aws marketplace

FortiGate Cloud-Native Firewall (FortiGate CNF)

Reviews, tips, and advice from real users

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Product Recap

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FortiGate Cloud-Native Firewall (CNF) is a cloud-native, next-generation firewall as a service (FWaaS) that delivers enterprise-grade security for dynamic cloud environments like AWS and Azure.

FortiGate CNF offers seamless protection by automatically scaling to meet the needs of modern cloud environments. By focusing on threat prevention for malware, data exfiltration, botnets, and compliance violations, it simplifies operations and reduces costs by being managed entirely by Fortinet. With capabilities like intrusion prevention, web filtering, and DNS security, FortiGate CNF integrates smoothly with cloud service tools such as AWS Firewall Manager, ensuring centralized policy management across cloud and on-premise deployments.

What are the core features?

- Intrusion Prevention System (IPS): Protects against known and emerging threats without sacrificing performance.
- Web Filtering: Monitors and controls access to web resources to prevent malicious content.
- DNS Security: Protects against DNS-based threats and improves network reliability.
- East-West Traffic Security: Prevents lateral movement of threats across different trust zones.
- Outbound Traffic Inspection: Ensures outgoing traffic is inspected and filtered to prevent data leaks to malicious destinations.

What benefits can users expect?

- Cost Efficiency: Lower operational costs with cloud-native management and simplified security operations.
- Scalability: Automatic scaling matches the elastic nature of cloud environments without manual intervention.
- Integration: Seamless connection with existing FortiManager deployments and cloud service tools for enhanced management.
- Comprehensive Threat Protection: Offers advanced threat detection and prevention for securing workloads effectively.

FortiGate CNF is particularly useful in industries that require stringent security measures, offering flexible, scalable protection while simplifying compliance management in sectors like finance, healthcare, and technology. By integrating with existing infrastructures, it provides

robust security aligned with industry-specific needs.

Valuable Features

Excerpts from real customer reviews on PeerSpot:

✔ "FortiGate Cloud-Native Firewall provides the same features that higher-end models offer, but at a much lower cost."

Rahool Sharma

Senior Network Consultant at Visionet Systems Inc.

✔ "FortiGate's offering of many features in one license is cost-effective."

MuhammadJahangir

Senior Manager Tech Compliance at Qenta Inc.

✔ "FortiGate provides features such as Internet connections, monitoring, VPN, WiFi management, and centralized management system with FortiManager."

Uri Harf

Technical Presales at A.G.A.S. □□□□ □□□□□ □□□□□

✔ "The ability to launch third-party software is one of the best features because of the variety of software available. For me, it's one of the best ones."

Aladin Gaston
Chief Technology Officer at Flex Group

✔ "Threat detection and prevention features are the most effective aspects of FortiGate CNF."

VIJAICYRIAC
Director at a tech services company with 10,001+ employees

✔ "The people I work with appreciate the stability of FortiGate Cloud-Native Firewall (FortiGate CNF), as they love its reliability."

RiaanDu Preez
Senior Cyber Security Specialist Architect at a tech consulting company with 11-50 employees

✔ "FortiGate Cloud-Native Firewall (FortiGate CNF) is highly valued for its pricing, which is considered very affordable."

ІгорКузьменко
Key Account Manager at ITBiz Solutions

What users had to say about valuable features:

FortiGate Cloud-Native Firewall (FortiGate CNF) primarily provides application-level gateways and network-level security at a cloud level. It offers secure cloud platforms that meet industry standards for compliance. Additionally, threat detection and prevention features are the most effective aspects of FortiGate CNF.

VIJAICYRIAC   Read full review ↗
Director at a tech services company with 10,001+ employees

"The Unified Threat Management, URL filtering, application control, antivirus, web filter, DNS control, and intrusion prevention are valuable features. FortiGate's offering of many features in one license is cost-effective.."

MuhammadJahangir   Read full review ↗
Senior Manager Tech Compliance at Qenta Inc.

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The most valuable feature of FortiGate Cloud-Native Firewall (FortiGate CNF) is its open-source configuration. The simplicity of its setup stands out, as it has the same look and feel as physical firewalls, making it easy for me to work with and integrate. Additionally, it enables better segregation and integration with on-premise firewalls and infrastructure so that I can seamlessly handle both on-prem physical firewalls and cloud firewalls.

