
PRACTICAL NO: 5

AIM: To implement and understand Windows security features using the firewall and other security measures, ensuring network protection and safe data usage.

OBJECTIVE: To learn the configuration of the Windows Firewall to control inbound and outbound traffic and configure additional security measures like Windows Defender, network policies, and access controls.

REQUIREMENTS:

- A computer with Windows OS (Windows 10 or later preferred).
- Administrator privileges for making system-level changes.
- Internet connectivity for updates.
- Access to Windows Defender and firewall configuration settings.

THEORY:

Firewalls

A firewall is a critical security system that acts as a barrier between a trusted internal network and untrusted external networks like the Internet. Firewalls monitor and control incoming and outgoing network traffic based on security policies.

Importance of Firewalls:

- Prevent unauthorized access to a network or system.
- Protect sensitive data from being accessed or stolen.
- Mitigate risks from malware and other malicious activities.

Types of Firewalls:

- **Packet-Filtering Firewall:** Filters packets based on source/destination IP, port, and protocol.
- **Stateful Inspection Firewall:** Tracks the state of active connections and makes decisions based on the connection's context.

- **Application Layer Firewall:** Operates at the application layer and filters traffic based on specific applications.

Features of Firewalls:

- Logging and reporting capabilities to monitor security events.
- Intrusion prevention by blocking known malicious activities.
- Network Address Translation (NAT) for hiding internal network details.

Windows Firewall

Windows Firewall is a built-in security feature in the Microsoft Windows operating system. It is a host-based firewall designed to filter incoming and outgoing traffic and protect the system from potential threats.

Key Features of Windows Firewall:

- **Profiles:** Configures separate rules for domain, private, and public network profiles.
- **Inbound and Outbound Rules:** Allows users to define which types of traffic are permitted or blocked.
- **Logging:** Maintains a log of dropped packets and successful connections for auditing purposes.
- **Application Control:** Lets users specify which applications are allowed or blocked from accessing the network.

Advantages:

- Integrated with the Windows OS, providing seamless operation.
- User-friendly graphical interface for rule configuration.
- Supports advanced configurations via PowerShell and Group Policy.

Limitations:

- Does not replace a network-level firewall for enterprise environments.
- May require additional configuration for complex setups.

Windows Defender: Windows Defender is Microsoft's built-in antivirus and anti-malware solution, designed to protect the system from threats such as

viruses, ransomware, spyware, and phishing attacks. It provides real-time protection and regularly updated threat definitions to address new vulnerabilities.

Key Features of Windows Defender:

- **Real-Time Protection:** Continuously monitors the system for suspicious activities and threats.
- **Periodic Scanning:** Provides quick, full, and custom scan options to detect and remove malware.
- **Cloud-Based Protection:** Utilizes Microsoft's vast database to identify emerging threats quickly.
- **Exploit Protection:** Safeguards against attacks targeting software vulnerabilities.
- **Firewall Integration:** Works in conjunction with Windows Firewall for a holistic security approach.

Advantages:

- Built into the Windows OS, ensuring no additional installation is required.
- Lightweight and does not consume excessive system resources.
- Free for all Windows users with regular updates.

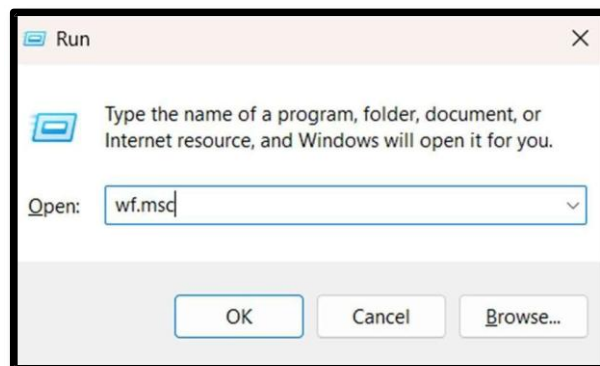
PROCEDURE:

1. Open Run Dialog:

Press Win + R to open the **Run** dialog box.

