

Re: choosing firewall and antivirus: Norton or McAfee ?Something else

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Source: <http://www.derkeiler.com/Newsgroups/microsoft.public.security/2006-06/msg00404.html>

- *From:* "Frank Saunders, MS-MVP OE" <franksaunders@xxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Mon, 26 Jun 2006 18:47:17 -0500
-

Because these two cause the most problems with other programs. McAfee is notorious for screwing up Outlook Express and Norton puts too many hooks into the operating system and is a terrible resource hog.

—

Frank Saunders, MS-MVP OE/WM

Reply in newsgroup

"They who would give up an essential liberty for temporary security, deserve neither liberty or security"

"unstablemicrosoft" <unstablemicrosoft@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message news:CFB82B27-EFFF-4494-A228-5215B2C4E2E9@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Hi. Why are those two the worst choices ? What would you consider good criteria for choosing a good firewall and a good antivirus program ? Any specific programs you have in mind ?

Btw, for the sake of experimentation I asked the company from who I bought the router (router is between cable modem and wireless adapter on PC) how I could turn off the router. I did follow their instructions and to my surprise, when using firewall tests, such as pcflank, tests at www.hackerwatch.org/probe and shieldsup at grc.com (it made no difference whether my McAfee firewall 6.0 was on or off) all ports appeared to be stealthed. Except port 0 and 1. Were they really stealthed, or did it just appear as if they were ? I used Port Fw. and gave an ip address (it did not make a difference if I used the IP address of my computer, or the "Ip address" I have to type in as a URL when I want to access my router. I suppose you could call it my router's IP. (Please correct me if the latter is nonsense). I also specified the port range from 1 (could not use 0) to something over 60000. And when I performed firewall tests, it appeared as if I were stealthed.

If they were stealthed, does the inability of the router to make port 0 and 1 stealthed the stealth option of little value ? I don't know how hackers operate with that regard.

Please advise.

"Frank Saunders, MS-MVP OE" schreef:

Re: choosing firewall and antivirus: Norton or McAfee ?Something else

"unstablemicrosoft" <unstablemicrosoft@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
wrote in
message
news:460D3A27-A98F-4BD1-AEB0-4C4F43A5BF2B@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx
> Hi. I have narrowed down my choices to Norton and McAfee for a firewall
> and
> anti virus. It's best to have the firewall and antivirus of the same
> manufacturer.
>
> What I like about McAfee is that it's anti virus program has an
> aggressive,
> heuristic approach to what might be viruses or malware and who are not >
> yet
> in
> the DAT file. How is Norton's product in that regard ?
>
> Norton claims that it's firewall is completely stealthed, but is that > true
> for all ports, including 0 and 1 ? I suppose it doesn't make my > presence
> on
> the internet invisible, or am I wrong ? Basically, I have a static IP
> adress
> (cable ISP), reverse DNS possible. Officially I have a dynamic IP > adress,
> but
> that changes rarely. So my computer name acts like a supercookie, as >
> said
> on
> www.grc.com. This is just an intermezzo, but I'll ask it anyway: there > are
> ways to be anonymous on the internet, but are governments, criminals >
> and
> hackers not especially after proxies or other ways to remain > anonymous,
> making one even less secure ? It would be easy and safe if my ISP had a
> proxy
> server, but it does not. Any recommendations to stay REALLY anonymous
> on
> the
> internet (I'll allow cookies, except tracking cookies) ? I'd have to
> hide/change my IP.
>
> Ok, back to the original question: is Norton anti virus aggressive > towards
> possible viruses of which no entry in the DAT files have been made yet > ?
> And
> how does it compare overall to McAfee's anti virus ?
>
> And now the firewall ? Which one is better, Norton or McAfee, and why ?
> Any
> vulnerabilities ?
>
> Please give me a comparison of those two. McAfee and Norton.
>
> Even if you don't know both, I'd appreciate your input. I'd have to buy
> one

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> of these soon.

>

> Kind regards,

> Unstablemicrosoft

So, you've narrowed down your choice to the two worst choices. You have my sympathies.