

Nessus Product Editions and Licensing:

Nessus is a popular vulnerability scanner developed by Tenable. It comes in several editions based on use case, features, and licensing needs. Paid editions include software updates and support for the duration of the license. Visit <https://www.tenable.com> for the latest pricing, features, and comparison charts.

1. Nessus Essentials:

- Cost: Free (Registration Required)
- IP Limit: Up to 16 IP addresses
- Use Case: For students, learners, and personal lab environments
- Features:
 - Full vulnerability scanning
 - Most plugins included
- Limitations:
 - Not for commercial use
 - Limited to 16 IPs

2. Nessus Professional:

- Cost: Paid (approx. \$3,000/year – check Tenable website for latest pricing)
- IP Limit: Unlimited (as per license agreement)
- Use Case: For security professionals, IT consultants, and small/medium businesses
- Features:
 - Full vulnerability scanning with over 190,000 plugins
 - Credentialed and non-credentialed scans
 - Customizable reports
 - API access
- Commercial Use: Yes

3. Nessus Expert:

- Cost: Higher than Nessus Pro (check Tenable for pricing)
- Use Case: For advanced users, DevOps, and cloud security professionals
- Features:
 - All features of Nessus Pro
 - Cloud infrastructure scanning (AWS, Azure, GCP)
 - Infrastructure as Code (IaC) scanning (e.g., Terraform, Kubernetes)
 - Software composition analysis
 - External attack surface scanning

4. Tenable.io:

- Platform: Cloud-based vulnerability management
- Use Case: For organizations needing scalable, centralized scanning
- Features:
 - Integrates with Nessus scanners and agents
 - Web application and container scanning
 - Risk-based prioritization and asset inventory
 - Centralized dashboard and reporting

5. Tenable.sc (formerly SecurityCenter):

- Platform: On-premises vulnerability management platform
- Use Case: For large enterprises managing multiple scans and teams
- Features:
 - Central management of multiple Nessus scanners
 - Role-based access control
 - Compliance checks and custom dashboards
 - Integration with SIEM/SOAR tools

Summary Table:

Edition	Best For	IP Limit	Commercial Use
Nessus Essentials	Students, learners	16 IPs	No
Nessus Professional	Security pros, consultants	Unlimited	Yes
Nessus Expert	DevOps, cloud & advanced users	Unlimited	Yes
Tenable.io	Cloud-based enterprise scanning	Unlimited	Yes
Tenable.sc	On-prem enterprise scan management	Unlimited	Yes

Feature	Nessus Essentials	Nessus Pro	Tenable.io
Cost	Free	Paid	Subscription-based
IP Limit	16 IPs	Unlimited*	Unlimited (per license)
Commercial Use	No	Yes	Yes
Cloud-based	No	No	Yes
Credentialed Scanning	Yes	Yes	Yes
Plugin Access	Limited	Full	Full
API Support	No	Yes	Yes
Reporting	Basic	Advanced	Enterprise-level
Support	Community only	Included	Enterprise support