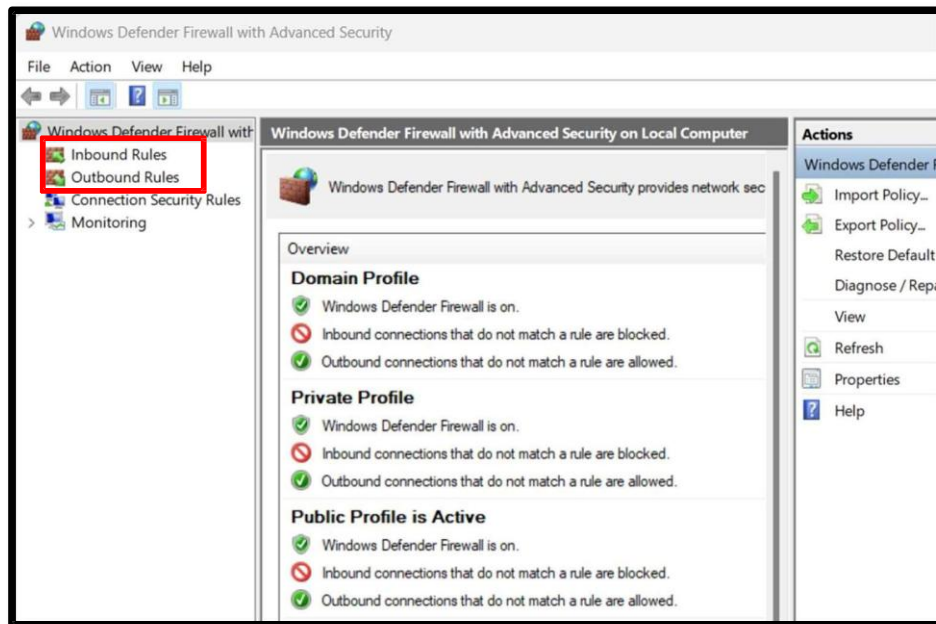
2. Access Advanced Firewall Settings:

Type wf.msc in the **Run** dialog and pressing **Enter**.



3. View Existing Rules:

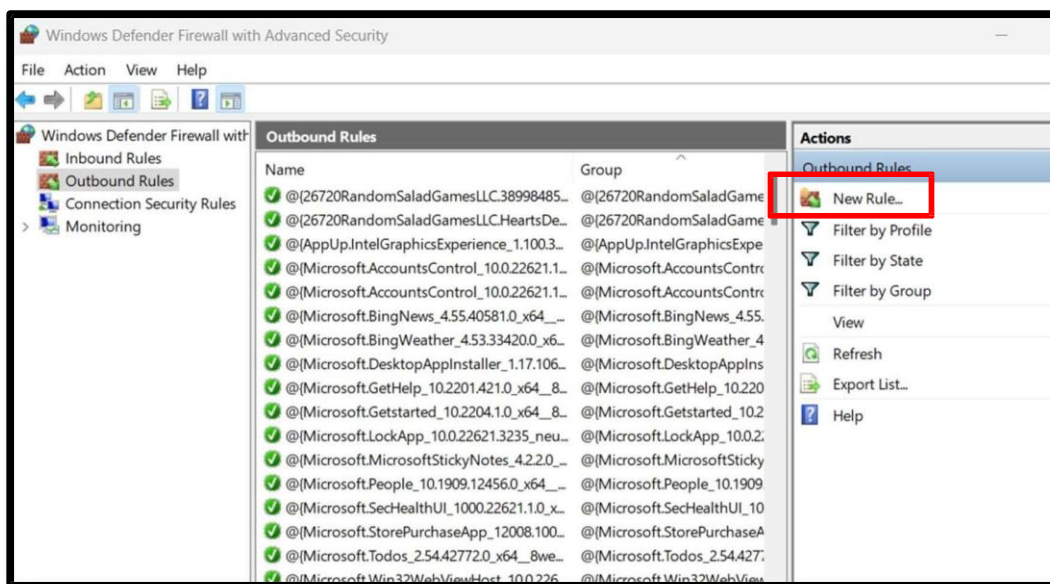
- Click on **Inbound Rules** or **Outbound Rules** in the left pane.



- Scroll through the list to see existing rules.

