need them. Gathering, sharing, and responding to context about users, locations, and devices, as well as helping ensure you meet your organization’s security requirements. This integrated approach offers full visibility with prioritized alerts, unified policy, shared threat intelligence, and stronger user and device authentication.

- Watch the video [The Future of Firewall](#)

2 Leverage world-class security intelligence.

Defending networks against increasingly sophisticated threats requires industry-leading intelligence and consistent protections everywhere. World-class threat intelligence requires the best team.

Cisco Talos is the largest commercial threat intelligence team in the world, comprised of leading researchers, analysts, and engineers.



Actionable intelligence and vulnerability research drive rapid detection and protection for Cisco customers against known and emerging threats. Because we share our research, we make it possible to stop threats in the wild and protect the Internet at large.

- Meet [Cisco Talos®](#)



SECURE

3 Explore cloud-based management.

Piecemeal management, inconsistent policies, and having to update your firewall manager are just more work. With cloud management, that's taken care of for you by the vendor.

Centralized, cloud-based management can help security teams cut through complexity and align policies throughout the organization. Policies can be written once and quickly enforced across thousands of enforcement points. With a single management console, objects can be compared across all devices to uncover inconsistencies and optimize your security posture. As your organization grows, new deployments can automatically inherit the latest policies. Discover how your organization could benefit from a cloud-based management solution.

- Check out [Cisco Defense Orchestrator](#)

4 Make it part of an open security platform.

Investing in a firewall should meet your needs for today and for the future. Confidently secure your business with a broad, integrated, and open security platform that protects your environment and automates playbooks.

Open platforms strengthen your security by unifying visibility across all parts of your security infrastructure—regardless of which vendor's products you have. A platform approach, with firewall at its foundation, enables better decision making with comprehensive threat detection, security analytics, and common policy management. The best platforms reduce complexity with out-of-the-box integrations. They automate security workflows for threat investigation, hunting, and remediation. It's a great way to strengthen operational efficiency and precision, while lowering your operational costs.

- Explore [Cisco SecureX™](#)

5 Choose a vendor that has your back.

The world is changing rapidly. Maybe your organization is, too. Regardless, you need a vendor that can support your team for what's now and what's next.

As a leading security provider, protecting 100 percent of the Fortune 100, no one is better equipped than Cisco. With unrivaled threat intelligence and an industry-leading zero trust approach, we can help you attain effective security to face tomorrow's evolving threats. Protect your infrastructure with best-of-breed products on an integrated, open platform so you can materially enhance your security posture while lowering operational costs.

- Watch the video [The Cisco Difference](#)

Learn more about [Cisco Secure Firewall](#) >

