SoftwareSelects

Review & Setup Guide · November 26, 2026

# SecuPerts Rescue Stick Review 2026: First Aid for a PC That Won't Start

A USB emergency system from Engelmann Software that starts a broken or infected PC without Windows, so you can back up files, remove malware, recover deleted data, reset a password or erase a drive — $29.99 one-time with a 60-day money-back guarantee.




USB RESCUE TOOLKIT · WINDOWS XP–11

## Start a broken PC from USB and rescue it

- Virus scan outside Windows
- Back up & recover files
- Reset forgotten passwords
- Erase drives securely

**PRICE**
**$29.99 one-time**
download + serial number by e-mail

**GUARANTEE**
**60-day money-back**
refund via Digistore24

**WORKS WITH**
**Windows XP to 11 PCs**
and Linux; starts from USB

**YOU NEED**
**An empty USB stick**
16 GB or larger (not included)

By Serkan Fatih Gökdemir · SoftwareSelects

OUR VERDICT

# A sensible “first aid kit” to keep in the drawer

Top pick
PC rescue

SecuPerts Rescue Stick, from the German publisher Engelmann Software (formerly sold as SecuPerts First Aid Kit), turns an ordinary USB stick into a small emergency system that starts without Windows. That is exactly what you need on the bad day: when Windows will not boot, when malware blocks the normal scanner, or when files are gone. From the stick you can copy your files to safety, scan with an Avira-based virus scanner, recover deleted files, copy a failing drive 1:1, reset a forgotten Windows password and securely erase a drive before you sell it — through a simple interface meant for non-experts. For $29.99 once, with a 60-day money-back guarantee, it is cheap insurance — and the best time to make the stick is before anything goes wrong.

## What we like

- **Works when Windows doesn’t.** It starts its own system from USB, so a broken or infected Windows is not in the way.
- **Your files first.** Copy documents and photos to an external drive or over the network before you try any repair.
- **Malware removal outside Windows.** The Avira-based scanner runs while the malware is switched off.
- **Recovery tools in one place.** File and deep block-level recovery, shadow copies and a 1:1 drive copy.
- **Made for beginners.** A simple interface — no command line, no specialist knowledge.
- **Small price, safe purchase.** $29.99 once from an established German publisher, with a 60-day money-back guarantee.

## Good to know

- **Make it before you need it.** You create the stick on a working PC; if your only PC is down, borrow one for ten minutes.
- **USB stick not included.** Use an empty stick of 16 GB or more — it is erased when the rescue system is written.
- **Recovery is not magic.** Badly overwritten or physically damaged data may not come back; keep regular backups.
- **Not a Windows installer.** It rescues files and fixes common problems; a deeply broken Windows may still need a reinstall.

WHAT'S INSIDE

# Back up, clean, recover, reset and erase

Everything runs from the stick's own Linux-based emergency system, with a simple menu instead of a command line. These are the tools Engelmann describes for SecuPerts Rescue Stick.

## Save & recover

**File backup**
Copy files to an external drive or over the network

**File-level recovery**
Bring back deleted files on intact file systems

**Shadow copies**
Restore files from hidden Windows shadow copies

**Block-level recovery**
For damaged or quick-formatted drives

## Clean & repair

**Virus scanner**
Avira-based scan outside Windows

**Registry editor**
Undo settings that stop Windows working

**Drive health**
Health status of hard drives and SSDs

**1:1 drive copy**
Move a failing drive to a new one

## Access & privacy

**Password reset**
For forgotten local Windows passwords

**Network sharing**
Copy files from the broken PC to another PC or Mac

**Secure erase**
Wipe a drive before you sell or recycle it

**Emergency desktop**
Simple apps to keep working in a pinch

**Good habit:** a rescue stick is a safety net, not a backup plan. Keep regular backups of important files — then the Rescue Stick only has to get your PC running again.

HOW IT WORKS

# From a dead PC to your files in safety

1

## Make the stick on a working PC

Download the program, unzip it and run the included USB installer. It writes the emergency system to an empty USB stick and gives you a ready-to-use rescue stick.

| | |
|---|---|
| Download | ZIP + serial |
| Run | USB installer |
| Choose | Empty 16 GB+ stick |
| Result | Rescue Stick ✓ |

2

## Start the problem PC from USB

Plug the stick into the PC that will not start, switch it on and tap the boot menu key (F12, F11, Esc... — use our key finder). Choose the USB stick and the emergency system starts instead of Windows.

| | |
|---|---|
| Power on | tap F12 |
| Boot menu | UEFI: USB stick |
| Starts | emergency system |
| Windows | not needed |

3

## Save your files first

Before any repair, copy documents, photos and other important files to an external drive or to another PC over the network.

| | |
|---|---|
| Documents | ✓ |
| Pictures | ✓ |
| Desktop | ✓ |
| Copy to | External drive |

4

## Fix the problem

Run the virus scanner, recover deleted files, reset a password or copy a failing drive — then remove the stick and start Windows normally.

| | |
|---|---|
| Virus scan | all drives |
| Recover files | deleted / formatted |
| Password | reset |
| Restart | without the stick |

PRICING

# One payment, no subscription

The download version is a one-time purchase through Digistore24. You get the download link right after paying and the serial number by e-mail. Price as shown on the order form in US dollars.

