



F5 Advanced WAF

Reviews, tips, and advice from real users



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Product Recap



F5 Advanced WAF

F5 Advanced WAF Recap

F5 Advanced WAF is a web application security solution for financial and government sectors, e-commerce, and public-facing websites. It offers protection against various attacks, including botnets, web scraping, and foreign entities. The solution can be deployed on-premises or in the cloud and is often used with other security tools. Its most valuable features include DDoS and DNS attack protection, SSL uploading, anomaly detection, and the ability to input custom rules.

F5 Advanced WAF has helped organizations to expose more services to the public while providing an extra layer of protection, preventing revenue loss, and securing connectivity.

Valuable Features

Excerpts from real customer reviews on PeerSpot:



“F5 Advanced WAF offers features not available in other products.”



Verified user

Global Channel Alliances Lead at a tech vendor with 10,001+ employees



“WAF functionality is valuable for protecting applications from attacks.”



Ahmed Moamen

Senior Security Solutions Architect at Orange



“The AOF solution provides numerous security features.”



Amr Shawky

Security & Infra Technology Specialist at BARQ Systems



“The bot defense capability, as well as protection from brute force attacks and OWASP Top Ten, are notable features.”



Abdul Azim

Network Security Engineer at IIPL



“It ensures compliance with security standards by providing features like PCI DSS checks.”



Mirseyid M

Cyber Security Engineer at AzInTelecom



“F5 helped to meet compliance and regulatory requirements.”



Rahool Sharma

Senior Network Consultant at Visionet Systems Inc.



“The whole mechanism of F5 Advanced WAF is effective.”



RoiNahari

CEO at CyberApp

What users had to say about valuable features:

“The whole mechanism of F5 Advanced WAF is effective. It contains the logic of both negative and positive security combined, providing added value to the company I work with to protect their applications..”

RoiNahari

CEO at CyberApp

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“The most valuable feature of F5 Advanced WAF is its extensive set of capabilities for application protection, including DDoS prevention, and its ability to work with Pentesters and external scanners to observe user activity and eliminate false positives. This comprehensive approach to application security enables an organization to protect its web applications from diverse web threats effectively..”

Verified user

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Senior Network Engineer at a comms service provider with 11-50 employees

“The AOF solution provides numerous security features. It protects applications from various threats, including SQL injection, and ensures that the application behavior is from a human, not a bot. It includes DDoS protection which has been enhanced after migrating from SDM.

The solution is very effective as it includes security features important for financial applications where protection is necessary to avoid potential financial loss or penalties. It helps protect the core and backend of applications..”

Amr Shawky

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Security & Infra Technology Specialist at BARQ Systems

“F5 offers a versatile solution that can be integrated with APM in cases where integration with an external IDB is needed. It is useful for authentication backup if the on-prem directory service is unavailable.

Additionally, its WAF functionality is valuable for protecting applications from attacks. It is a versatile and strong solution that's easy to understand and deploy..”

Ahmed Moamen

Senior Security Solutions Architect at Orange

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“F5 Advanced WAF provides two different licensing models. The subscription-based model offers competitive pricing, making it easier for me to see ROI. However, the perpetual license, despite an initial higher cost, lacks transparency regarding support expiration. Due to the subscription, I can compare it with other tools, but as a perpetual buyer, I am unaware of support expiration until after the purchase, allowing indicative ROI calculations but not actual ones.

Furthermore, F5 Advanced WAF offers features not available in other products, though I suggest consulting a technical expert for specific features..”

Verified user

Global Channel Alliances Lead at a tech vendor with 10,001+ employees

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Bot Protection: Mitigates automated attacks like credential stuffing..”

API Security: Safeguards APIs against exploitation..”

Advanced Threat Detection: Protects against OWASP Top 10 vulnerabilities and zero-day threats..”

DDoS Mitigation: Ensures application availability during attacks..”

Behavioral Analytics: Detects and mitigates anomalous traffic patterns..”

Granular Policy Control: Enables precise security policy customization..”

Threat Intelligence Integration: Offers real-time updates for proactive protection..”

Abdul Azim

Network Security Engineer at IIPL

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Other Solutions Considered

“I recommend Infoblox because it's a leader in DNS security with more than 15 customers using it. It is very flexible in configuration, support, and scalability compared to F5..”

Amr Shawky

Security & Infra Technology Specialist at BARQ Systems

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“We chose this product because we believe it is the best product for us. There are other firewalls in the market, but you always look for the best as a vendor..”

Verified user

Technical Product Manager at a tech services company with 11-50 employees

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“We tend to stay with F5, however, we will look at pricing and try to negotiate based on that. We'd like to get a discount and look at the market to see the costs. .”

