

# Assignment-7

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## Acknowledgment

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## Detailed Report on Configuring Windows Defender Firewall

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### 1. Introduction



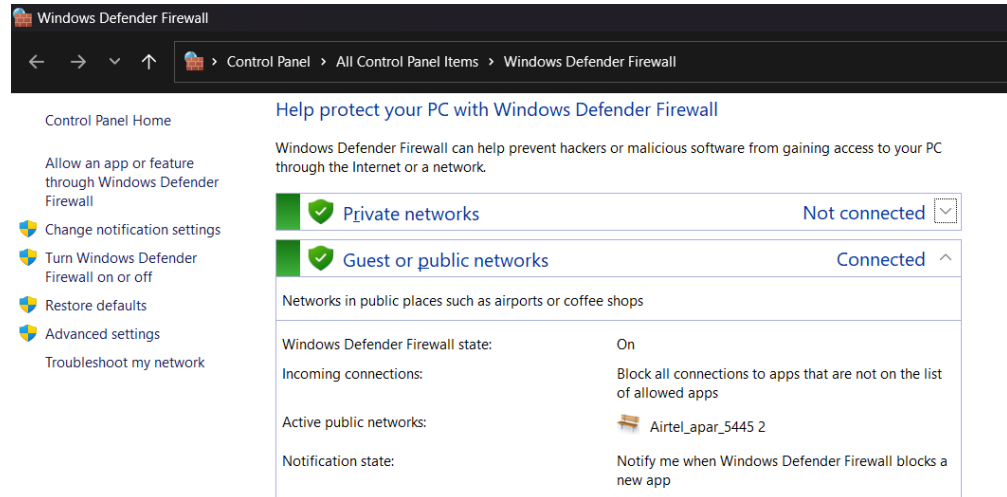
- **Firewall Chosen:** Windows Defender Firewall is the default built-in firewall provided by Microsoft on all modern Windows operating systems.
  - **Objective:** To implement a security policy to control network traffic, ensuring that only necessary and authorized communications are allowed, while blocking potentially harmful or unnecessary traffic.
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## 2. Installation Process

Since Windows Defender Firewall comes pre-installed, no additional software installation is required. However, you need to ensure the firewall is active and ready for configuration:

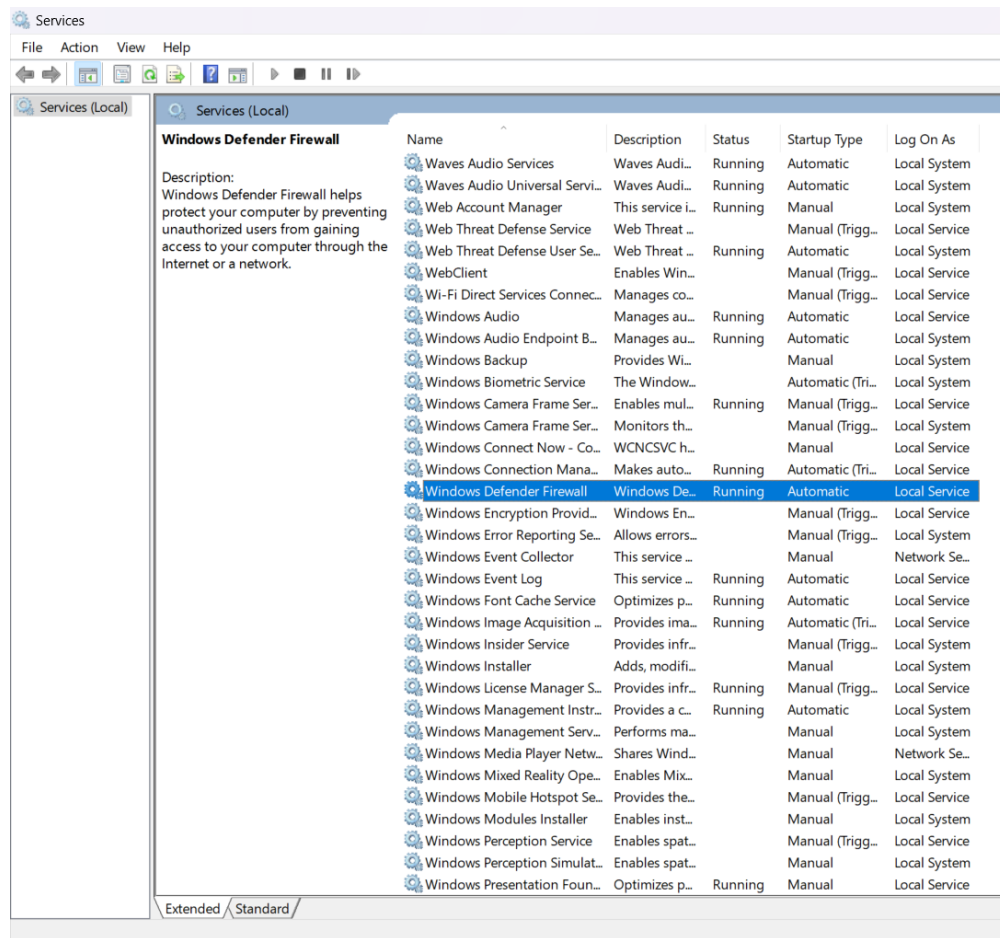
### 1. Check Firewall Status:

- Go to *Control Panel* → *System and Security* → *Windows Defender Firewall*.
- Verify that the firewall is **turned on** for both private and public networks.
- If it is disabled, click *Turn Windows Defender Firewall On or Off*, and select the appropriate options for private and public networks.



### 2. Ensure Windows Security Service is Running:

- Open the *Services* application ( `services.msc` ) from the Start menu.
- Locate **Windows Defender Firewall Service** and ensure its status is "Running." If not, right-click and select *Start*.



### 3. Security Policy

We'll define a security policy to guide our configuration:

- **Inbound Connections:** Block all traffic by default, except for HTTP (port 80) and HTTPS (port 443).
- **Outbound Connections:** Allow all traffic to ensure normal internet and application functionality.

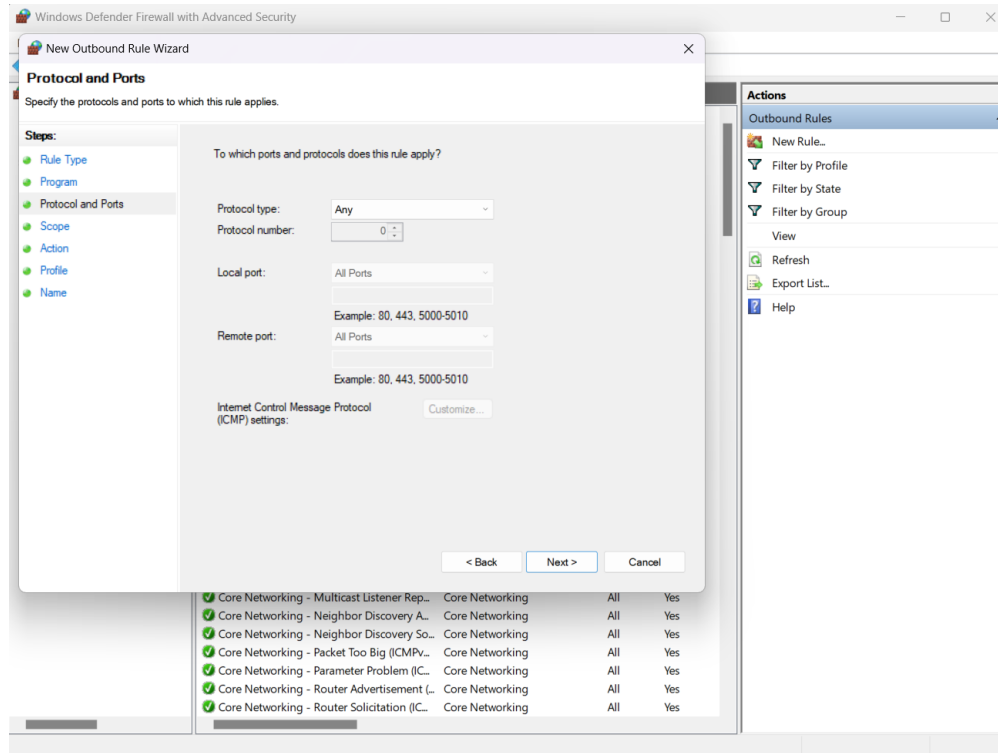
This policy ensures that unauthorized incoming traffic is blocked, protecting the system from threats while maintaining usability.