Recommended

### Rescue Stick Download

**$29.99** one-time

The full rescue system to write to your own USB stick.

- Backup, virus scan, recovery, password reset, secure erase
- Works with Windows XP to 11 and Linux PCs
- Serial number by e-mail, downloads for 3 months
- 60-day money-back guarantee

### Premium Support (optional)

**+$8.74** add-on

Offered on the order form; not needed to use the stick.

- Your requests go to the top of the support queue
- Valid for two years from purchase
- Separate e-mail address for faster answers
- Covered by the 60-day guarantee

Sales tax or VAT is added at checkout where it applies, and the price may be shown in your local currency. The USB stick is not included. Download products can be downloaded up to 5 times within 3 months of payment, so save the installer.

HOW TO TRY IT

## Try SecuPerts Rescue Stick risk-free in 4 steps

1

**Buy the download**

$29.99 once on Digistore24, with your serial by e-mail.

2

**Make the stick**

On any working Windows PC, with an empty 16 GB+ USB stick.

3

**Test it once**

Start a PC from it and look around the tools.

4

**Decide within 60 days**

Keep it, or request a full refund through Digistore24.

**Your safety net:** SecuPerts Rescue Stick comes with a 60-day money-back guarantee handled by Digistore24. If it is not for you, request a full refund within 60 days through the link in your Digistore24 order e-mail.

SETUP GUIDE

# Making and using your SecuPerts Rescue Stick

Create the stick on a working Windows PC — ideally today, before you need it. It takes about 15–30 minutes, most of it waiting while the files are written.

## 1 Buy the download and keep your e-mails

Check out on Digistore24 ($29.99 one-time). You land on the download page straight away, and your **serial number** arrives by e-mail.

- Keep the Digistore24 order e-mail — it holds your download link and the refund link for the 60-day guarantee.
- The download can be used up to 5 times within 3 months, so save the ZIP file somewhere safe.

💡 Your PC already broken? Do steps 1–5 on any working Windows PC — a friend's or family member's is fine.

## 2 Get an empty USB stick

Use a USB stick of **16 GB or more**. A USB 3.0 stick makes writing and starting much faster.

- Everything on the stick will be **erased** — copy anything on it somewhere else first.
- Label the stick "Rescue" so nobody reuses it by mistake.

## 3 Unzip the download

Right-click the downloaded ZIP file → **Extract All...** and open the extracted folder. Do not run the files from inside the ZIP.

## 4 Run the USB installer

In the extracted folder start the program for **installing to USB** (the folder also has one for burning a DVD). Select your USB stick — check the drive letter and size carefully — and start.

- Enter your serial number if you are asked for it.
- Wait until the program says it is finished — writing about 5 GB can take a while on a USB 2.0 stick.
- Eject the stick safely before you pull it out.

5

## Test the stick once

Start your working PC from the stick (step 6) to make sure it boots. Then take it out, restart Windows and put the stick in a safe place.

- A tested stick in a drawer is worth far more than an untested one on the day something breaks.

6

## Start the problem PC from USB

Plug the stick into the PC that will not start, switch it on and **tap the boot menu key** straight away — F12 on Dell, Lenovo, Acer and Toshiba, F11 on MSI and ASRock, Esc then F9 on HP (see the key finder above). Choose the USB stick.

- If Windows still starts, you can also choose **Settings → System → Recovery → Advanced startup → Use a device**.
- If the PC ignores the stick, open the BIOS/UEFI setup and put USB first in the boot order; some PCs also need Secure Boot switched off temporarily — follow your PC maker's guide and switch it back on afterwards.

7

## Save your files before anything else

When the emergency system has started, use the **backup** tool to copy your important folders to an external drive, or turn on **network sharing** and copy them from another PC or Mac.

- Copy to a different drive than the one you are rescuing.
- Use the rescue time estimator above to plan large copies.