Kok KeongLow

Head of Presales at a tech vendor with 10,001+ employees

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“We are constantly looking out for features which are not available in the current product. We have set alerts to flag when these features become available..”

Verified user

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Information Security Coordinator at a non-tech company with 5,001-10,000 employees

“I have not worked with many other vendors as extensively as F5, but I have some knowledge of FortiWAF. FortiWAF has fewer options compared to F5, particularly in features like iRULES, which offers more flexibility for traffic management and coding..”

Usama Nasir

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Network Security Engineer at IIPL

“Before F5 Advanced WAF, our organization used IPS and Fortinet. Fortinet could only handle simple tasks, and F5 Advanced WAF is better for specialized application protection and scalability. Fortinet has a quick and easy setup process that doesn't require highly skilled engineers, making it suitable for resource management. .”

Verified user

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Senior Security Engineer at a financial services firm with 1,001-5,000 employees

ROI

Real user quotes about their ROI:

“I find it difficult to compute ROI for perpetual licenses due to the lack of upfront information about support expiry. Subscription models offer clearer ROI due to a more competitive pricing scheme..”

Verified user

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Global Channel Alliances Lead at a tech vendor with 10,001+ employees

“The ROI is very impressive as it is crucial for financial applications to be protected efficiently. Ensuring application security is a significant milestone, crucial to prevent financial losses or penalties..”

Amr Shawky

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Security & Infra Technology Specialist at BARQ Systems

“There are numerous benefits for end customers, as a secure application helps prevent potential breaches and ensures the safety of customers' data, especially in sensitive sectors like banking..”

Verified user

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Senior Network Engineer at a comms service provider with 11-50 employees

“The solution provides an ROI. When professional services install it, it has low administrative overhead and increases performance due to its scaling capacity. The solution can be used with any specific client or application as it allows user programming to be open-source. With F5 Advanced WAF, our company is able to adapt to the versatile requirements of clients. I would rate the ROI of the solution a nine out of ten. .”

Verified user

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Senior Security Engineer at a financial services firm with 1,001-5,000 employees

“It's hard to tell if the customer got ROI from F5 Advanced WAF because it's based on the initial deployment and approach. It would've been just a matter of time before the customer enjoyed ROI from the solution. My company never experienced a serious incident with the use of F5 Advanced WAF for the customer, so my assumption is at some point, the customer is realizing the ROI..”

Geofrey Mwaseba

SOC Analyst at a financial services firm with 1,001-5,000 employees

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“In terms of return on investment, F5 Advanced WAF offers a high ROI.

The F5 Advanced WAF allows for easy onboarding of web applications without the need for additional investments. For example, if a company has one web application that needs to be protected, and then tomorrow they have 15 more, they can easily onboard them onto the same F5 Advanced WAF device without any extra cost. This saves both time and money. Additionally, F5 Advanced WAF provides protection for a company's assets and reputation, ensuring compliance with regulations such as PCI DSS, and improving overall business efficiency by reducing the need for troubleshooting and manpower. Overall, F5 Advanced WAF offers a high return on investment. I rate the ROI of F5 Advanced WAF a ten out of ten..”

Hillary-Ugwuanyi

Freelancer at Freelance

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Use Case

“The AOF solution is used for any customer with applications to protect them. It provides security features to protect the application from threats such as SQL injections and challenges of the browser using AI..”

Amr Shawky

Security & Infra Technology Specialist at BARQ Systems

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“I use and recommend F5 Advanced WAF as a web application firewall to protect various applications. It is particularly effective in load balancing and enforcing security policies..”

Mirseyid M

Cyber Security Engineer at AzInTelecom

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“I use F5 Advanced WAF to manage enterprise clients, focusing on licensing and support flexibility to accommodate various customer segments, including enterprises and mid-market customers..”

Verified user

Global Channel Alliances Lead at a tech vendor with 10,001+ employees

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“F5 Advanced WAF is used for the protection of applications from current web threats, including DDoS attacks. It provides a comprehensive security solution that incorporates different protection levels..”

Verified user

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Senior Network Engineer at a comms service provider with 11-50 employees

“The primary use case for F5 Advanced WAF is to protect applications that are exposed to the internet. It is used to protect applications from known attacks, such as cross-site scripting and DDoS attacks..”