4. Create a New Inbound/Outbound Rule:

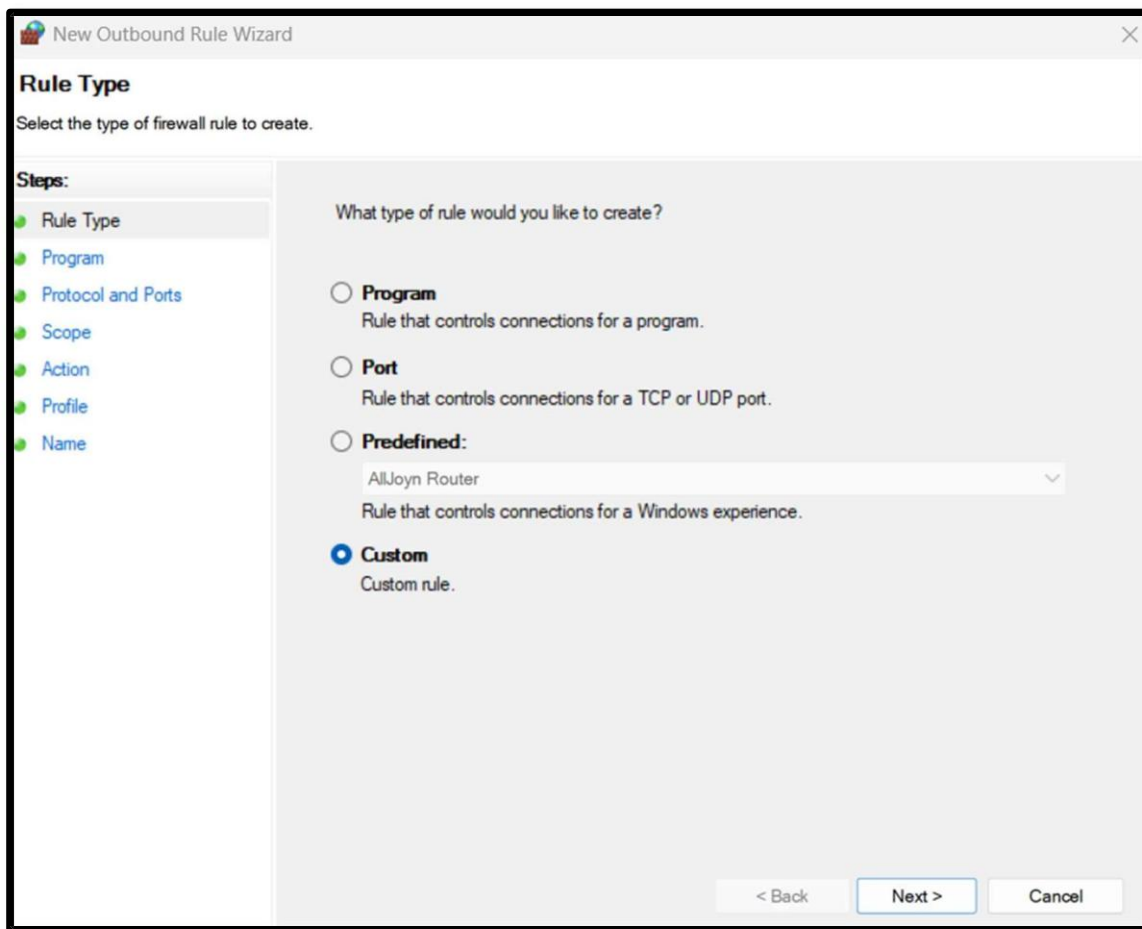
- Select **Inbound Rules** (for incoming connections) or **Outbound Rules** (for outgoing connections) from the left pane.