8

## Repair, then restart normally

Now run the tool for your problem: **virus scan** of all drives, **file recovery**, **password reset**, **drive health** and **1:1 drive copy**, or **secure erase**. When you are done, shut down, remove the stick and start Windows.

- If Windows still will not start after the repairs, your files are already safe — a Windows reset or reinstall is now stress-free.
- If the stick is not for you, request your refund within 60 days.

OPTIONAL

# Which tool for which emergency

The emergency system groups its tools by job. Start with the card that matches your problem.

### Windows won't start

1. Start from the stick.
2. Copy your files to an external drive with the **backup** tool.
3. Check **drive health**; use the registry editor or reinstall Windows once your files are safe.

Back up first — always.

### Virus or malware

1. Start from the stick so the malware is not running.
2. Connect to the internet if you can, so the scanner is up to date.
3. Scan **all internal drives**, then restart Windows and check it.

Avira-based scanner, outside Windows.

### Lost files or failing drive

1. Stop using the affected drive.
2. Try **file-level recovery** and shadow copies, then **block-level recovery**.
3. For a failing drive, make a **1:1 copy** to a new drive first.

Save recovered files to a different drive.

## Six things worth knowing

**Make it in advance**
Create and test the stick while your PC works — it takes minutes.

**16 GB or more**
The rescue system takes about 5 GB; the stick is erased when it is written.

**Boot menu key**
Tap it from the moment you press power: F12, F11, F8 or Esc on most PCs.

**Files first**
Copy your data to safety before any repair or reinstall.

**Different target drive**
Never recover files to the drive you are recovering from.

**Microsoft account**
Its password is reset online, not with the stick.

PRINT & TICK

# Your SecuPerts Rescue Stick setup checklist

Tick each step as you go. Making the stick takes about 15–30 minutes.

- [ ] Buy the download and keep your e-mails
- [ ] Get an empty USB stick
- [ ] Unzip the download
- [ ] Run the USB installer
- [ ] Test the stick once
- [ ] Start the problem PC from USB
- [ ] Save your files before anything else
- [ ] Repair, then restart normally

**Good to know:** program and tool names above follow the seller's descriptions (November 2026) and can differ slightly in your version. Instructions come with the download, and our assistant can walk you through each step.

YOUR 60-DAY TEST PLAN

## Make the most of the money-back window

| | |
|---|---|
| **Day 1** | Make the stick on a working PC and test that it starts. |
| **Days 2–14** | Look around the tools: backup, virus scan, drive health — without changing anything. |
| **Days 15–50** | Use it for a real check: a full virus scan and a backup of your important folders. |
| **Before day 60** | Decide: keep it in the drawer, or request your refund through the Digistore24 order e-mail. |

FAQ

# Quick answers

### What is SecuPerts Rescue Stick?

It is a USB emergency system from Engelmann Software (formerly SecuPerts First Aid Kit). You write it to a USB stick, start a broken or infected PC from it and use its tools to back up files, remove malware, recover data, reset a password or erase a drive.

### Is the USB stick included?

No. The download version is software only; you need an empty USB stick of at least 16 GB. Everything on the stick is erased when the rescue system is written to it.

### Which computers does it work with?

PCs with Windows XP, 7, 8, 10 or 11, and Linux PCs, according to the seller. It is not made for Macs or Chromebooks.

### How do I start my PC from the stick?

Plug it in, switch the PC on and tap the boot menu key — often F12, F11, F8 or Esc depending on the maker — then choose the USB stick. Our boot menu key finder shows the usual key for your brand.

### Can it remove viruses?

Yes. It includes a virus scanner based on Avira technology that runs from the stick, so malware that blocks the Windows scanner is not active while you scan.

### Can it recover deleted files?

It has file-level recovery, recovery from Windows shadow copies and a deeper block-level recovery for damaged or quick-formatted drives. Recovery does not always succeed, especially if data has been overwritten, so stop using the drive straight away.

SG

**Serkan Fatih Gökdemir**

**Founder and Editor, SoftwareSelects**

Serkan builds websites, WordPress plugins and online tools himself and checks every detail — what a product does, what it costs, the refund terms and who it suits.

**Questions? Ask our assistant**

Open softwareselects.com/pc-utilities-media/secuperts-rescue-stick/ and click “Ask about SecuPerts Rescue Stick” — it answers in seconds.

Sources: the Digistore24 order form and Engelmann Software product pages and article for SecuPerts Rescue Stick, and the heise Download listing, checked on November 26, 2026. Boot keys are the usual defaults of each PC maker. Details can change — always confirm the price and refund terms at checkout. SoftwareSelects may earn a commission from purchases made through our assistant’s links, at no extra cost to you. © SoftwareSelects