RiaanDu Preez   Read full review ↗

Senior Cyber Security Specialist Architect at a tech consulting company with 11-50 employees

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"FortiGate Cloud-Native Firewall (FortiGate CNF) is highly valued for its pricing, which is considered very affordable. The rates and reviews it receives, such as from Gartner, underscore its reliability. Its price policies are flexible, and it is widely favored in the market with significant coverage in security. It holds around 60% of the security market in Ukraine.."

ІгорКузьменко   Read full review ↗

Key Account Manager at ITBiz Solutions

"FortiGate Cloud-Native Firewall (FortiGate CNF) greatly enhances our cloud security strategy with features such as policy creation and management. We implemented IPS and IDS, which contribute significantly to our security. The visibility and exposure to logs provide valuable insights for our InfraSec team, aiding in monitoring and managing communication and policies.."

Rahool Sharma
Senior Network Consultant at Visionet Systems Inc.

Read full review ↗

"FortiGate provides features such as Internet connections, monitoring, VPN, WiFi management, and centralized management system with FortiManager. It also offers backup of configurations with FortiCloud. These features help balance security and comfort for customers, ensuring they can operate without too much hassle.."

Uri Harf
Technical Presales at A.G.A.S. ▯▯▯▯▯ ▯▯▯▯▯▯▯ ▯▯▯▯▯▯

Read full review ↗

Other Solutions Considered

"I've previously used solutions from Trend Micro, Check Point, and Palo Alto. For email protection tools and general security, I often use Trend Micro and Check Point.."

ІгорКузьменко
Key Account Manager at ITBiz Solutions

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"I have worked on Palo Alto and Cisco firewalls before. The organization decided to cut CapEx costs and was looking for vendors offering the same features at a lower cost. We ultimately chose FortiGate Cloud-Native Firewall.."

Rahool Sharma
Senior Network Consultant at Visionet Systems Inc.

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"We tried Check Point, but their solution wasn't up to par until they introduced Quantum Spark. However, adopting it requires policy changes and re-educating technicians, so it is currently on hold.."

Uri Harf
Technical Presales at A.G.A.S. ▯▯▯▯▯ ▯▯▯▯▯▯▯ ▯▯▯▯▯▯

Read full review ⬈

ROI

Real user quotes about their ROI:

"The primary benefit we experienced is the reduction in CapEx costs. FortiGate Cloud-Native Firewall provides the same features that higher-end models offer, but at a much lower cost.."

Rahool Sharma
Senior Network Consultant at Visionet Systems Inc.

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"For the operator, it's a solid product because it can be technically upgraded, and both companies provide excellent service and support.

It's extremely good. There aren't many choices on the market, so it offers a better return compared to alternatives. It's also cheaper, especially when compared to some Chinese firewalls, which I would avoid if I were a telecom operator.."

Aladin Gaston
Chief Technology Officer at Flex Group

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Use Case

I have been working with FortiGate Cloud-Native Firewall (FortiGate CNF), primarily focusing on application-level firewalling and network-level security, especially in a cloud environment.

VIJAICYRIAC   Read full review ↗

Director at a tech services company with 10,001+ employees

"We use FortiGate firewalls for endpoint protection and communication lines, and we have some Cloud-Native and local appliances for VPN connections or multiple sites.."

Uri Harf   Read full review ↗

Technical Presales at A.G.A.S. ▢▢▢▢▢ ▢▢▢▢▢▢▢ ▢▢▢▢▢▢

I use FortiGate Cloud-Native Firewall (FortiGate CNF) to enable better segregation and integration with on-premise firewalls and infrastructure. It allows me to have a unified approach, so I can work on both on-prem physical firewalls and cloud firewalls.

RiaanDu Preez   Read full review ↗

Senior Cyber Security Specialist Architect at a tech consulting company with 11-50 employees

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"I primarily use FortiGate Cloud-Native Firewall (FortiGate CNF) as a firewall with general bundles of licenses, including Intrusion Prevention System (IPS) and antivirus. We employ it in medium and enterprise-level businesses, not small businesses.."

ІгорКузьменко
Key Account Manager at ITBiz Solutions

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"We enhance our cloud security strategy through FortiGate Cloud-Native Firewall (FortiGate CNF) by implementing zero trust policies for our cloud infrastructure APIs. This includes the secure communication between our on-site data center and cloud premises.."

Rahool Sharma
Senior Network Consultant at Visionet Systems Inc.

Read full review ↗

"We are using two Fortinet firewalls. One is as an office firewall for all users behind it, configured with remote VPN for users working from home. The other firewall is for production use, with our applications behind it, ensuring PCI DSS compliance. It is deployed in AWS Cloud.."

MuhammadJahangir
Senior Manager Tech Compliance at Qenta Inc.

