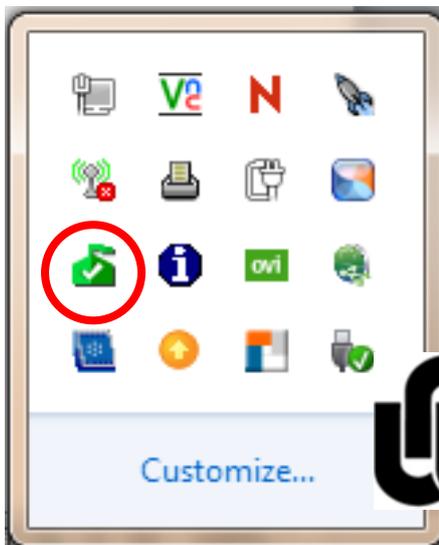# Microsoft Security Essentials (MSE) for Windows 7

Microsoft Security Essentials (MSE) provides protection of Windows workstations against virus attacks and malware intrusions.

1 Tray Icons

- Click on the **Show hidden icons** button (rectangle) on the right hand side of the Taskbar (at the bottom of the desktop).

- Note the MSE icon. The colour tells you what the status is.
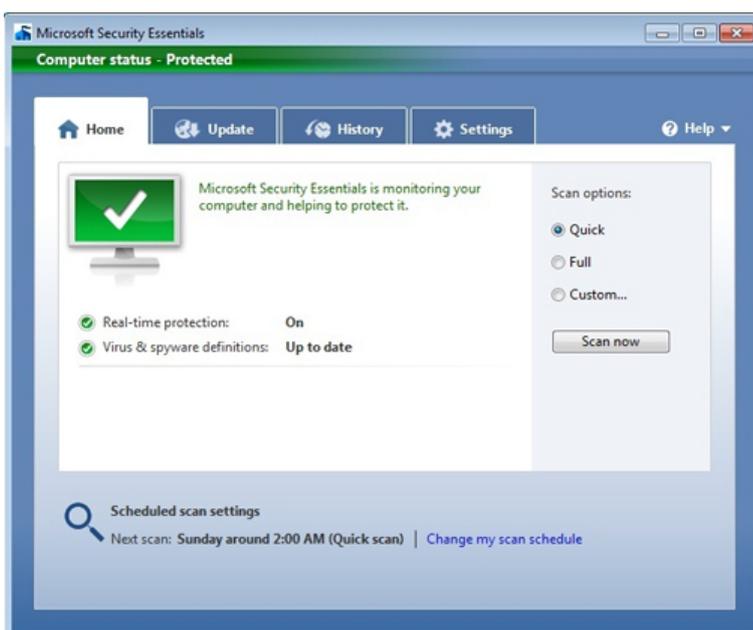

- Green: MSE is updated, the workstation is safe.

- Red: MSE is not updated, the workstation is infected.

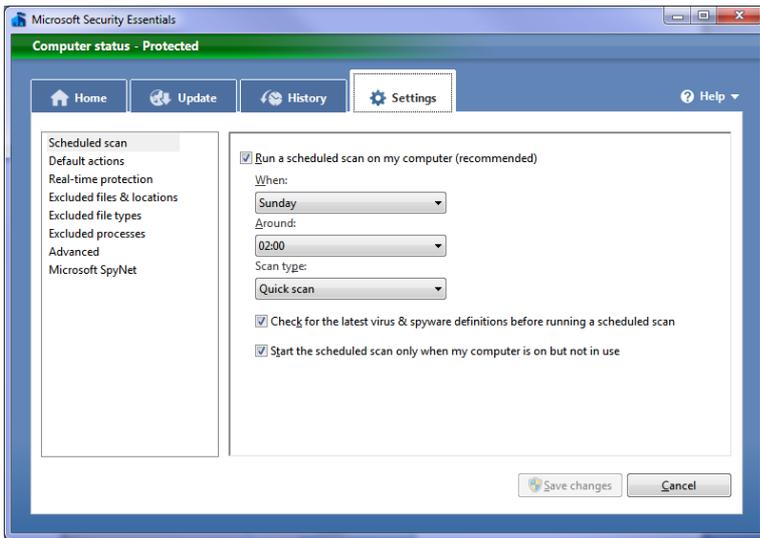- Blue: MSE is in the process of updating/scanning.
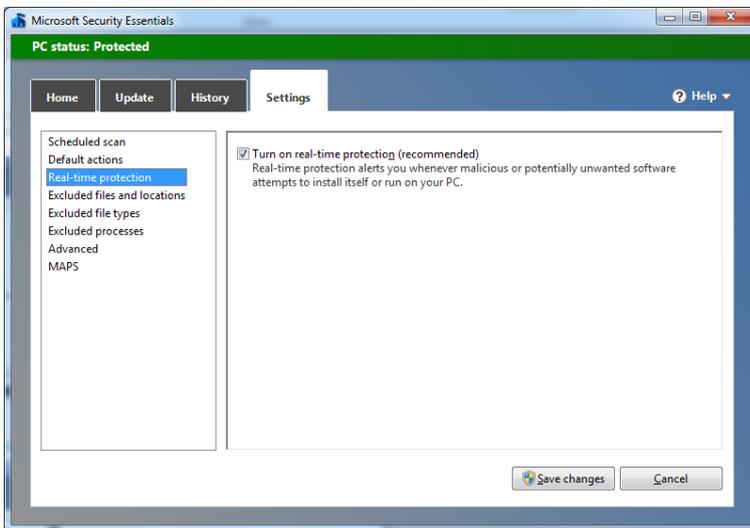
1.1 Green Icon