### 4. Configuration Steps

#### Accessing Windows Defender Firewall Advanced Settings

1. Open the Start Menu and type **Windows Defender Firewall with Advanced Security**.

2. Click on the result to open the advanced settings interface, which provides control over inbound and outbound traffic rules.



## Configuring Inbound Rules

1. In the left pane, click on **Inbound Rules**, then select **New Rule** from the right-hand menu.
2. In the New Rule Wizard:
  - **Rule Type:** Select *Port* and click *Next*.
  - **Protocol and Ports:** Choose *TCP* and specify ports 80 and 443 in the "Specific local ports" field.
  - **Action:** Select *Allow the connection*.
  - **Profile:** Apply the rule to *Domain*, *Private*, and *Public* networks.
  - **Name:** Give the rule a descriptive name, e.g., *Allow HTTP and HTTPS*.
3. Create another inbound rule to block all other incoming traffic:
  - **Rule Type:** Select *Custom*.
  - **Program:** Select *All Programs*.
  - **Protocol and Ports:** Leave as default.
  - **Scope:** Leave as default unless restricting specific IPs.
  - **Action:** Select *Block the connection*.
  - **Profile:** Apply to all profiles (Domain, Private, Public).
  - **Name:** Name this rule, e.g., *Block All Other Inbound Traffic*.

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## Configuring Outbound Rules

