-Windows Hardening Essentials-

Checklist:

User Authorization:

- Remove Unauthorized Users ❑
- Examine User Permissions ❑
- Change Default user Passwords ❑
- Disable Guest Account ❑

Malware Scanning:

- Download Malware Bytes (scan regularly) ❑
- Check Windows Defender (Turn on/update) ❑
- Schedule Re-Occcuring Scans ❑

Examine System:

- Check Task Manager for background tasks ❑
- Check scheduled tasks ❑
- Check/remove unwanted services ❑
- Browse file system for malware ❑
- Check for Windows updates ❑

Group Policy Objects:

- Create Group Password Policy ❑

Firewall Security:

- Turn on firewall
- Check in-bound/out-bound ports ❑
- Update firewall settings ❑

Helpful Ps Commands

(Read from file)

```
PS C:\> Get-Content -TotalCount 5 /PS/Names.txt
```

(Write to a file)

```
PS C:\> Set-Content - Value "Rachel Rose" -Path /PS/Names.txt
```

(create new folder)

```
New-Item -Path 'C:\temp\Test Folder' -ItemType Directory
```

(create new file)

```
New-Item -Path 'C:\temp\Test Folder\file.txt' -ItemType File
```

(execution policy)

```
Get-ExecutionPolicy
```

```
Set-ExecutionPolicy <unrestricted/restricted>
```

(list all services on system)

```
Get-Service
```

(view/alter processes)

```
Get-Process
```

```
Stop-Process
```

(view event logs)

```
Get-EventLog
```

(test network connection)

```
Test-NetConnection
```

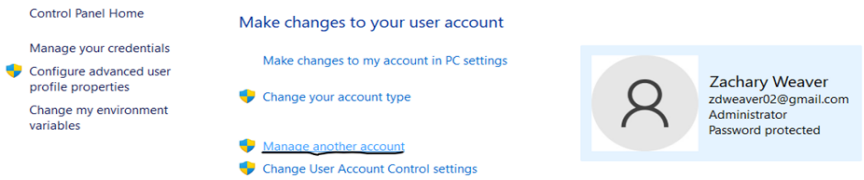
(verify port open/closed)

```
Test-NetConnection -ComputerName 127.0.0.1 -Port 4000
```

-User Authentication-

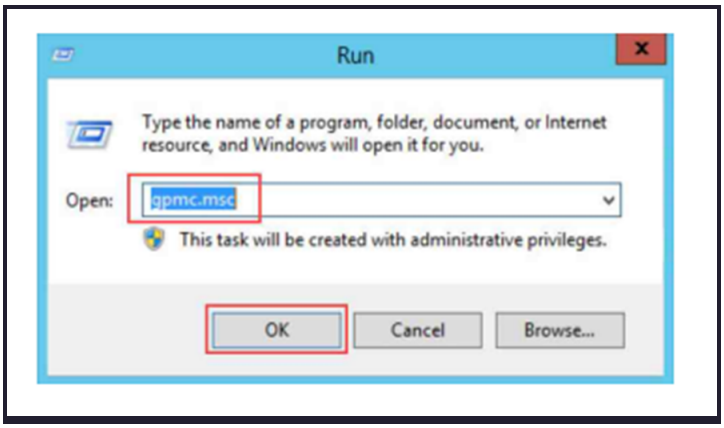
Control Pannel > User Accounts > Manage another account (admin)

(from here remove/disable any unauthorized users, change passwords, etc.)



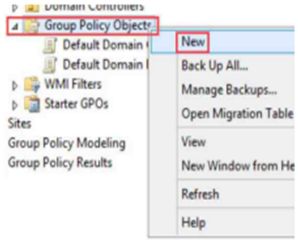
-Group Policy (windows Server)-

Windows start > run terminal > gpmc.msc



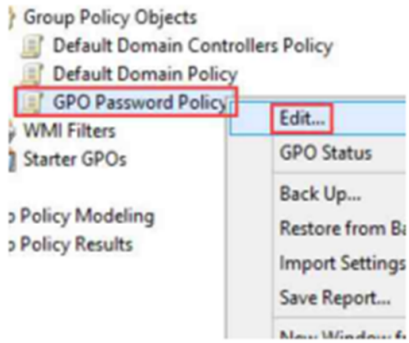
Create new group policy object:

1. In the *Group Policy Management Center*, right-click **Group Policy Objec**
New.



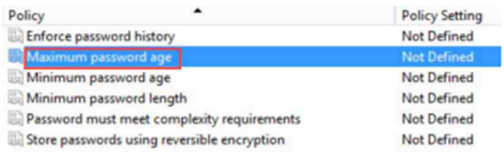
2. Type **GPO Password Policy** into the *Name* field and click **OK**.

