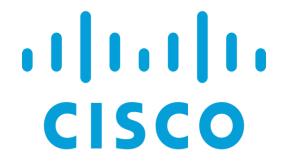


# Fortinet SOHO and WPA2-PSK/Enterprise Setup

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Period 5 Cybersecurity





### **Purpose:**

The purpose of this lab was to familiarize our group with Fortigate 40F firewalls by setting up a common SOHO network and configuring an access point for both wireless WPA2-PSK and wireless WPA2-Enterprise. This will allow the Fortigate to manage a small network and securely allow wireless users onto the network. In order to do this, we'll also have to factory reset the firewall and gain access to the GUI.

### **Background Information:**

Much like the second lab of our Palo Alto curriculum, this lab is focused on implementing a SOHO (Small Office/Home Office) network, only this time on a Fortigate 40F firewall instead of a Palo Alto firewall. Additionally, our group will be configuring a Fortinet Access Point to utilize WPA2 Pre-Shared Key and Enterprise protocols to allow wireless users onto the network, something that we had never done before on Palo Altos.

To recap, a SOHO network is one that's used by small offices or individuals in a homemade office. They encompass a local area network (LAN) and are both cost effective and flexible. They're also mainly used because their small size makes them easy to set up and they can often connect to a larger network.

For this SOHO network that our lab is going to be setting up, we will be using a Fortigate 40F firewall from Fortinet. Based in Sunnyvale, California and founded by Ken Xie and Michael Xie, Fortinet is a cybersecurity company that creates security solutions like firewalls and intrusion detection systems. Compared to Palo Alto firewalls, their Fortigate 40F firewall may have less capabilities and options, but the GUI is simpler and easier to manage, making it far more intuitive when creating, managing, and maintaining networks. They also use security processing units (SPU) from FortiASIC, which is a Fortinet specific technology that allows for high speed, scale, and efficiency of Fortinet firewalls.

Access points are wireless network devices that essentially allow devices to connect to a LAN without actually being plugged into it. They allow for an increase in the number of devices that can be on the network if all the physical slots are taken up, and extend any existing wireless coverage on a network. For this lab, our group used the security protocols of WPA2-Pre-Shared Key (WPA2-PSK) and WPA2-Enterprise. Security protocols are used

to authenticate users and make sure that they should have access to the network. While both WPA2-PSK and WPA2-Enterprise are secure, they differ in the way that they validate and check for whether a user should be allowed. WPA2-PSK is where one singular password is used to allow hosts onto the network, and anyone with the password can join. A good example of this would be the WiFi password of someone's house, where if you need a new device to join all they need is a password. WPA2-Enterprise on the other hand validates users through creating specific users and passwords linked to those users. While it's more complex and generally takes more sophistication to set up, it has benefits in that one security breach wouldn't compromise the entire network. It also allows for an easier time tracking users and their activity on the network.

### **Lab Summary:**

Since we're starting with a brand new Fortigate firewall, one thing that we have to do is reset the firewall to enter in new credentials. To do this, unplug the device for 10 seconds, replug it in and hold the reset button until the status light blinks.

The success of this step can be checked by consoling into the firewall as shown below, where you're able to watch the progress of the firewall's reset.

```
FortiGate-40F login:
System is resetting to factory default...

Please stand by while rebooting the system.

Restarting system.

FortiGate-40F (00:32-03.17.2023)

Ver:05000030

Serial number: FGT40FTK23099156

CPU: 1200MHz

Total RAM: 2 GB
Initializing boot device...
Initializing MAC... NP6XLITE#0

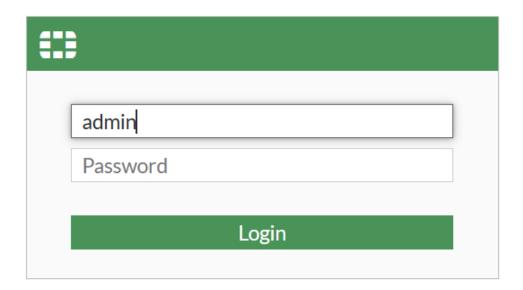
Please wait for OS to boot, or press any key to display configuration menu.....

Booting OS...
Initializing firewall...

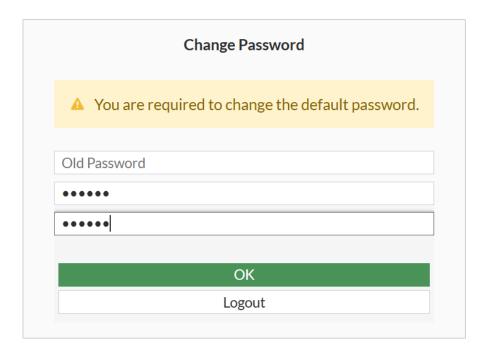
System is starting...
```

After the firewall has been reset, enter the management IP address of the firewall, which should be 192.168.1.99. This will get you into the GUI of the

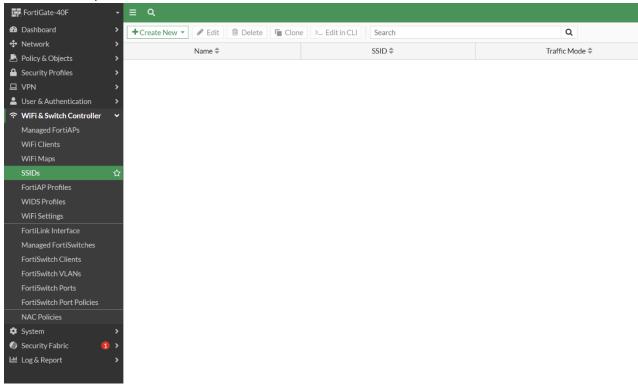
firewall. From there, you can enter the default credentials of admin and no password.



Once you've logged in with default credentials, you should be able to enter your own password and device hostname.



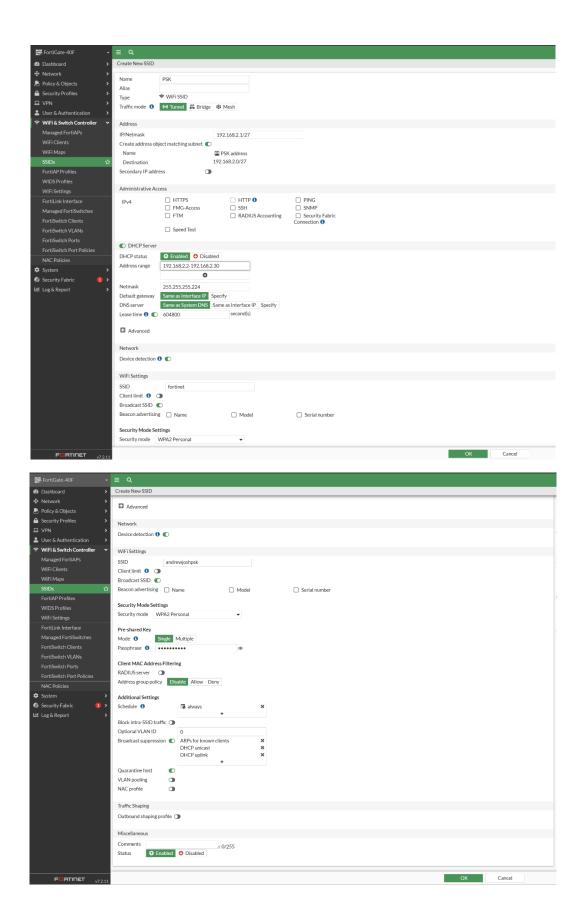
In the GUI, navigate to the "WiFi and Switch Controller" section on the left of the taskbar, and then "SSIDs" under it.



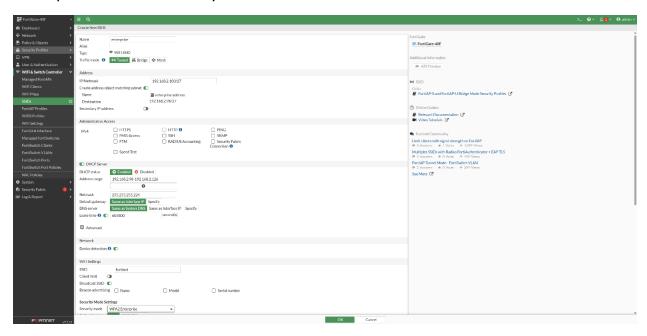
Click "Create New" and the "SSID" in the top left corner of the screen.



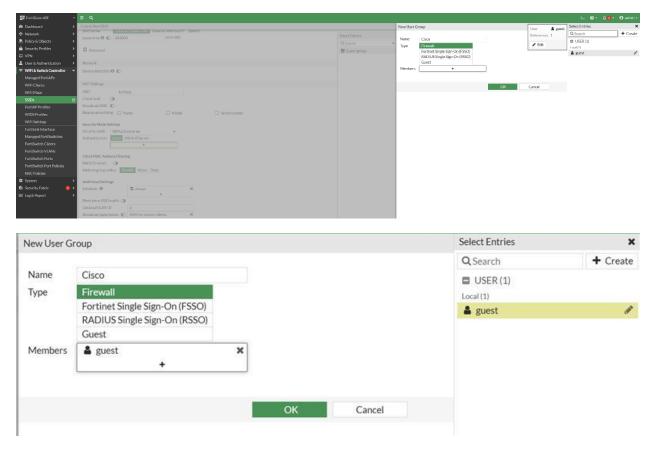
Appropriately name your SSID and enable DHCP. Choose WPA2 Personal for the security mode and then create your pre-shared key.



Create another new SSID for the WPA2-Enterprise protocol now, choosing enterprise as the security mode.



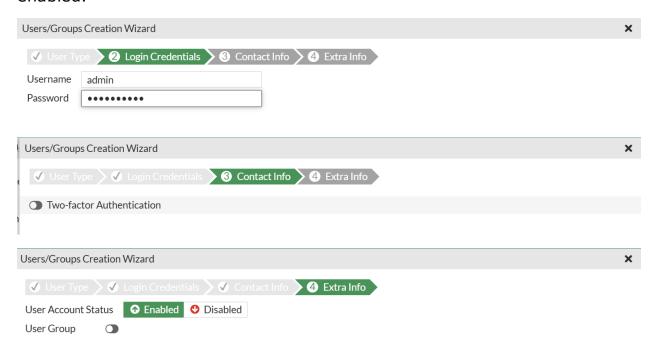
Create a new User Group with the "Firewall" type on the side of the Enterprise SSID creation.



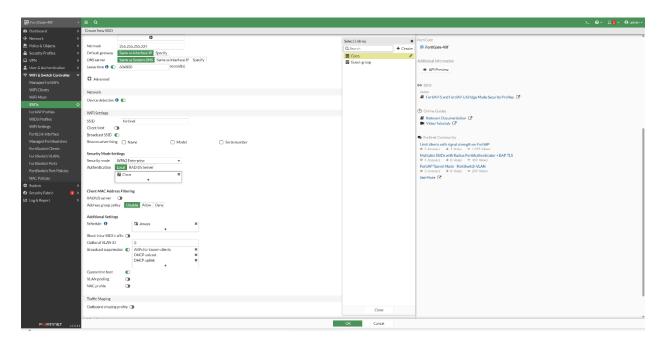
Create another User Group through the User/Groups Creation Wizard, making it a Local User.



Input your chosen login credentials and click through contact info and extra info, making sure two factor authentication is off and user account status is enabled.



Finish creating your enterprise SSID by clicking "Ok" on the bottom of the screen.



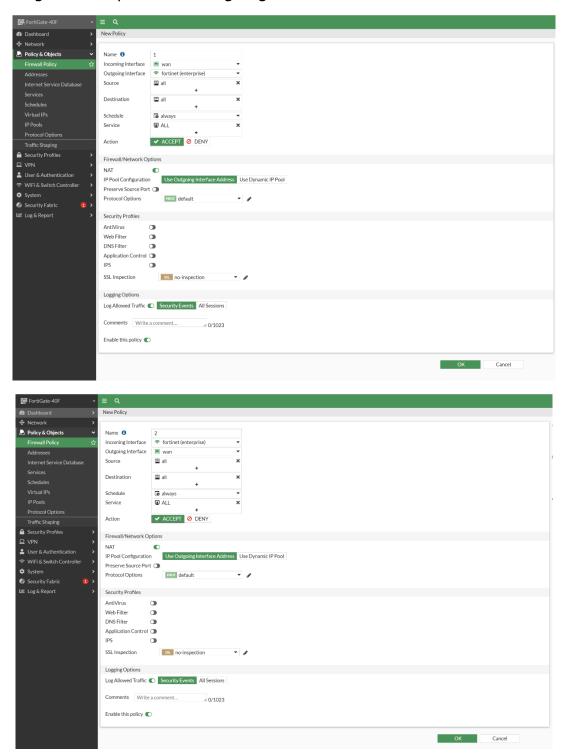
Now in the "SSIDs" section, make sure you have both a PSK and Enterprise SSID.



