

Re: I am sick of windows firewall

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- *From:* "V S Rawat" <VSRawat@xxxxxxxxxxxxx>
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Spack wrote:

louise wrote on Tue, 21 Mar 2006 07:00:09 GMT:

I've been using Sygate for several years (don't know what to use instead, even now), and it definitely asks before it connects for an update. For example, Adobe Reader always wants to update – I set Sygate to stop it. Several other programs I run want to go check for updates all the time and I don't want them to use resources and keep my waiting.

Why don't you just turn off the option to install updates? In Acrobat Reader 7, go to Edit > Preferences, choose the Updates option at the left, set it do not automatically update at the top. Don't rely on a personal "firewall" to block things for you – what happens on the day your PFW isn't running? Killing a running process is a simple thing to do.

And – perhaps more importantly, I certainly don't want them to download and install their updates unless I decide I need that update. And then, I want to install one update and make sure it hasn't affected machine performance, before I download another. Essentially, I want to know what's going on. Even if the intentions are good, if there is a negative result, a bug, a conflict between programs, I want to know what was just changed/installed/updated.

So go through each program and turn off automatic updates. If you've got a program that doesn't allow you to do so, be wary of that program.

That is why I felt that all of you must be techy.

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Meaning that you guys are able to keep your pc problem free, and it doesn't need reformat/reinstall of xp in years.

Otherwise you would have known that reinstalling an O.S. can cause almost a heart attack. We count our breaths while xp is installing itself. We can breath calmly only when we see it over, and system running ok. And it is a lengthy process.

Thus, when you install 30 or 50 programmes, you want to give minimum attention to each program by settings their internals. That can wait. You first want to bring your pc to the running position as earlier.

Hence, I just install all the software without bothering for their updating, connecting to net or whatever activities. Then, when I go online, and each software tries to connect to net, ZA dutifully prompts me and then, I first refuse the permission for that software, and then I go to individual software and set their options not to connect to net, if such an option is at all available.

Boy! try seeing the world from the sights of us have-nots also, at least some times.

If Windows FW doesn't do that – then what would I need it for? I have a Linksys NAT, SP1 router – doesn't that perform the same function better?

Windows FW can be used to supplement your router. What happens if you misconfigure your router and allow all ports incoming, or ports on which you have running services on your desktop PC? What happens if your friend brings their laptop around and plugs it into your router, and it's infected with a worm that then spreads to your desktop PC? Never make assumptions, never rely on one thing that could easily be bypassed.

Dan

I don't have router. Just a DSL modem.

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Rawat

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