- If the icon is green, right click on the green icon and click on **Open**.

The **Settings** tab has quite a few options available.

- Settings may be tuned by the user according to his/her needs except for the **Real-time protection** option – which **MUST** always be **Turned On**.


1.2   Red Icon

- If the icon is red, right click on the red icon and click on open.

- Click the button to take the recommended action and MSE will clean the detected file and then do a quick scan for additional malicious software. You can also click the **Show details** for more info.
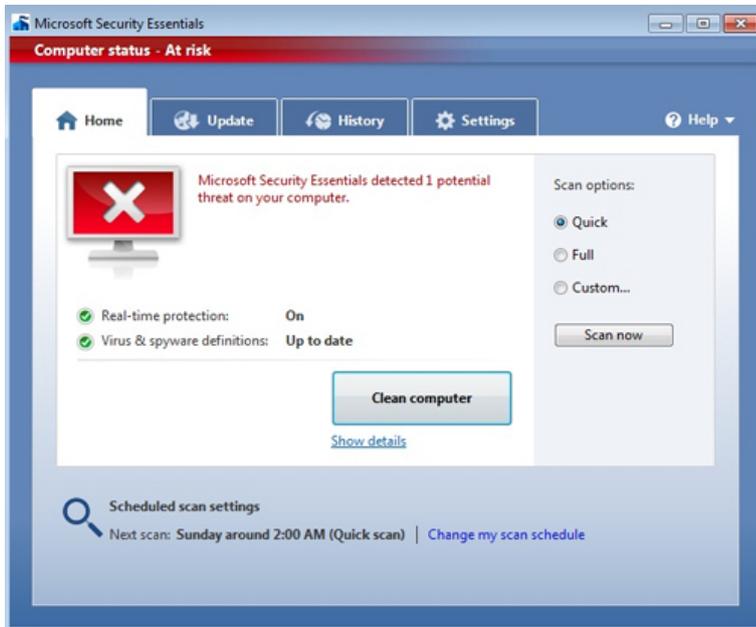
1.3 Orange Icon

- If the icon is orange, right click on the orange icon and click on open.

- You should take action, for example turning on Real-time protection, running a system scan, or addressing a medium-severity or low-severity threat.
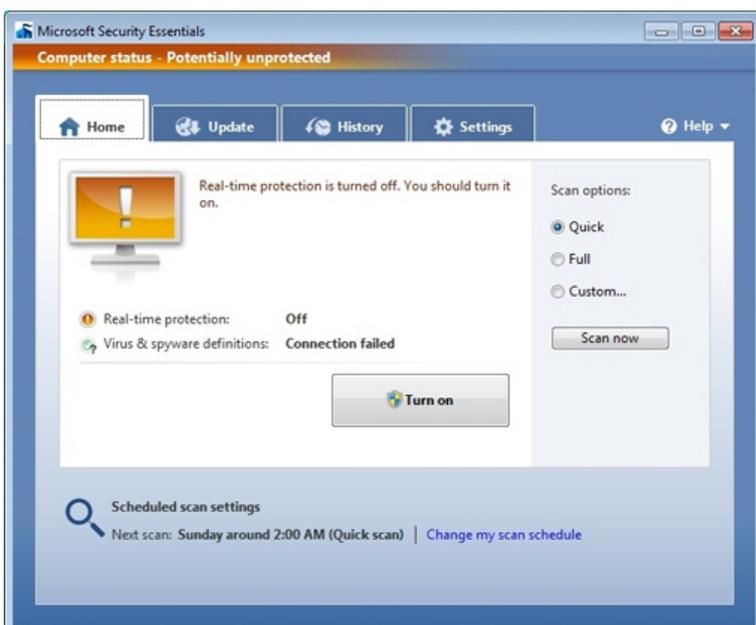
2 Updating Security Essentials (@NWU)

The auto update of the definition files at NWU is done via the internal Windows Update Server. It will take place transparently - in the background - together with all other Windows Updates.

Automatic updates will check the internal server every 4-5 hours for updates (and when switching the workstation on).