Set a new password policy: Group Policy Objects > Select policy > right click > edit



(computer config > policies > Windows Settings > security settings > Password policy)

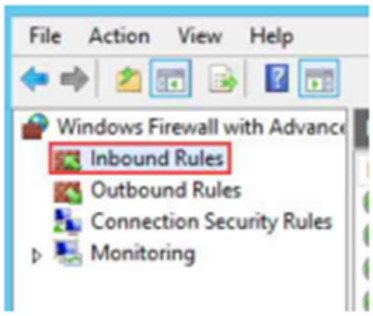
Enforcing Password Requirements:

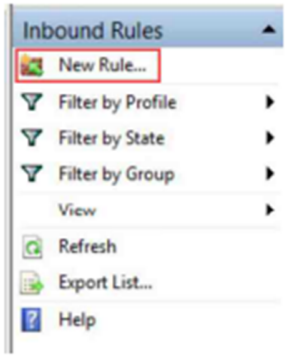


-Port Security-

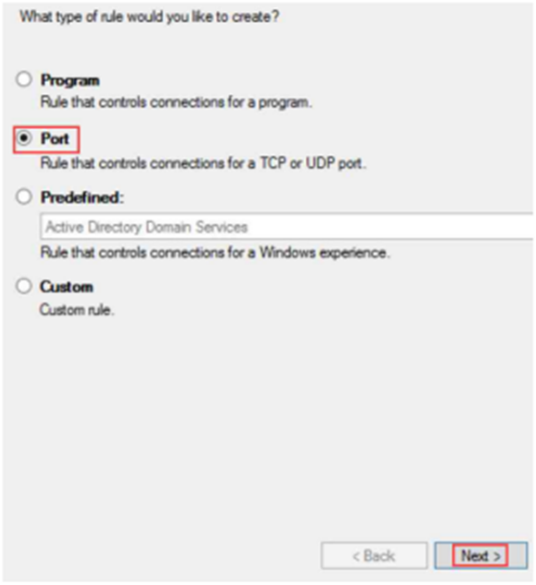