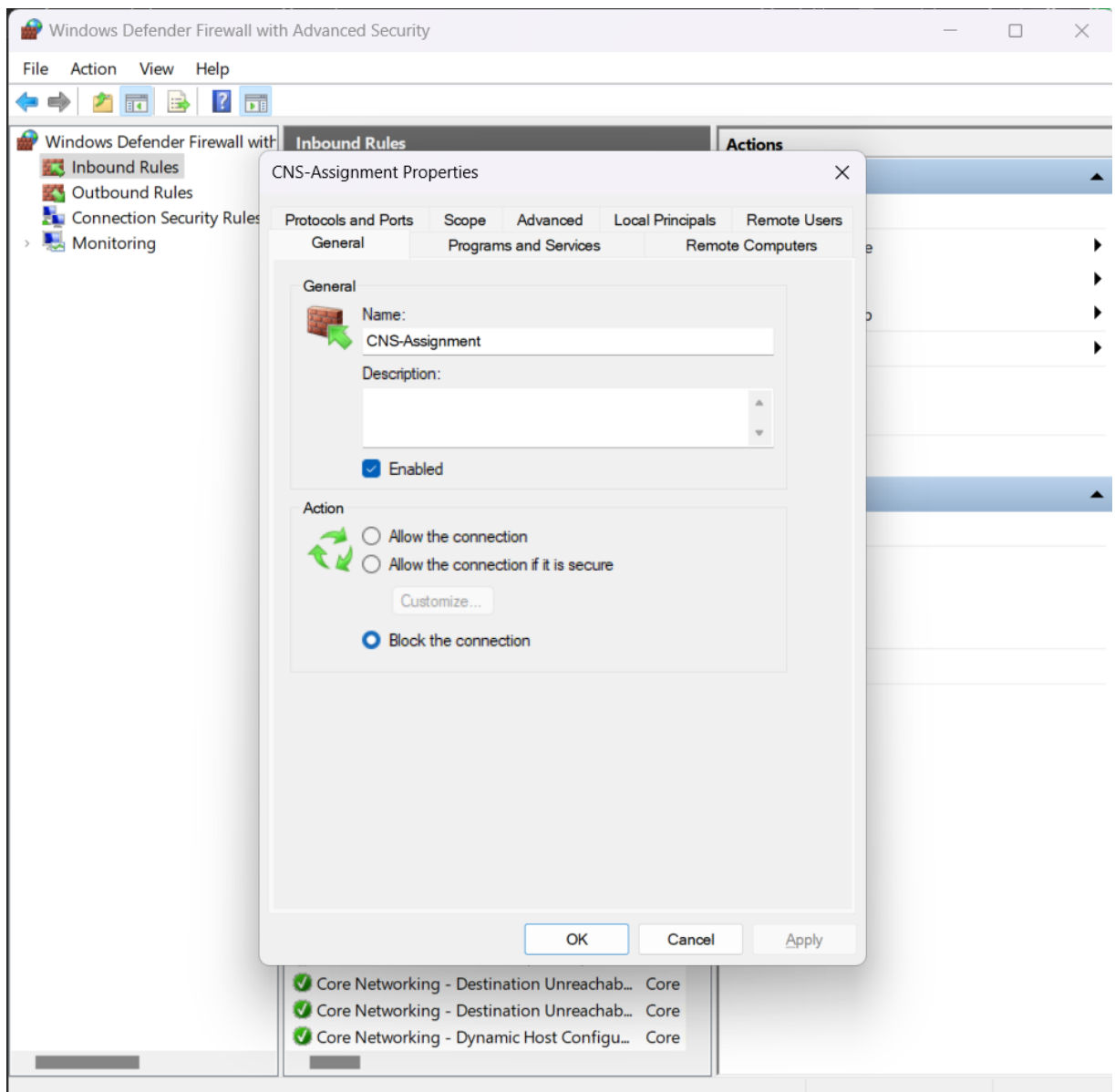
1. In the left pane, click on **Outbound Rules**, then select **New Rule** from the right-hand menu.
2. In the New Rule Wizard:
  - **Rule Type:** Select *Allow the connection*.
  - **Program:** Select *All Programs*.
  - **Profile:** Apply to all profiles (Domain, Private, Public).
  - **Name:** Name this rule, e.g., *Allow All Outbound Traffic*.

By default, Windows Defender Firewall allows outbound connections unless explicitly blocked, so additional outbound rules may not be necessary unless the security policy specifies restrictions.

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## Testing Rules

1. **Verify Allowed Traffic:**
  - Open a web browser and access a website (e.g., `https://www.google.com`).
  - Ensure the connection is successful, confirming HTTP/HTTPS traffic is allowed.
2. **Verify Blocked Traffic:**
  - Use a port scanner or a tool like `telnet` to test connections on blocked ports (e.g., SSH on port 22).
  - You should receive a "Connection Refused" message or no response, confirming the firewall is blocking unauthorized inbound traffic.



```
PowerShell
manka> telnet localhost 8881
Connecting To localhost ... Could not open connection to the host, on port 8881: Connect failed
manka> |
```

## 5. Challenges and Observations

- **Challenges:**
  - Understanding the advanced options in the firewall interface, especially for custom rules.
  - Configuring rules for specific scenarios (e.g., testing remote access) required additional research.
- **Observations:**

- Windows Defender Firewall provides a robust set of tools to manage traffic.
  - GUI simplifies rule management compared to command-line interfaces.
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## **6. Conclusion**

The configuration of Windows Defender Firewall according to the defined security policy was successful. By blocking unauthorized inbound traffic and allowing necessary communications, the system achieved a higher level of security while maintaining usability. Windows Defender Firewall proved to be an effective and user-friendly tool for this purpose.

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