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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.

"Overall, the initial setup for FortiGate Cloud-Native Firewall (FortiGate CNF) is straightforward and hassle-free. It takes two to four weeks to complete.."

ІгорКузьменко
Key Account Manager at ITBiz Solutions

Read full review ↗

"The solution is difficult to deploy, depending on the environment of the customer and takes two to three hours to complete. Two people can deploy the solution.."

Omar Urquijo
Security, infrastructure and networking engineer at Abetelnet Solutions

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The initial setup can be straightforward if one understands the environment and how FortiGate works. For someone new to security, it might be difficult as they see security as a hindrance instead of an enabler for improved work.

RiaanDu Preez

Senior Cyber Security Specialist Architect at a tech consulting company with 11-50 employees

"The initial setup involved a smooth deployment with some challenges during the migration process, as we had to manually transfer our rules and policies without FortiConverter.."

Rahool Sharma

Senior Network Consultant at Visionet Systems Inc.

"If you don't know the device, the solution's initial setup will be complicated. The solution's setup is easy for someone who understands the network, security, and how to do policies.

I rate FortiGate Cloud-Native Firewall a nine out of ten for the ease of its initial setup.."

Noor-E-MozammilAlighan

Senior IT Engineer at NMA Technologies Services Ltd

"The deployment process is complex, but it's not the fault of Fortinet because it's a complex industry, and it's very rarely deployed the way it's shown in the book.

The first thing we do is split the traffic. Before it goes to the firewall, we split it and send addressing traffic to servers that will process this, and at the end, maybe give the data back to the firewall or bypass the firewall completely.

The complexity is that both companies use the best they can, but when something goes wrong, there is still time to resolve the issue. You probably haven't seen that in detail, but for example, in Canada, Rogers, a telecom company, lost the ability to make mobile phone calls for three days for all their users.

The CRTC, which is the equivalent of the FCC in the US, said, "What the hell? How can you lose the ability to firewall communication for a few days?" This was basically because the reaction time from the firewall side was too slow. Some of the automatic protections against external attacks did not work, and when they engaged them manually, it caused more trouble than it solved.

As a result, one-third of the Canadian population didn't have communication. The details weren't fully disclosed, but the job should have been done at the level of the firewall of all the traffic coming into Canada. The firewall software should have reacted. In fact, every time it reacted, it was because of a large network issue.

"Is it easy to deploy?" The answer is, if you have 400 firewalls, like they do, it's extremely difficult to recycle them if everything goes wrong. When you are at that level, it goes wrong extremely fast, and it's extremely slow to recover.."

Aladin Gaston
Chief Technology Officer at Flex Group

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Customer Service and Support

From my interactions, technical support from Fortinet is rated high, a nine out of ten, though there is always room for improvement. I know some of the engineering personnel, which helps in understanding their approach and response.

RiaanDu Preez   Read full review ↗

Senior Cyber Security Specialist Architect at a tech consulting company with
11-50 employees

"The people involved in calling for support are usually experienced in this field, especially in telecom companies. They typically follow an internal process to isolate and document problems before contacting external support. When the issue reaches Fortinet or Juniper, it's usually well-documented, making it easier to resolve. In general, the customers are very professional, which helps ensure effective support.

So, once the problem is documented and duplicated, the issue is in good hands. In my experience with public safety agencies in Canada and large customers, users have professionals communicating with professionals.

However, if users are dealing with customers in regions like Africa, where there might be a lack of training or support, the issues often stem from insufficient training on the specific device. This training needs to be refreshed regularly, and both companies offer that option, though not all customers take advantage of it.."

Aladin Gaston   Read full review ↗

Chief Technology Officer at Flex Group

Other Advice

Overall, I rate FortiGate Cloud-Native Firewall (FortiGate CNF) an eight out of ten. Maintenance is managed by my team, which handles multiple devices.

VIJAICYRIAC
Director at a tech services company with 10,001+ employees

"Overall, I rate FortiGate Cloud-Native Firewall (FortiGate CNF) around seven out of ten due to its flexible pricing, significant market presence, and ease of deployment.."

ІгорКузьменко
Key Account Manager at ITBiz Solutions

"I would rate FortiGate Cloud-Native Firewall (FortiGate CNF) an eight out of ten. While the pricing, features, and stability are good, the presence of bugs and the time it takes to fix them prevent a higher rating.."

Rahool Sharma
Senior Network Consultant at Visionet Systems Inc.