- In the right pane, click **New Rule...**

5. Select Rule Type:

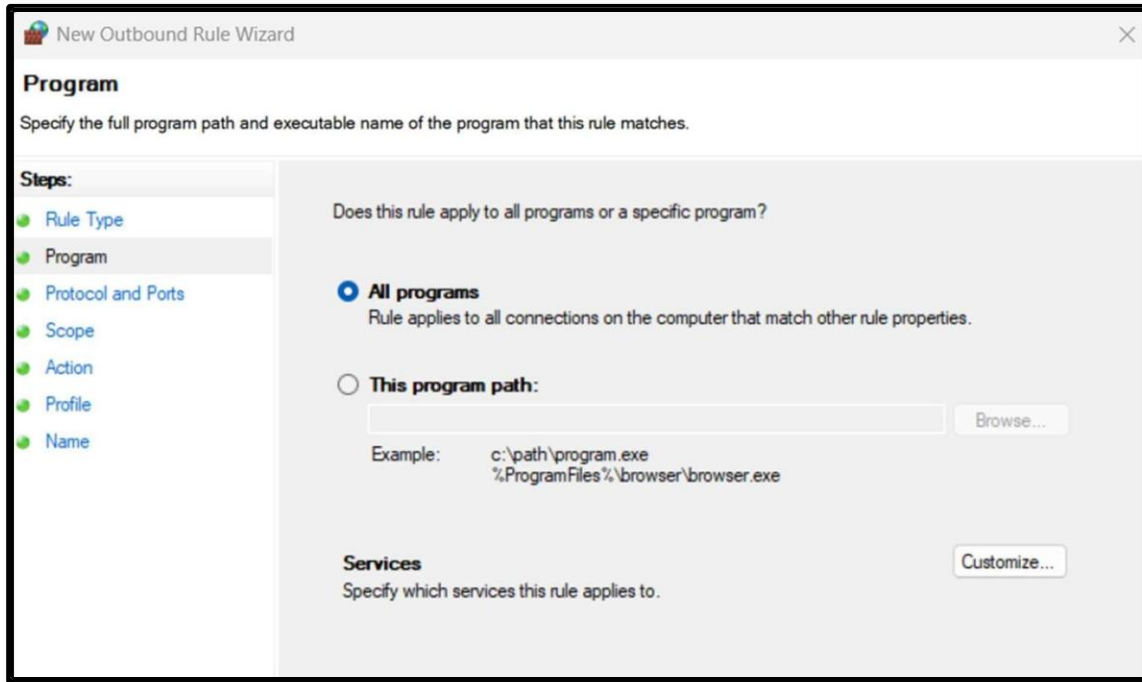
- Choose the type of rule you want to create. For example:
 - **Program:** Block or allow a specific program.
 - **Port:** Restrict or allow specific ports.
 - **Predefined:** Use pre-configured rules.
 - **Custom:** Set advanced parameters for your rule.



- Click **Next**.

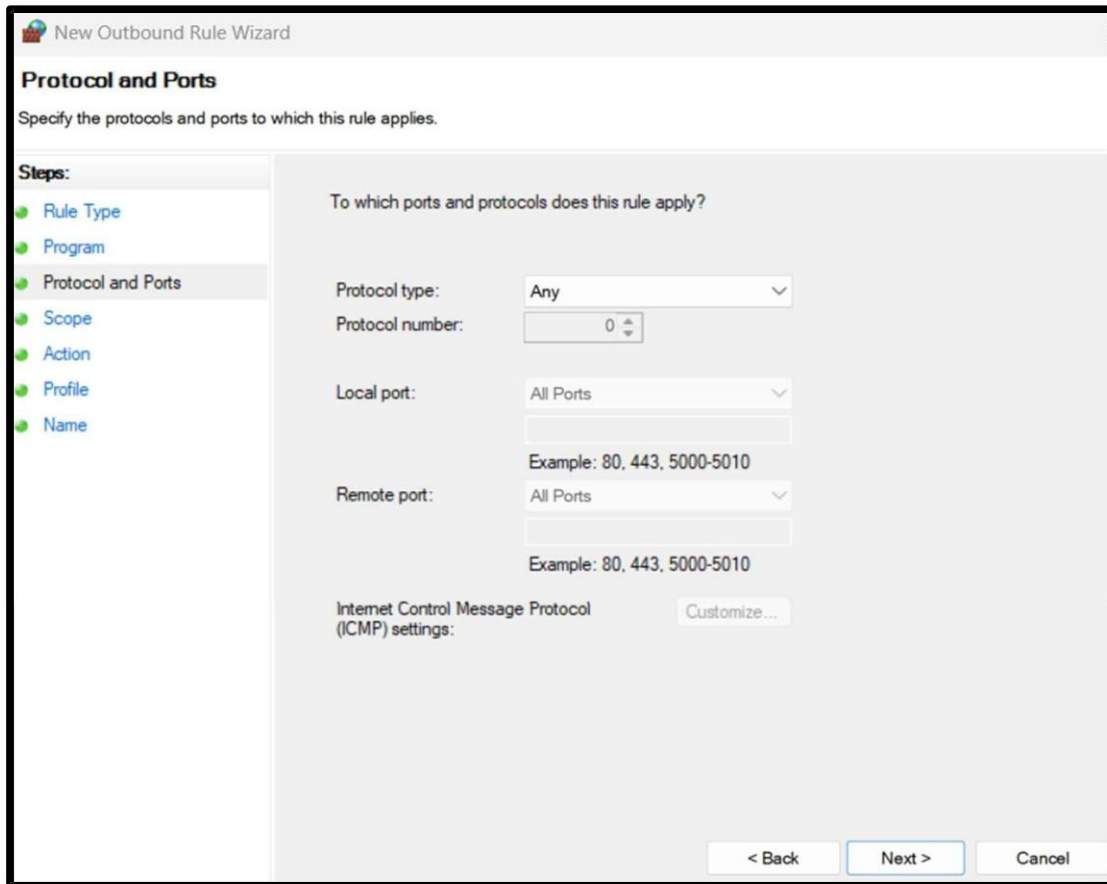
6. Specify Program or Port:

- For **Program:** Browse and select the program .exe file.