Creating firewall rule

Open Windows Firewall > advanced settings > Inbound Rules > New Rule

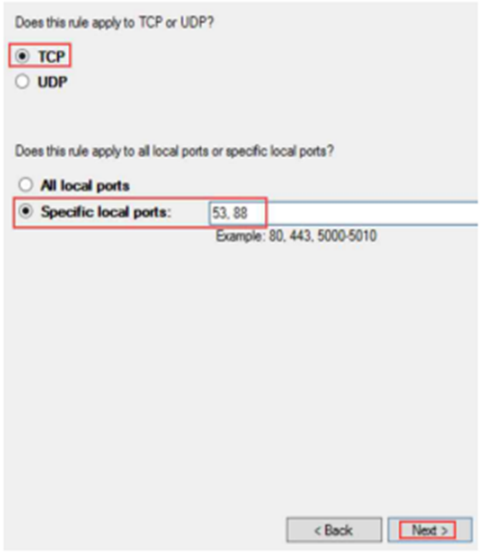




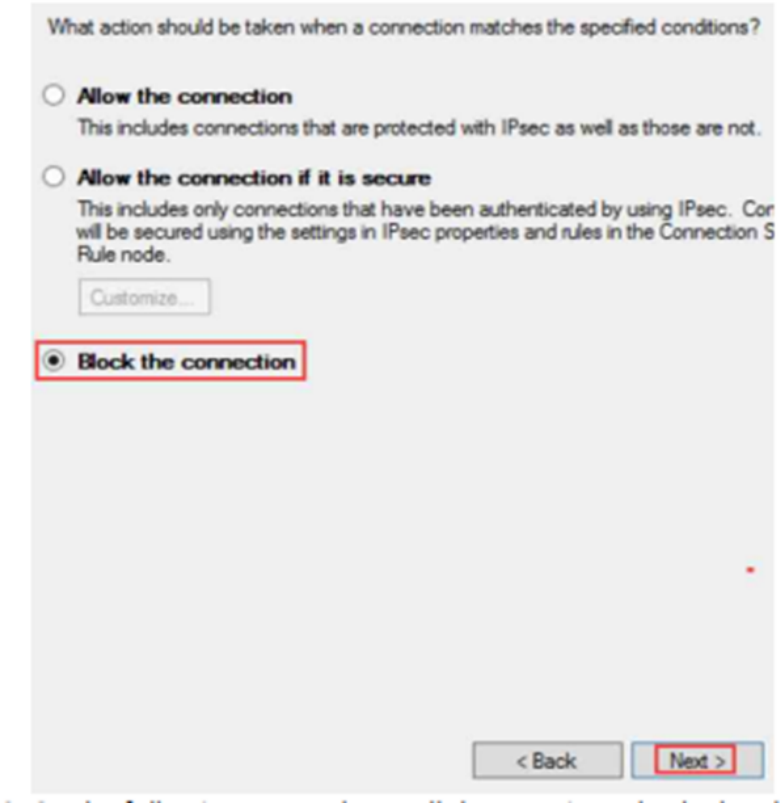
Select Rule Type:

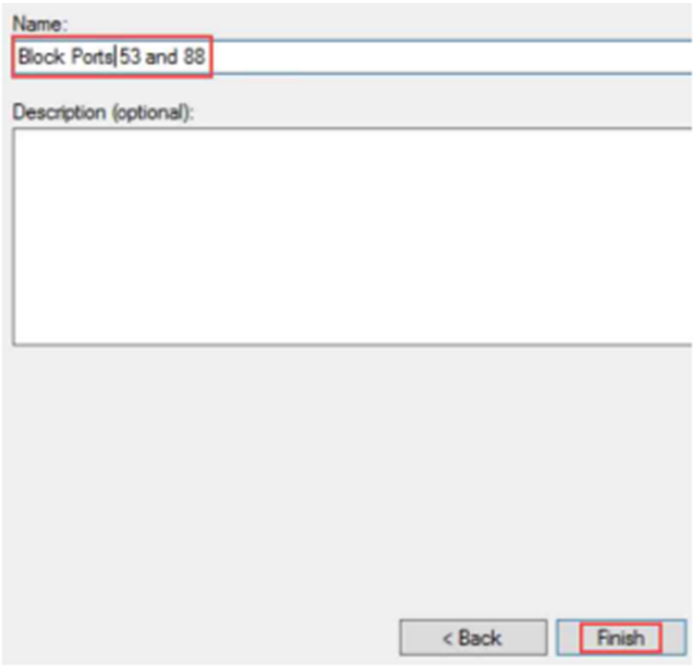


Specify What ports:



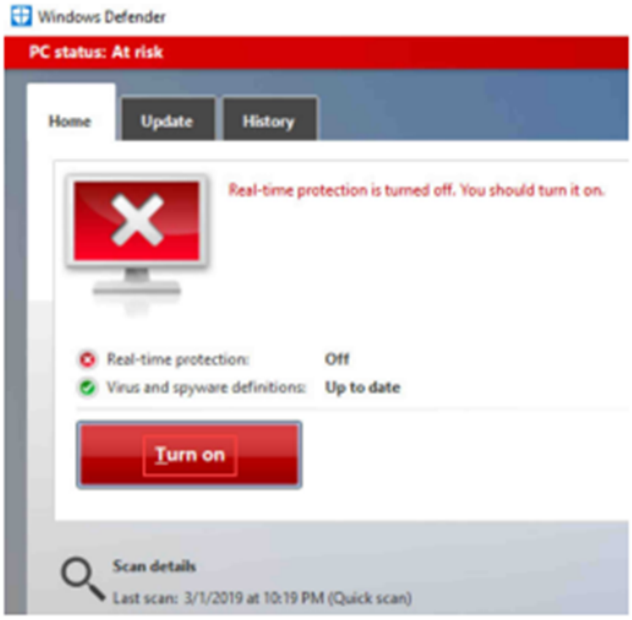
Select What action to be taken, add a rule name > Finish