Ahmed Moamen

[Read full review](#) 

Senior Security Solutions Architect at Orange

“F5 Advanced Web Application Firewall (AWAF) is primarily used in financial sectors like banking to secure web applications against advanced threats, ensuring compliance with industry regulations. Our Key use cases include:

1. **Protection Against OWASP Top 10:** Safeguarding banking applications from SQL injection, XSS, and other common vulnerabilities.
2. **Bot Mitigation:** Detecting and blocking malicious bots to prevent account takeovers, credential stuffing, and fraud.
3. **DDoS Protection:** Defending against application-layer DDoS attacks to ensure service availability.
4. **PCI DSS Compliance:** Enforcing security policies to meet compliance standards for protecting sensitive customer data.
5. **API Security:** Securing APIs used in banking platforms from abuse and unauthorized access.
6. **Threat Intelligence:** Leveraging threat intelligence to identify and mitigate zero-day attacks.
7. **Application Traffic Control:** Managing and monitoring application traffic to ensure optimal performance and security.

These use cases help financial institutions maintain secure and resilient applications, critical for trust and compliance..”

Abdul Azim

Network Security Engineer at IIPL

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Setup

The setup process involves configuring and preparing the product or service for use, which may include tasks such as installation, account creation, initial configuration, and troubleshooting any issues that may arise. Below you can find real user quotes about the setup process.

“The initial setup experience is straightforward, and I did not face any complexities. I recommend deploying the F5 AWAf solution on a single appliance with LTM..”

Abdul Azim

Network Security Engineer at IIPL

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“The initial setup of F5 Advanced WAF is straightforward and easy to understand. Without prior training, I could build and publish applications using just the documentation..”

Ahmed Moamen

Senior Security Solutions Architect at Orange

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“Deploying the solution, including initial configuration, licensing, addressing, and enabling WAF, could take one to three hours. However, for a comprehensive setup, considering external factors and optimizations, the process could take up to a month..”


Verified user

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Senior Network Engineer at a comms service provider with 11-50 employees

“The initial setup involves sending a request, understanding requirements such as policy and application number, and ensuring prerequisites are ready. It uses policy virtual servers and the network WAF, taking about five or six days to implement..”

Amr Shawky

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Security & Infra Technology Specialist at BARQ Systems

“Deploying the solution involves an application learning and blocking phase. The process includes collecting application data, creating policies, and applying them to lower testing environments like QA or dev before moving to UAT and production. The learning phase is used to handle false positives and fine-tune the policies before going live..”

Habib A

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Systems Engineer at Sify Technologies

“The initial setup of the F5 Advanced WAF solution involves multiple stages and might require revisiting configurations based on customer needs. The setup can be complex compared to other options..”

Ehab Kamal

Import Compliance Specialist at Silicon21

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Customer Service and Support

“The support from F5 is excellent, with resources readily available online. The quality of support depends on the service SLA purchased, with various levels of service provided..”

Ahmed Moamen

Senior Security Solutions Architect at Orange

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“The technical support team provides responses within a day for critical issues, however, the community support can be slow, sometimes taking up to two weeks for a response..”

Mirseyid M

Cyber Security Engineer at AzInTelecom

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“F5 support is excellent and deserves a ten out of ten. Their technical support is responsive and helpful, making the overall experience very satisfactory..”

Usama Nasir

Network Security Engineer at IIPL

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“Customer service is very responsive. If the issue persists beyond my local support capabilities, I open a ticket with F5, and they respond quickly. I rate their technical support 9 out of 10..”

Abdul Azim


Network Security Engineer at IIPL

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“F5 provides one of the best technical supports, though there have been a few cases where customers were dissatisfied due to response speed. However, in general, their support is highly efficient and knowledgeable..”

Verified user

Senior Network Engineer at a comms service provider with 11-50 employees


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“Support is a little slow, but the solution itself is great. If I compare F5 and Fortinet, the main issue is the support. With Fortinet, it takes less time to engage a support engineer and get things sorted compared to F5.

I'll give F5 a five because it is difficult to engage an engineer and get the issue sorted. For Fortinet, I'd give them a nine..”

Rahool Sharma

Senior Network Consultant at Visionet Systems Inc.

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Other Advice

“I would fully recommend F5 Advanced WAF for its feature-rich offerings and high detection rate of threats. I rate it a ten out of ten as it is one of the best solutions available..”

Verified user

Senior Network Engineer at a comms service provider with 11-50 employees

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“I would rate F5 Advanced WAF a seven out of ten.

It is important to learn the network and security landscape before deploying.
Understanding cybersecurity concepts and signature-based attacks is crucial..”

Mirseyid M

Cyber Security Engineer at AzInTelecom

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“I recommend the F5 Advanced [WAF](#) solution for everyone with critical applications. Security needs to be embedded within the full visualization pipeline, allowing significant savings. I rate F5 Advanced WAF at a nine out of ten..”

