

8Signs Firewall – Remote Installation for Windows 2000 Servers

Before beginning, there are a few things that you need to know about running the firewall on a Windows 2000 Server where your only access is via Terminal Services (TS).

When the firewall is running as a service, you will not see the firewall icon in the system tray when you connect using TS, so you cannot directly access the firewall's configuration interface. With Windows 2003 we can work around this by using the Remote Desktop /console command, but unfortunately Windows 2000 doesn't support this. On Windows 2000, you have the following options available for configuring the firewall

[1] When you need to make configuration changes, stop the firewall service and restart it as an application. Once you are finished making your changes, stop the firewall and restart it as a service.

[2] Use the firewall's Remote Administration tool to connect to and configure the firewall - this works well for making changes to rules, but there are some settings that you will not have access to, including the HTTP Filtering options and licensing information.

[3] Install some type of remote access software such as PCAnywhere or VNC on the server that you can use to connect when you want to configure the firewall.

If you are running a web server, you will want to be able to get at the HTTP Filtering options, so [1] or [3] above would be your best choice. The instructions below will cover all 3 options.

Installation

Run the firewall installation file on your server, answering the prompts as follows:

How do you want to configure 8Signs Firewall?

Use the Configuration Wizard to create the ruleset.

Is this computer connected to an internal network (LAN) or just the Internet?

This computer is connected only to the Internet.

[The Firewall Configuration Wizard will now detect your network cards. If you have multiple network adapters you will be prompted to complete a Configuration Wizard for each adapter one at a time.]

For the detected network adapter that connects to the Internet, select Internet Adapter.

Internet adapter – Please select the options that apply

Here you will want to select both boxes (I use this adapter to access the Internet for web browsing + I host one or more Internet servers on this computer)

Client applications

Here you are prompted to select the type of client applications that you will be running on your server. At a minimum, I would suggest that you select "Web browser" to ensure that you are able to browse the Internet from your server. Be

certain to uncheck any application types that the firewall has detected but that you will not be using.

DNS Servers

The firewall will detect which DNS servers are configured for use on your server. If you are satisfied with the list, click Next. If you would like to allow your server to connect to any DNS server, remove all IP entries and click Next.

Server applications

Here you are prompted to select the types of server applications that you will be running on your server. At a minimum, **you need to select "Terminal Services (Client)" from the list to ensure that you will be able to connect using TS while the firewall is running** (note: we have a typo on this configuration screen, obviously this should read Terminal Services (Server), the rule that is created is correct however). Scan through the list and select any other types of servers that you are running (i.e. HTTP Server, Email Server). You can always add to and remove rules after the installation is complete, so the most important part here is to be certain to select the Terminal Services checkbox.

Configuration Review

This screen is showing you a summary of the rules that will be created for this adapter. **Double-check that you see Terminal Services (Server) in this list** (yes, we have the wording right on this screen!), then click the Save button to continue.

8Signs Firewall now includes remote administration, do you want to enable it?

If you decide to use the firewall's own Remote Administration tool to administer the firewall, click Yes here and set a password.

Do you want the firewall to start automatically when the server starts?

Select Yes to have the firewall run as a Windows service.

Do you want to allow or block communications when the firewall is not running?

Initially, it is safest to set this to Allow until you are certain that you have the firewall configured correctly.

This completes the installation and you must reboot your server.

Once your server has restarted, you should be able to connect using Terminal Services. However, as mentioned above, you will not see the firewall icon in the system tray. To configure the firewall from here, you can do one of the following:

[1] Go to Administrative Tools | Services, and Stop the 8Signs Firewall service. You may be disconnected at this point, but will be able to reconnect right away. Start the firewall as an application by double-clicking on the 8Signs Firewall desktop icon. You will see the firewall icon in the system tray and will be able to view the logs, make rule changes, edit the HTTP Filtering options, etc.

Once you are finished configuring, shut down the firewall (you may be disconnected and have to reconnect again), then restart it as a service from Administrative Tools | Services.

[2] Install the firewall's Remote Administration Tool on the server. You can download this from our web site here:

<http://www.8signs.com/firewall/download.cfm>

It is very straightforward to install, no reboot is necessary. Once you have it installed and running, configure a connection to your firewall using 127.0.0.1 as the IP address to connect to, and the password that you entered during the firewall installation. You will see that you have access to most of the firewall configuration, but some options are not available using this method (including the HTTP Filtering options).

[3] Install software such as PCAnywhere or VNC that you can use to connect when you want to administer the firewall. If you choose to use this method, remember that you will have to enter a rule into the firewall that will allow access to the port that is used by your remote administration software. If you did not do this during the installation, you could use method [1] or [2] above to create this rule in the firewall.