

Comparison with OpenDNS

	OpenDNS	GateWall DNS Filter
<i>Categories filtering</i>	<p>Website category filtering capability. Total of 50 categories available. No information on category creation or relevance is available.</p> <p>The product features five preset filtering modes (High, Moderate, Low, None, Custom). Each mode includes a predefined number of categories. In the custom filtering mode, an administrator defines the categories to which access will be denied.</p>	<p>Built-in BrightCloud category filtering engine.</p> <p>Extensive updated category database.</p> <p>Vendor's website contains information about the filtering technology and a website category change request form.</p>
<i>Filtering policy</i>	<p>Filtering policy is applied to the entire network and cannot be applied to a specific user or user group. If more than one network operates downstream of ISP's NAT device, filtering policy conflicts may occur. This network configuration is not described on OpenDNS website.</p>	<p>Filtering policy rules may be applied to a specific user or user groups.</p>
<i>White/Black lists</i>	<p>Allows creation of permitted and denied DNS lists.</p>	<p>Allows creation of global (applicable to all users and groups) white and black lists. Additionally, white lists may be applied to a specific user if specified in the right filtering policy rule.</p>
<i>Time restrictions</i>	<p>None.</p>	<p>Can be set as a condition in the filtering rules.</p>
<i>Custom redirect page</i>	<p>Message logo and text can be edited from the administration console.</p>	<p>HTML page with messages can be edited.</p>
<i>Statistics</i>	<p>Only global network statistics. No user or user group statistics.</p>	<p>Available in the administrator console and includes total number of requests and number of permitted and blocked requests. The console also features Access Log that shows recent DNS requests, requestor, host name, host category and request result (Send/Dropped). Access Log helps track DNS requests and add hosts in global white/black list.</p>
<i>Web-statistics</i>	<p>Available in the administrator console.</p>	<p>Access to the web-statistics may be assigned to each user. Web-statistics is a graphic representation of DNS requests.</p>
<i>White list requests</i>	<p>None.</p>	<p>Requests to add domain names to white list are executed in web-statistics.</p>
<i>Caching</i>	<p>Own SmartCache technology not only expedites responses to DNS requests, but allegedly processes DNS requests blocked by ISP servers. Technology description is very vague – the feature is apparently a promo trick.</p>	<p>Responses to DNS requests are stored in the built-in cache. Cache parameters (number of entries, residence time) are configured from the administrator console.</p>
<i>Management console</i>	<p>Administered from the web console.</p>	<p>Separate application linked with GateWall DNS Filter server via its own protocol over TCP.</p>

<i>Distributed servers</i>	Distributed DNS server system with Anycast technology (response from the nearest server). Fail-safe.	Distributed DNS server system with Anycast technology (response from the nearest server). Fail-safe.
<i>Non-English websites</i>	Only English support, meaning most clients are users from the US. Poor coverage of non-English resources.	Websites on all languages are constantly added and updated.
<i>Support</i>	Only premium support plan guarantees quick response to handle user requests.	Quick response for any purchase method: mail, phone, tickets.
<i>Client software</i>	Client software (Windows, Mac) is available for clients with dynamic external IP addresses. Common Dynamic DNS client: provides OpenDNS server with a current updated external IP address. This address is used in the filtering policy associations.	Not necessary.