Ehab Kamal

Import Compliance Specialist at Silicon21

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“I rate F5 eight to nine out of ten. I recommend F5 to customers who require a robust solution and have the budget for it. However, for customers looking for modest pricing, I would not recommend the F5 solution.

I'd rate the solution eight out of ten..”

Abdul Azim

Network Security Engineer at IIPL

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“I rate F5 Advanced WAF eight out of ten.

Despite a few issues, F5 Advanced WAF is performing well for me. Improving engagement and enablement for partners would enhance its value to GSI partners and service providers.

Overall, I see potential positive development for the product..”

Verified user

Global Channel Alliances Lead at a tech vendor with 10,001+ employees

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“I would recommend F5 Advanced WAF to other users looking to implement it.

My advice:

A lot of organizations are financially constrained when buying devices. So if the organization is capable of maintaining and managing a device like F5, we suggest F5. Otherwise, we suggest other solutions, like Fortinet or Citrix.

Overall, I would rate it an eight out of ten because of the support..”

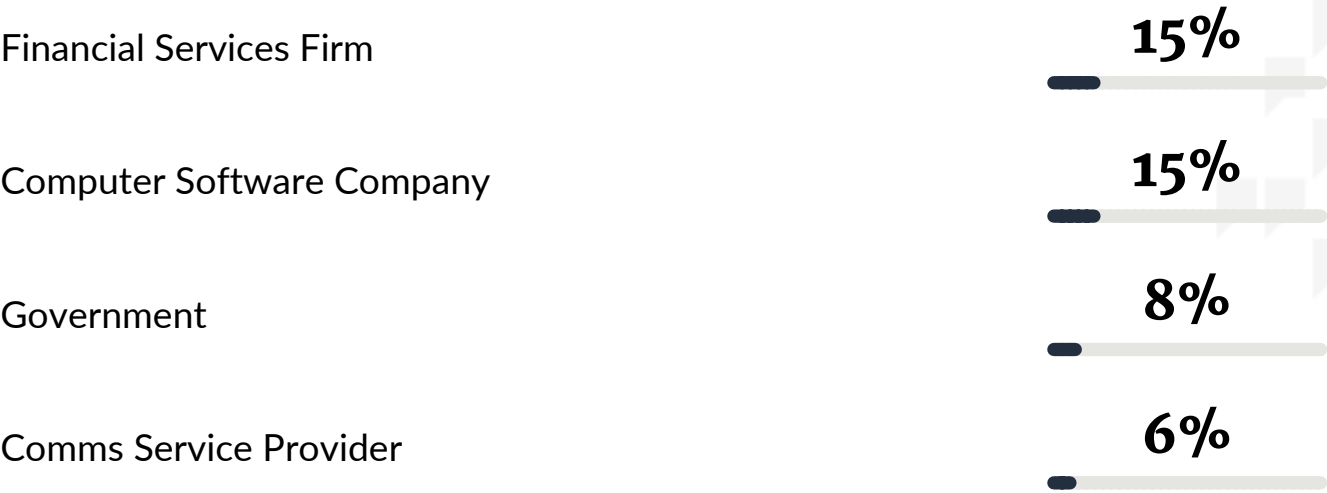
Rahool Sharma

Senior Network Consultant at Visionet Systems Inc.

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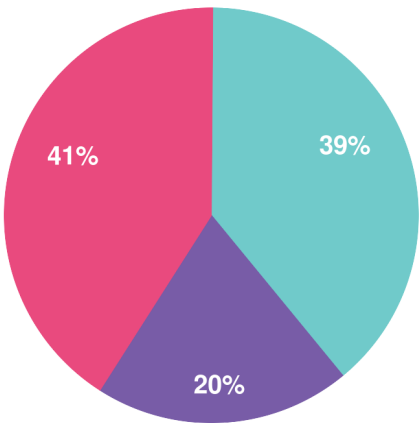
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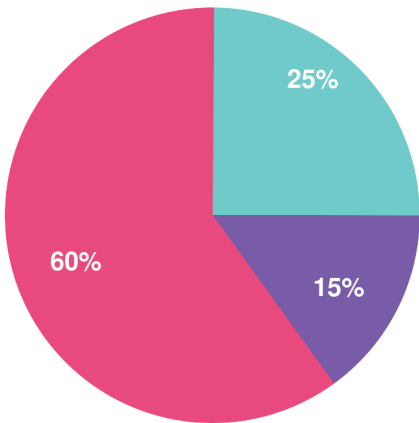


Company Size

by reviewers



by visitors reading reviews



Large Enterprise Midsize Enterprise Small Business

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