"We aim to work with products that have local distributors for better

responsiveness. I rate FortiGate around eight to eight and a half out of ten since there are usually no technical issues. Still, the pricing is a concern.."

Uri Harf
Technical Presales at A.G.A.S. אבטחת מערכות מידע

"Overall, the firewall meets our requirements. I don't have experience with other firewalls like Palo Alto that might provide some better benefits.

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

MuhammadJahangir
Senior Manager Tech Compliance at Qenta Inc.

"I'd rate it around a nine or nine out of ten. It's one of the best in the industry today.

The choice often depends on the legacy equipment already installed and its upgradeability. Juniper is really good at replacing Cisco devices, as Cisco is losing ground in the telecom operator market. Sometimes, choosing equipment is influenced by the legacy systems already in place.

So, as a customer, I often can't remove all legacy equipment and must work in parallel with it. That's one of the key issues when it comes to integration. If users have a hybrid platform, it can dramatically complicate deployment.."
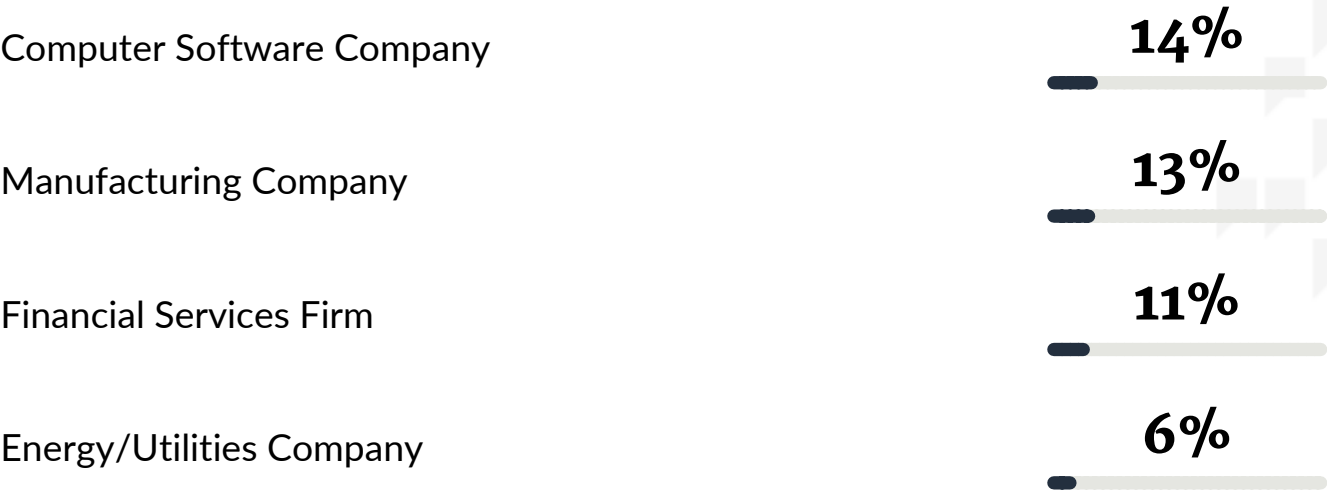
Aladin Gaston
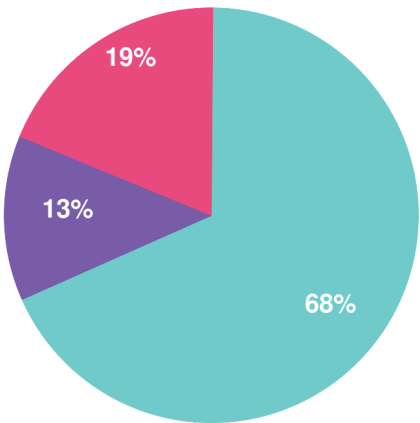Chief Technology Officer at Flex Group

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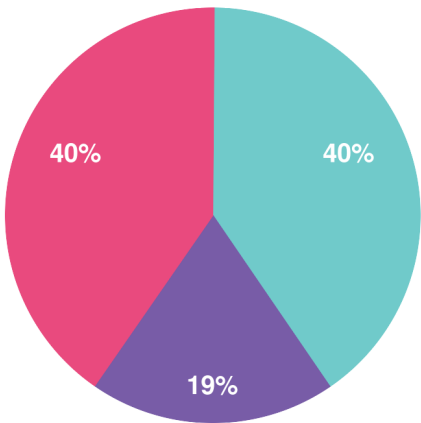
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244 5th Avenue, Suite R-230 • New York, NY 10001

reports@peerspot.com

+1 646.328.1944