

13 - Secure network traffic

In this walk-through, we will configure a network security group.

Task 1: Create a virtual machine (10 min)

In this task, we will create a Windows Server 2019 Datacenter virtual machine.

1. Sign in to the [Azure portal](#).
2. From the **All services** blade, search for and select **Virtual machines**, and then click **+ Add**.
3. On the **Basics** tab, fill in the following information (leave the defaults for everything else):

Settings	Values
Subscription	Choose your subscription
Resource group	myRGSecure (create new)
Virtual machine name	SimpleWinVM
Location	(US) East US
Image	Windows Server 2019 Datacenter
Size	Standard D2s v3
Administrator account username	azureuser
Administrator account password	Pa\$\$w0rd1234
Inbound port rules	None

4. Switch to the **Networking** tab, and configure the following setting:

Settings	Values
NIC network security group	None

5. Switch to the **Management** tab, and in its **Monitoring** section, select the following setting:

Settings	Values
Boot diagnostics	Disable

6. Leave the remaining defaults and then click the **Review + create** button at the bottom of the page.
7. Once Validation is passed click the **Create** button. It can take about five minutes to deploy the virtual machine.
8. Monitor the deployment. It may take a few minutes for the resource group and virtual machine to be created.
9. From the deployment blade or from the Notification area, click **Go to resource**.
10. On the **SimpleWinVM** virtual machine blade, click **Networking**, review the **Inbound port rules** tab, and note that there is no network security group associated with the network interface of the virtual machine or the subnet to which the network interface is attached.

Note: Identify the name of the network interface. You will need it in the next task.

Task 2: Create a network security group

In this task, we will create a network security group and associate it with the network interface.

1. From the **All services** blade, search for and select **Network security groups** and then click **+ Add**
2. On the **Basics** tab of the **Create network security group** blade, specify the following settings.

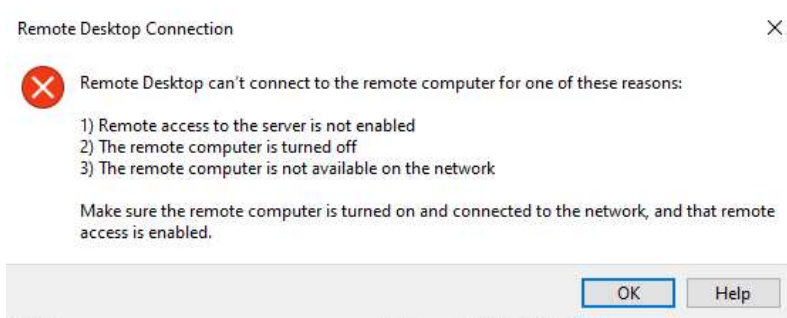
Setting	Value
Subscription	Choose your subscription
Resource group	myRGSecure
Name	myNSGSecure
Region	(US) East US

3. Click **Review + create** and then after the validation click **Create**.
4. After the NSG is created, click **Go to resource**.
5. Under **Settings** click **Network interfaces** and then **+ Associate**.
6. Select the network interface you identified in the previous task.

Task 3: Configure an inbound security port rule to allow RDP

In this task, we will allow RDP traffic to the virtual machine by configuring an inbound security port rule.

1. In the Azure portal, navigate to the blade of the **SimpleWinVM** virtual machine.
2. On the **Overview** pane, click **Connect**.
3. Attempt to connect to the virtual machine using RDP. By default the network security group does not allow RDP. Close the error window.



4. On the virtual machine blade, scroll down to the **Settings** section, click on **Networking**, and notice the inbound rules for the **myNSGSecure (attached to network interface: myVMNic)** network security group deny all inbound traffic except traffic within the virtual network and load balancer probes.
5. On the **Inbound port rules** tab, click **Add inbound port rule**. Click **Add** when you are done.

Setting	Value
Source	Any
Source port ranges	*

Setting	Value
Destination	Any
Destination port ranges	3389
Protocol	TCP
Action	Allow
Priority	300
Name	AllowRDP

- Wait for the rule to be provisioned and then try again to RDP into the virtual machine. This time you should be successful. Remember the user is **azureuser** and the password is **Pa\$\$w0rd1234**.

Task 4: Configure an outbound security port rule to deny Internet access

In this task, we will create a NSG outbound port rule that will deny Internet access and then test to ensure the rule is working.

- Continue in your virtual machine RDP session.
- After the machine starts, open an **Internet Explorer** browser.
- Verify that you can access **https://www.bing.com** and then close Internet Explorer. You will need to work through the IE enhanced security pop-ups.

Note: We will now configure a rule to deny outbound internet access.

- In the Azure portal, navigate back to the blade of the **SimpleWinVM** virtual machine.
- Under **Settings**, click **Networking**, and then **Outbound port rules**.
- Notice there is a rule, **AllowInternetOutbound**. This a default rule and cannot be removed.
- Click **Add outbound port rule** to the right of the **myNSGSecure (attached to network interface: myVMNic)** network security group and configure a new outbound security rule with a higher priority that will deny internet traffic. Click **Add** when you are finished.

Setting	Value
Source	Any
Source port ranges	*
Destination	Service Tag
Destination service tag	Internet
Destination port ranges	*
Protocol	TCP
Action	Deny
Priority	4000
Name	DenyInternet

8. Return to your RDP session.

9. Browse to **<https://www.microsoft.com>**. The page should not display. You may need to work through additional IE enhanced security pop-ups.

Note: To avoid additional costs, you can remove this resource group. Search for resource groups, click your resource group, and then click **Delete resource group**. Verify the name of the resource group and then click **Delete**. Monitor the **Notifications** to see how the delete is proceeding.