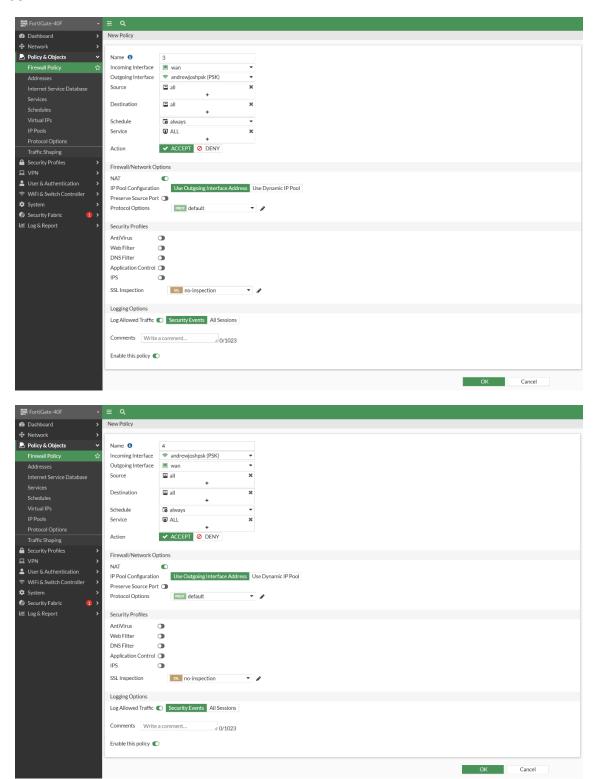
Navigate to "Policy & Objects" and then to "Firewall Policy." Through this section, we'll be creating 4 new Firewall Policies.



Hit "Create New," set the incoming interface to "wan" and the outgoing to your enterprise network. Once you do this, create another policy with incoming as enterprise and outgoing as "wan".



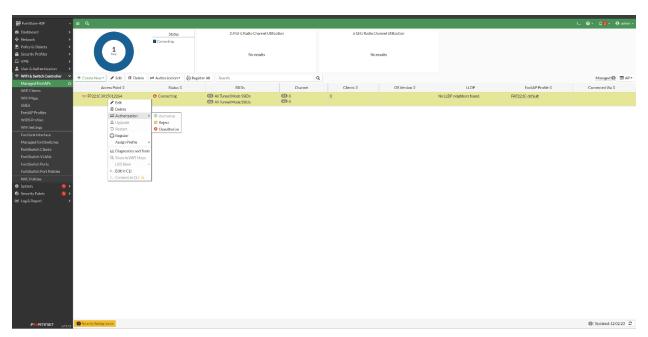
Now that you have your policies for WPA2-Enterprise set up, do the same thing you just did except for WPA2-PSK. Make sure that you have two policies where "wan" and PSK are each in incoming and outgoing interfaces once.



Verify that all 4 of these new policies have been created on your GUI.



Finally, navigate to "WiFi & Switch Controller" and then "Managed FortiAPs." Find the access point you're using and authorize it under the authorization tab.



### **Problems:**

One of the problems that our team came across was an error in the physical wiring of the devices. By miswiring our firewall, switches, and ISP, our group

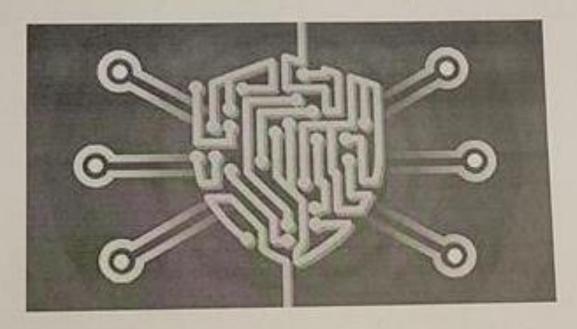
stopped ourselves from logging into the GUI of the firewall even after having reset the firewall. This prevented us from making further progress on the lab until we found our error in wiring and fixed it.

### **Conclusion:**

In conclusion, this lab has familiarized our group with factory resetting a Fortigate 40F firewall, setting up a SOHO network on it, and using a FortiAP access point with various security protocols. We are now capable of navigating the Fortigate's GUI fluently and can confidently set up small networks where needed.

## Lab Signoff:

## Fortinet SOHO with Wireless WPA2-PSK and WPA2-Enterprise



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