
PROJECT REPORT - 1

Write a FW rule to block any website and share the report



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Objective

To prevent all users and applications on your device from accessing a chosen website.

Method Used : The `/etc/hosts` file modification.(method)

What is the hosts file? The hosts file is a special text file on your computer that your Mac checks before it asks the internet for a website's location (its IP address).

We can add an entry here to tell your computer that the website you want to block is located at 127.0.0.1. This is a special "loopback" address that just points back to your own machine, effectively blocking any connection to the actual website.

How to Block Websites on Windows in 5 Easy Steps

Blocking a website on Windows for all users and applications is done by editing the **hosts file**, a system file that maps website names to IP addresses. Here's how to do it in a simple, step-by-step process.

STEPS ARE--

Step 1: Open Notepad as an Administrator

The **hosts file** is protected, so you can only edit it with administrator privileges.

- Click the **Start Menu**.
- Type "**Notepad**".
- Right-click on **Notepad** and select "**Run as administrator.**"

Step 2: Open the hosts file

In Notepad, you'll need to navigate to the correct folder to open the file.

- Go to **File > Open**.
- Navigate to `C:\Windows\System32\drivers\etc`.
- Change the file type dropdown from "Text Documents (.txt)" to ***"All Files (*.*)"*** to see all files in the folder.
- Click on the **hosts** file and select **Open**.

Step 3: Add a Blocking Entry

To block a website, you will add a specific line to the end of the file.

- Go to the bottom of the hosts file.
- Add a new line with the IP address **127.0.0.1** followed by the website you want to block.
- **127.0.0.1** is the **localhost** address, which tells your computer to look for the website on itself, a location where it doesn't exist.

Example: To block `www.facebook.com`, add this line: `127.0.0.1
www.facebook.com`

Step 4: Add More Websites (Optional)

You can repeat the previous step for any other websites you want to block. Just add a new line for each one.

- You can also add a comment by starting a line with `#` to explain why you are blocking a site.
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- For example: # This section is to block social media sites

Step 5: Save the File

After adding all the websites you want to block, you must save the changes.

- Go to **File > Save**.
- Close the Notepad application. The changes will take effect immediately.

Report Summary & Verification

Action: A rule has been added to the system hosts file.

- 1. Effect: The rule redirects traffic intended for the specified website(s) to the local machine, preventing the site from loading.***
- 2. Verification: Open any web browser (like Safari, Chrome, or Firefox) and try to visit the site you blocked. You should see an error page saying "This site can't be reached" or "Unable to connect," confirming the block is successful.***

To unblock the website, simply follow the same steps to edit the C:\Windows\System32\drivers\etc file and delete the lines you added.
