

NETWORK PROGRAMMING

Precautionary Steps taken by System Administrator to secure it?

System administrators are responsible for safe, secure and uninterrupted working of system in an organization. Therefore, good precautionary steps can help build a secure system and can turn the administrator to be an asset for the organization by taking corrective measures or reporting the threat before time.

1. **Update Knowledge:** Keeping track of the changes on the systems, network and business needs can help greatly in impacting system security. For this security bulletins can be read in order to know possible bugs and their solutions.
2. **Physical Security:** The system must not be physically vulnerable or prone to risk from unauthorized people. Being a system admin, one must make a practice to log out every time after use because once the access to the console is gained then the malicious user can interrupt the boot process and gain access. Use time-out features so that the system logs out automatically in case system s=admin forgets to turn the console off.
3. **Efficient passwords:** Having efficient passwords is one of the necessary steps in order to prevent risk. In order to do that, system admin can use lengthy passwords with different types of characters. In addition to this, shadow password feature can help prevent access to system using crackers.
4. **Vulnerability Testing:** Testing the system periodically for vulnerability can help system admin to take preventive measures before the system is being exploited. There are various tools that scan the system and inform the security problems. Also, the system can be scanned even after corrective measures in order to make sure that the system is no longer vulnerable.
5. **Backup:** Despite using best software or hardware, it may happen that the system crashes which can be a consequence of hacking also. Therefore, it is always a smart move to have a backup of all the system data and this makes backup and recovery procedure a part of good system administration. While backing up data, system admin needs to make sure security of backup data. In case any data is stored online then, it needs to be protected from hacker.

Thus, it is evident that following good security practices, the system administrator can protect the system from any sort of unwanted activity more importantly now as the systems become more and more exposed to the Internet.

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