

## Re: Do I Need a Firewall?

**Source:** <http://www.derkeiler.com/Newsgroups/comp.security.firewalls/2003-07/0554.html>

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**From:** Larry (*nospam\_at\_home.com*)

**Date:** 07/10/03

Date: Wed, 09 Jul 2003 23:48:34 GMT

Are you a dialup customer? If so, you don't need it because you're not online with the same IP constantly. Chances of being attacked on dialup are small.....

I see you're using Outlook Express, the biggest cracker target on the internet, for your news reader, and probably email. Now, THERE is an issue! Outlook has a long history of trashing people's systems with its various widely exploited holes (like Swiss Cheeze) by the cracker community. Its propensity to run malicious webpages, vbs scripts and drag you off to places you didn't want to go to is well documented.

I'd suggest sealing up the system, before worrying about the FUDware Firewall garbage.

Export your Address Book or print it out then delete Outlook or Outlook Express from your system. Erase your Address Book so various virii cannot read it and send itself to your friends and business associates to infect them in your honor.

Uninstall Windows Scripting Host, the operating system used to run Visual Basic Scripting (.vbs) files emailed to you. The spammers will be upset, but they'll get over it. Without a scripting host, it's just another text file. I have about 300 in my collection. Great reading from coding geniuses.

Turn off Java, Java Scripting and Active X in whatever browser you use to cruise around to unknown websites. Without these, your browser is, mostly, immune from being hijacked by the websites various self-running programs. I bought Opera for my general purpose browser, simply because the crackers aren't trying to trash Opera and generally ignore it. All this stuff is turned off in Opera. I use IE to access the Windows Update webpages with everything set to default. If a COMMERCIAL website just won't talk to my secure Opera browser, I make the decision (not them) whether to call the website back with IE to give them access to my system.

Download Webwasher from [www.webwasher.com](http://www.webwasher.com) for free. It strips all the crap and advertising nonsense off webpages. Works so well the

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spammers have special communications groups to try to thwart it. No popup windows, Java scripts doing bad things, gif movie ads wasting your downloading time (especially on dialup!). Works great. Thank the genius engineers at Siemens in Germany for inventing it.

Download Ad-Aware from [www.lavasoft.de](http://www.lavasoft.de) and let it scan and delete the crapware/spyware/adware spies off your system. The record here is 386 spywares on ONE computer that was just to its knees trying to run it all! Download Ad-Aware's update software while you're there to get the latest adware definition files automatically. Sure speeds up a system not recording everything you do and every place you go for the spammers.

There.....that's better! Still scared? On DSL or cable internet 24/7 like me? Go buy a Netgear RP614 netsafe router and put it between your DSL or cable modem and the vulnerable operating system. You'll be even MORE stealthy with the router. Trash my IP 192.168.0.2. Help yourself. A router takes your Swiss Cheezy Windows operating system OFF the internet, completely, so it doesn't have to deal with port scans, Denial of Service attacks (DoS), people screwing around trying to access Windows' various sharing services, etc. Even if you never intend to buy a 2nd machine to put on the Netgear's automatic LAN, it's a real bargain. It doesn't need bugfixes like FUDware does and the best thing is.....

IT USES NO CPU TIME ON YOUR COMPUTER! Your computer isn't involved doing other things FUDware software firewalls do sucking up CPU time you could be using doing what YOU want to do. That, alone, is worth the price!.....(c;

A router stops INCOMING trouble.....If there is spyware, adware, or the various trojan horses running INSIDE your computer, it won't stop them. So, you MUST run a SUBSCRIPTION SUPPORTED, good anti-virus program like Norton Anti-Virus 2003 with a PAID subscription so you get daily updates of its definition files with all the latest threats that constantly upgrade its capabilities. <http://www.symantec.com/> Take a look at TODAY'S news they have already installed in MY anti-virus security. It's really worth the price IF you care about your system. Free, unsupported antivirus just can't keep up-to-date. That takes people and MONEY.....

Now you're pretty safe. Even my FTP server runs quite safely this way....(c;

On Wed, 9 Jul 2003 15:02:10 +0300, "Dobi Yonkoff"  
<spgonzaless@msn.com> wrote:

>hi  
>*i've downloaded a firewall but not sure i need one*  
>*can anyone tell me why should i use this thing*  
>tnx

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73 de Larry W4CharlestonSC  
RF radiation hazards since 1957...