

CompTIA Security+ (SY0-601)

CompTIA Security+ Intro

CompTIA Security+ is a global certification that validates the baseline skills necessary to improve baseline security readiness and incident response by applying current best practices for preventing and addressing today's threats.

VALUE Prop 1 (Career Changer/Student)

Security+ validates core knowledge required of cybersecurity professionals, and those in related job roles, ensuring organizations have the talent needed to improve baseline security readiness and incident response by applying best practices for preventing and addressing the latest attacks, threats, and vulnerabilities.

VALUE Prop 2 (Employer)

CompTIA Security+ validates core knowledge required of any cybersecurity role, and emphasizing vendor-neutral, hands-on practical skills, ensuring the security professional is better prepared to problem solve a wider variety of today's complex issues.

Accredited by ANSI to show compliance with the ISO 17024 Standard. It is also approved by the DoD for Directive 8140/8570.01-M

Skills and Competencies Acquired:

- Assess security posture and implement security solutions
- Monitor and secure hybrid environments, including cloud, mobile and IoT
- Operate with an awareness of applicable laws and policies
- Identify, analyze, and respond to security events and incidents

Job Roles:

- Systems Administrator
- Security Analyst
- Security Administrator
- Security Engineer

Key Differentiators:

- Chosen by more corporations and defense organizations than any certification to validate core security skills and for fulfilling DoD 8570 compliance.
- More job roles turn to Security+ to supplement baseline cybersecurity skills, enabling organizations to improve baseline security readiness and incident response.
- Aligned to the latest trends and techniques including: core technical skills in risk assessment and management, incident response, forensics, enterprise networks, hybrid/cloud operations, and security controls, ensuring high-performance on the job. 80% of the exam includes updated technology and 20% newer concepts and techniques.
- Increased coverage of skills for managing enterprise environments' architecture, hybrid-networks and reliance on cloud.
- Expanded coverage of incident response, governance, risk and compliance as IT professionals are having to perform tasks earlier in their career.

Resources:

- Average Salary:
 - U.S. Security Administrator: Glassdoor.com (<https://bit.ly/2NXjo0u>)
 - UK Security Administrator: ITJobsWatch.co.uk (<https://bit.ly/35nZP7Z>)
- Security+ Additional Information: [CompTIA.org/certifications/security](https://www.comptia.org/certifications/security)
- Recommended Pathways: [CompTIA.org/certifications/which-certification](https://www.comptia.org/certifications/which-certification)
- Posts: <https://bit.ly/33YV5k8>

Competitors	Talking Points / Security+ Advantages
(ISC)² Systems Security Certified Practitioner (SSCP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Both SSCP and Security+ cover baseline security skills and are vendor-neutral; however, Security+ includes performance-based questions to validate hands-on skills. • SSCP requires working experience before taking the exam while Security+ does not. • Security+ is listed in 10% of cybersecurity job ads while SSCP is only listed in 3%.
EC-Council Certified Ethical Hacker (CEH)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CEH focuses only on penetration testing, the questions are multiple choice, with no performance requirement, and it costs nearly 3x more. • Security+ includes performance-based questions focusing on the latest threat, attacks, and vulnerabilities, as well as risk management, incident response, and GRC. • Security+ is listed in 10% of cybersecurity job ads while CEH is only listed in 1%.
GIAC Security Essentials (GSEC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Both GSEC and Security+ cover baseline security skills and are vendor-neutral; however, Security+ includes performance-based questions to validate hands-on skills. • Security+ is listed in 10% of cybersecurity job ads while GSEC is only listed in 3%. • GSEC costs nearly 5x more.

Companies that Endorse Security+:	By the Numbers:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General Dynamics IT (GDIT) • Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory • Netflix • Ricoh • SecureWorks • U.S. Navy Center for Information Dominance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Over 500,000 Security+ certified professionals. • Among IT Professionals that hold CompTIA Certifications in North America, 62% hold Security+.

CompTIA Security+ (SY0-601)

How does CompTIA Compare?



Certification	Security+	(ISC)2 Systems Security Certified Practitioner (SSCP)	EC-Council Certified Ethical Hacker (CEH)	GIAC Security Essentials (GSEC)
Performance-based Questions	Yes	No	No	No
Exam Length	1 exam, 90 minutes	1 exam, 180 minutes	1 exam, 4 hours	1 exam, 5 hours
Experience Level	Entry-level	Entry-level	Entry-level	Entry-level
Prerequisites	CompTIA A+ and Network+ recommended	Minimum of one year work experience in one or more domains	CEH Training, 2 years information security experience, Endorsement	None

[Learn more about Security+](#)

