GAT Shield Product Overview

Products Overview · https://gatlabs.com/knowledge/tech-tips/gat-shield-overview/

What is GAT Shield?

GAT Shield, part of the GAT Labs product family, is a powerful security, analytical, and Data Loss Prevention tool, designed to give administrators **deep visibility** into the end user activity across the Google Chrome and Microsoft Edge browsers.

It provides unique insights, statistics, and monitoring capabilities that help IT and security teams implement effective policies and strengthen Data Loss Prevention (DLP). By capturing detailed, real-time information on what users are doing online, GAT Shield can enable your organization to enhance its security posture and maintain compliance.

GAT Shield protects Google Workspace environments by monitoring all activity occurring on the users' browser profiles. Through continuous oversight and being able to touch the system of the individual users, it can deliver **real-time and often critical DLP alerts to the end user within milliseconds.** It can then alert the administrator, helping admins detect and prevent unauthorized behavior, risky actions, or potential leaks of Personally Identifiable Information before they happen.

How Does GAT Shield Work?

GAT Shield is made up of two key components:

1. Shield Console Application (For Admins): This is the administrative application where the admin can view, analyze, and report on collected data.

> The Shield console serves as the central hub for monitoring activity, reviewing alerts, enforcing rules, and gaining insights into user behavior online.

2. Shield Browser Extension (For End Users): This lightweight extension runs on the end-users’ browser profiles, their main playground and widest attack surface.

> Once deployed to the user's account, the extension begins logging browser activity and will begin sending data back to the Shield console **in real time**. It captures essential information

such as sites accessed by the user and time spent on them, downloads from a website URL, alongside other info on the download, and other extensions on the browser profile that are running in the background.

It can pull the user's accurate location data from within a few feet, and other system information on the user's machine (CPU model, RAM usage). The extension will also be responsible for blocking websites and sending warnings to the end user about Personally Identifiable Information (PII) on a web page or email, should it appear.

In short, the extension monitors browser activity in real time, sends data/alerts back to the dashboard, so admins can inspect users' behavior.

Can Regular Non-admins Access GAT Shield?

No, by default, **only super admins can access the Shield console** initially. The console contains sensitive information that not everyone should see.

However, non-admin users, can be allowed access to the Shield console by the administrator, which would give them the ability to run audits, analyses, or reports for a select few sections within GAT Shield, within an allowed scope if necessary, within a series of individual users, a group or series of groups, or some specific Organizational Units (OUs).

See our resource GAT Shield: Delegated Auditors Functionality for more information on allowing non-admin accounts to access the GAT Shield console.

Can I Try it Out?

Sure! **A 15-day free trial is available to all domains.**

Shield Prerequisites:

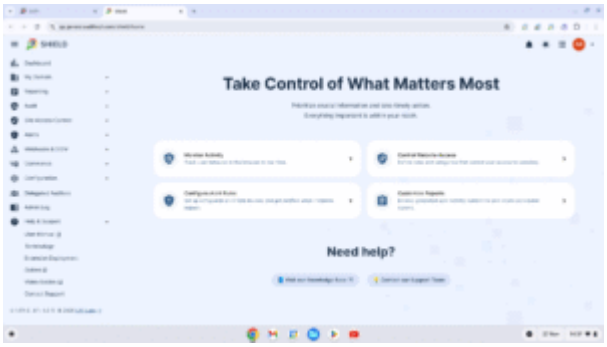
- GAT Shield requires GAT+ to be installed on the domain. If you don't have GAT+, please install it from here first. It should be turned ON for everyone from the Root OU down. You will be given a free trial of GAT+ automatically, and will be able to access the Shield console afterward
- Before you can see any data in the Shield console, the super admin must deploy the extension to the domain's end users. See our resource How to deploy the GAT Shield extension on your domain for step-by-step instructions on how to do that.

If you already have a paid subscription to GAT Labs and would like to try GAT Shield, please contact support@gatlabs.com, and they will help you with that.

The paid version of GAT Shield is included with the **Secure plan and upwards for Enterprise domains**, and as part of the **Manage plan and upwards for Education domains**, please contact sales@gatlabs.com for a quote.

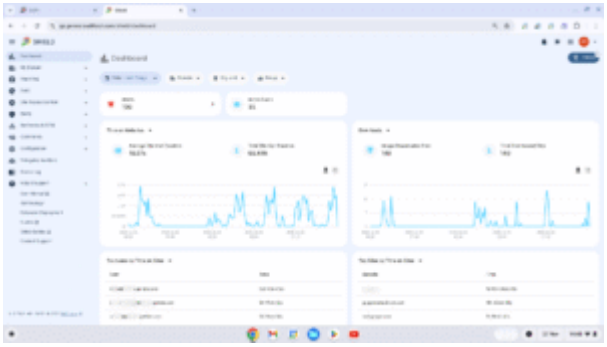
GAT Shield Modules

Once launched, the tool will display some options with an introduction page with popular options, and full navigation on the left side panel.



Dashboard

The dashboard will show the top users' activity on the lower end of the page at first view. The last 24 hours are shown by default, though you may adjust that time frame, and also which accounts you would like to see in this dashboard. You may adjust the scope at the top of the page to show a group, an OU, or a sub-domain of user activity, over your selected time frame.



The two graph segments on this page may be changed to chart other graphs. The options available are:

- Active users
- Alerts
- Downloads
- Downloads size
- Extension installs

- Extension removals
- Internal chats
- External chats
- Website visits
- Time on websites

The two list segments on this page may be changed to list other top lists. The options available are:

- Top Categories being blocked
- Top Categories being warned
- Top Extensions by Install
- Top Extensions by Removal
- Top Shield Alerts by Executions
- Top Sites by Site Views
- Top Sites by Time on Sites
- Top Users being blocked
- Top Users being warned
- Top Users by Downloads
- Top Users by Downloads Size
- Top Users by Extension Installs
- Top Users by Extension Removals
- Top Users by External Chat
- Top Users by Internal Chat
- Top Users by Shield Alerts
- Top Users by Site Views
- Top Users by Time on Sites

My Domain

The My Domain section shows a list of Users, Groups, and Classrooms (for educational domains). Each list shows some information from the domain that may be useful for when you are making changes in the other sections in GAT Shield. Filters can be applied to search for a specific user, group, or classroom of users.

Reporting

The Reporting section is where you would go to get graphical reports and charts on a single user or a group of users' browsing activity.

User Summary

The User summary provides a chart view and tables on the most visited sites. You can filter the charts by individual users, a group of users, or an organizational unit of users, alongside a select time frame for which data can be presented.

A user’s total time spent online from their work or school profile, the list of users who spent the most time online, and the list of top sites with the most time spent as a collective group can all be found in this section.



User/Device Activity

User device activity measures the browsing activity for the selected users in the chosen time. View a chart for all pages visited by the selected user and total time spent, or time spent on individual webpages.

The detailed information shows a graph view of the time spent and the date for each webpage visit.

Chrome Device Summary

The Chrome device summary shows a chart view for the browsing activity on the devices in the selected time frame. View the total number of devices, as well as the site number and total time spent over the chosen time frame.

View the total device time on sites, as well as the Top devices and Top users on devices. Top sites browsed on devices and Devices' time on sites, all of this for the scope of devices and the time frame picked.

User Geo Report

This shows a Map with locations pointed to users' activity. You can filter for a date and time as well as the scope of users you want to audit.

My Scheduled Reports

This shows a list of all scheduled reports created by the Admin themselves.

All Scheduled Reports

This shows all the scheduled reports of GAT Shield created by any of the Super Admins

Audit

The Audit section provides the audit of the browsing activity of the Shield users.

Browsing

Browsing shows the full browsing activity of the domain users. View the Top browsed domains in a pie chart view. Average time on websites, as well as top users by time on sites, and a pie chart or table list of the top users.

View all the users and the browsing activity done by them, such as the websites they visited for how long, website domains, and the times of start and finish of the browsing, all in the selected time frame.

Cookies

View all the cookies used by users.

Downloads

View the downloads done on the Chrome browser in the chosen time frame. View and filter for any user and download detailed information.

Extensions

View all the extensions that the users of the domain are using, along with their details.

Extension Events

View the events for the users and the extensions they use. Filter by the Event type of Enabled, Disabled, Removed, or Installed.

Searches

View all the searches done by the users on the selected date. You can view the User and the Query they applied, as well as what Search engine they used, as well as the date extension version and Chrome version.

Chats

View the Google chat information, who is chatting with whom, view the participants and the duration of the chat when it started and finished, and more information. You can also filter by time for this data. The data can also be set up as a scheduled report.

User/Device Geo Reporting

GAT Shield will Preview on Map - Preview the current records shown in the table on the Map.

View a list of users and the networking information for each user, such as IP addresses, devices used, and the country or city the user logged in from.

Login Control Events

This shows a list of events for the GAT Shield login control feature. It provides a list of users who broke the rule of Login control and additional information.

See how to configure the login control here.

Site Access Control

Site Access Control is the web filtering portion of GAT Shield. This allows you to apply block rules for the users of the domain, thus blocking webpages for the users. This can help keep your organization compliant, and GAT Shield has over 90 pre-defined categories, allowing you to block thousands of sites from a given category in just a few clicks.

You can learn more about Site access control here.

User-defined Categories

Here, you can create a list that acts as a category of sites to be blocked. Create a category via list, spreadsheet, web search, or recent browsing. Once the list of pages to be blocked is created, it can be activated and applied for any or all users of the domain.

Predefined Categories

List of predefined categories of sites that can be blocked for all users in bulk. Select any of the categories and simply enable it for a set of users.

There are some special categories that can also be applied.

- All - All URLs are blocked when a Block Rule is created using this category.
- Public or Private IP addresses
- Google Translate block - All translate.google subdomains are used by Google Translate to translate whole pages.

