v macOS Website Blocker with pf and Python

This guide walks you through manually blocking websites with pf.conf, then transitioning to using the Python-based main.py.

Prerequisites

- macOS (tested on macOS 12+)
- Root access (sudo)
- Python 3
- Internet connection for DNS resolution

Step 1: Add ⚠ Additional Permissions Setup

1. Open terminal and type:

```
sudo bash -c 'touch /private/etc/pf.anchors/
    org.user.block.out /etc/pf.whitelist /etc/
    pf.blocklist /etc/pf.blocked_domains /etc/
    pf.whitelist_domains && chmod 600 /private/etc/
    pf.anchors/org.user.block.out /etc/pf.whitelist /etc/
    pf.blocklist /etc/pf.blocked_domains /etc/
    pf.whitelist_domains'
```

2. Enable the firewall:

```
sudo pfctl -f /etc/pf.conf
sudo pfctl -e
```

💪 Step 2: Install blocker.zip

1. **Download or copy the blocker.zip script** to a safe directory:

```
mkdir -p ~/scripts
cd ~/scripts
upzip blocker.zip ./blocker
```

2. **Upzip the contents of blocker.zip** go to terminal and paste it.

```
upzip blocker.zip -d ./blocker
cd ./blocker
```

3. Make the script executable:

chmod +x main.py

Step 3: Run the Script

Use root privileges to start the menu-based blocker:

sudo python3 ~/scripts/blocker/main.py

Script Menu Options

1. Block a domain

Enter a domain like example.com to block it.

2. Unblock a domain

Choose a domain from the list to remove it.

3. List blocked domains

See all currently blocked entries.

4. Exit

Close the script.

How It Works

- Resolves the domain name to one or more IP addresses.
- Stores those IPs in /etc/pf.blocklist.
- Applies rules using pfctl.
- Keeps a persistent record of blocked domains in /etc/pf.blocked_domains.

Updating Firewall Rules

After any change via blocker.py, the script automatically:

sudo pfctl -f /etc/pf.conf

So no need to manually reload unless you edit pf.conf directly.

Uninstall / Reset Instructions

1. Remove rules from /etc/pf.conf

sudo nano /etc/pf.conf

2. Delete the data files:

3. Reload the firewall:

```
sudo pfctl -f /etc/pf.conf
```

4. **(Optional)** Delete the script:

```
rm -rf ~/scripts/blocker
```