-Windows Defender Policies-

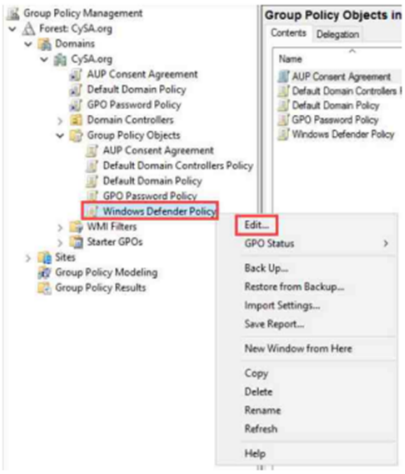
1. Open windows defender/turn on/update



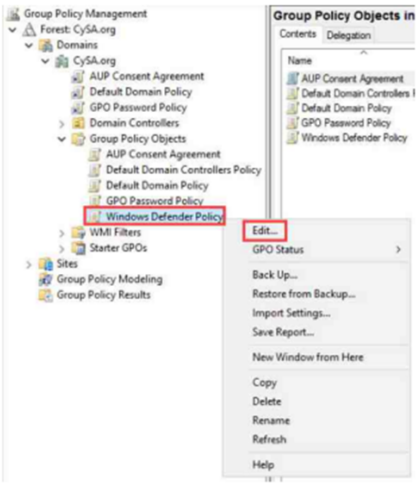
2. Real time protection - scanning downloads/documents

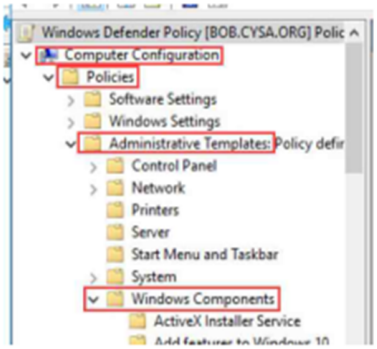
   -group policy

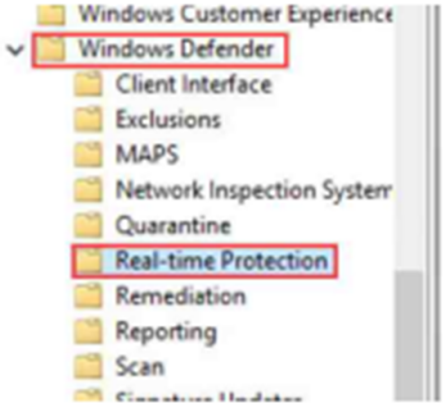
   -create new policy “windows defender”



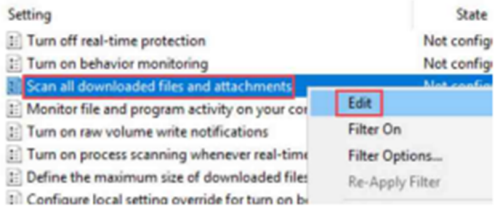
-Computer config > Policies > Admin Templates > windows components
-Windows defender > Real-time protection

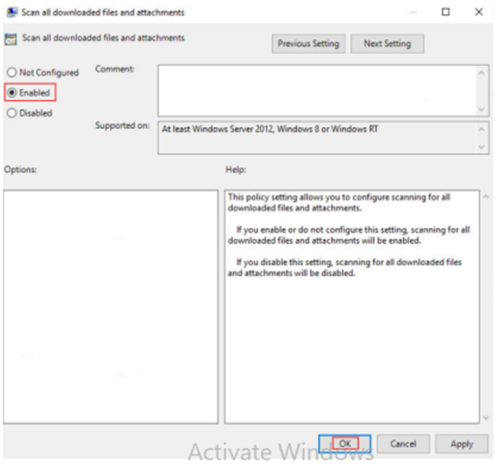






-Right click on scan all downloaded files/attachments > edit
-Click enable to allow defender to scan downloads





Password Sheet

Machine:

IP Adress:

User	***Password***

Notes:

Password Sheet

Machine:

IP Adress:

User	***Password***

Notes:

Password Sheet

Machine:

IP Adress:

User	***Password***

Notes:

Password Sheet

Machine:

IP Adress:

User	***Password***

Notes: