

Re: ISP: "No Problem... we probe all the time"

Source: <http://www.derkeiler.com/Newsgroups/comp.security.firewalls/2002-10/0622.html>

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Date: 05/22/02

From: spaminator@knology.net (Larry W4CSC)

Date: Wed, 22 May 2002 05:16:27 GMT

On 21 May 2002 13:39:48 -0700, netstatic2000@yahoo.com (Dhosthi) wrote:

>My ISP (Earthwink Tech Supervisor) says that "regular" probes from
>them occur constantly and for administrative purposes, and to not
>worry as they do not represent any type of access threat. Also said
>to not worry about the foreign IP attempts unless ports have been left
>open for other work.
>
>Any thoughts on this reassurance?

They are correct. In order for any connect attempt to DO something to you, something INSIDE your computer has to ANSWER the call and give them access.....like a virus, trojan, worm, NetBIOS, File and Printer Sharing....etc.

Open the DOS window.
Enter netstat -an (note space before - sign)
It should look like:

```
C:\WINDOWS>netstat -an
```

Active Connections

```
Proto Local Address Foreign Address State
TCP 0.0.0.0:1041 0.0.0.0:0 LISTENING
TCP 0.0.0.0:3300 0.0.0.0:0 LISTENING
TCP 127.0.0.1:8081 0.0.0.0:0 LISTENING
TCP 192.168.0.2:1041 209.249.90.101:119 ESTABLISHED
TCP 192.168.0.2:3300 209.249.90.101:119 ESTABLISHED
```

```
C:\WINDOWS>
```

The port 3300 connections to 209.249.90.101 port 119 is my Xnews downloading dirty movies of beautiful women madly. The port 1041 connections to 209.249.90.101 port 119 is Free Agent connected to send this message. The 127.0.0.1 port 8081 listening is WebWasher waiting

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for my browsers so it can wash the crap off webpages, like spam, popup spam, web bugs, cookies, etc.

Note there are no ports open for NetBIOS or printer/file sharing or other Network services I don't need/use. There are also no odd, high numbered ports open I don't know what they do.....a sign a trojan is listening for a call from its kiddie cracker.....That's my virus scanner, Norton Anti-Virus, doing its job, keeping my system clean.

If you are just going to use the internet, not sharing files and resources with other computers on a LAN environment, the ONLY protocol you need binding to on the NIC adapter in Control Panel – Network is TCP/IP.....no Client for Micro\$oft Networking, no NetBIOS, no NetBEUI, no file or printer sharing, no nothing.....except TCP/IP the internet's protocol. Windoze will raise hell that your network is NOT complete, which is true. Just tell it YES I want to continue and it'll do it.....securely. Set Binding to ATM to NO, too.

Larry

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