Rules

Here you can test rules and view if the rule is applied to any user. Allow/Block websites is a quick way to block or allow any webpage for any of your users

View all the rules that are created, you can view if they are currently active or not, and what category they are part of, as well as their name, and what action is enabled to block or allow pages.

Block Partial Content on Pages

Apply a block to partial content on webpages.

For example:

- Google Translate widget on Google search
- Block the comments section on YouTube
- Remove the related videos sidebar on YouTube
- Block games embedded into Google Search

Events

View all the different events that are triggered by the Site Access Control. View the list of users who broke the rules. Filter by a date format.

Block Page Configuration

The section allows for configuration:

- Visibility of the name of the rule (that blocked the page) on the blocking page
- A message that would be shown to the user while blocking the page on the device.

Alerts

Alerts allow the Admins to create real-time alerts for the end-users. There are many types of alerts that can be set up.

Rules

There are different rules that can be set up for the users.

- Device
- Device user/owner mismatch
- Download
- Page content inspection
- IP address
- Location
- Search
- Upload
- Visit

Each alert works differently and reports different types of user activity.

Notifications

This will show the result from all the Alert rules that are set up in GAT Shield.

Commands

Commands can be set up, and messages and commands pushed to the end-users.

Defined Commands

This site allows you to define commands that will be sent to users' extensions.

Supported command types are: "Show Notification" and "Force Page".

- Show notification - displays a message to any selected user who has the Shield extension.
- Force page - forces whatever URL link you want to the end-users. The page can be pinned.

Command Results

This site allows you to view the results of commands sent to users' extensions.

- Each created command is distributed to all user extensions. The results indicate whether each extension has successfully executed the command.
- Each command result can have one of the following statuses: pending, finished, expired, or unknown.

Configuration

General

View the general information for the Shield extension. Set up dashboard defaults, Date and time - select Date formats and Time zones, as well as set up table defaults.

Audit

From the available GAT Shield audit modules, an administrator can enable or disable data reporting from GAT Shield Chrome extensions. The data GAT Shield servers have already collected will not be deleted.

Note that it may take a while for settings to propagate to extensions.

You can enable or disable the data report from different sections of the tool, and it can be applied to the scope of users.

Search Access

This module is responsible for filtering out explicit content from search results (including images). When options are not enabled, the browser default or the user's personal settings are used.

Note that it may take a while for settings to propagate to extensions.

YouTube

Enable settings for YouTube

YouTube Access

This module is responsible for filtering out explicit content from YouTube search results. When options are not enabled, the browser default or the user's personal settings are used.

Block Embedded Videos

This module is responsible for blocking the ability to watch videos when embedded on any page. 'Block on all websites' takes precedence over 'Website list'. This feature should not be treated as a replacement for Site Access Control.

Gmail Access

This module is responsible for blocking access to the Gmail application. As well as blocking access, it is possible to view the time spent on Gmail tabs by your users.

In the Browsing view, you can use the filter option to view browsing data containing the special built-in tags Personal Gmail or Other domain Gmail.

Communication access

This module is responsible for blocking access to Google Chat and Google Meet. When options are not enabled, the browser default or a user's personal settings are used.

Login Control

This module allows the Admins to block Google-related pages (except YouTube). As a result, the end user is redirected to a dedicated block page. Note: This does not prevent users from logging in and performing browsing activity on their device.

Monitoring Ranges

If you apply configuration settings for all sections at the same time, they are checked in the following order: network config, users config, devices config. When any of the conditions are met, the data won't be collected. The data GAT Shield servers have already collected will not be

deleted.

Browsing Tags

You can assign tags to websites to group them into categories (like tagging LinkedIn, Facebook, and TikTok as "Social"). This lets you filter and track user browsing based on those categories, making it easier to see how much time is spent on different types of sites. This enhances reporting capabilities in GAT Shield.

IP Addresses

Mapping

Config could be used to set an alias for public and private IP pairs. Also, you could override location-related device properties based on the public IP.

Exclusions

Private IPs specified here will be ignored in the User/Device Geo Reporting module. CIDR notation (eg, 192.168.0.15/24) is not supported.

Browsing Cookies

This module enables you to configure browsing cookies in Shield devices. Once configured, the cookie becomes available whenever a user navigates to a specific domain on a Shield device, ensuring that the cookie is automatically set on your domains.

Extension Deployment

Set of detailed instructions for the deployment of the Shield extension.

Tasks

List of tasks done on the domain. Details of whether the domain scan for the users has completed and when.

Delegated Auditor

The Delegated auditor section allows the Super Admins to grant access to the GAT Shield to non-admin users of the domain.

Admin Log

Immutable log for all the activities done by the Super Admins or Delegated auditors in GAT Shield.

Help & Support

- GAT Shield Configuration Instructions
- Shield Features Video Guides
- Shield for Education Video Overview
- Contact GAT Labs Support