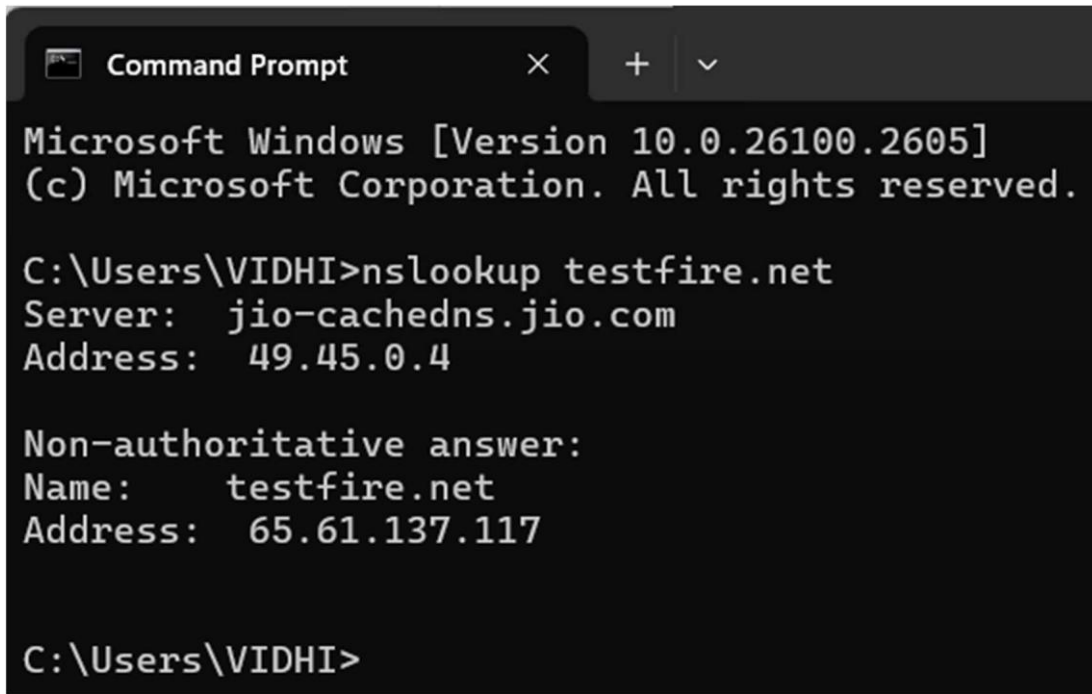
The screenshot shows the 'Program' step of the 'New Outbound Rule Wizard'. The left sidebar lists the steps: Rule Type, Program (selected), Protocol and Ports, Scope, Action, Profile, and Name. The main area asks 'Does this rule apply to all programs or a specific program?'. The 'All programs' option is selected, indicating the rule applies to all connections. The 'This program path' option is unselected, with a text box and a 'Browse...' button. Below this, an example path is shown: 'c:\path\program.exe' and '%ProgramFiles%\browser\browser.exe'. At the bottom, the 'Services' section is visible, asking to specify which services the rule applies to, with a 'Customize...' button.

- For **Port**: Select **TCP** or **UDP**, then specify the port number(s).



The screenshot shows the 'Protocol and Ports' step of the 'New Outbound Rule Wizard'. The left sidebar lists the steps: Rule Type, Program, Protocol and Ports (selected), Scope, Action, Profile, and Name. The main area asks 'To which ports and protocols does this rule apply?'. The 'Protocol type' is set to 'Any'. The 'Protocol number' is set to '0'. The 'Local port' is set to 'All Ports'. The 'Remote port' is set to 'All Ports'. Below these, an example port range is shown: '80, 443, 5000-5010'. At the bottom, the 'Internet Control Message Protocol (ICMP) settings' section is visible, with a 'Customize...' button. Navigation buttons '< Back', 'Next >', and 'Cancel' are at the bottom right.

- For **Scope**: Select **Local** or **Remote**, then specify the IP address(es).

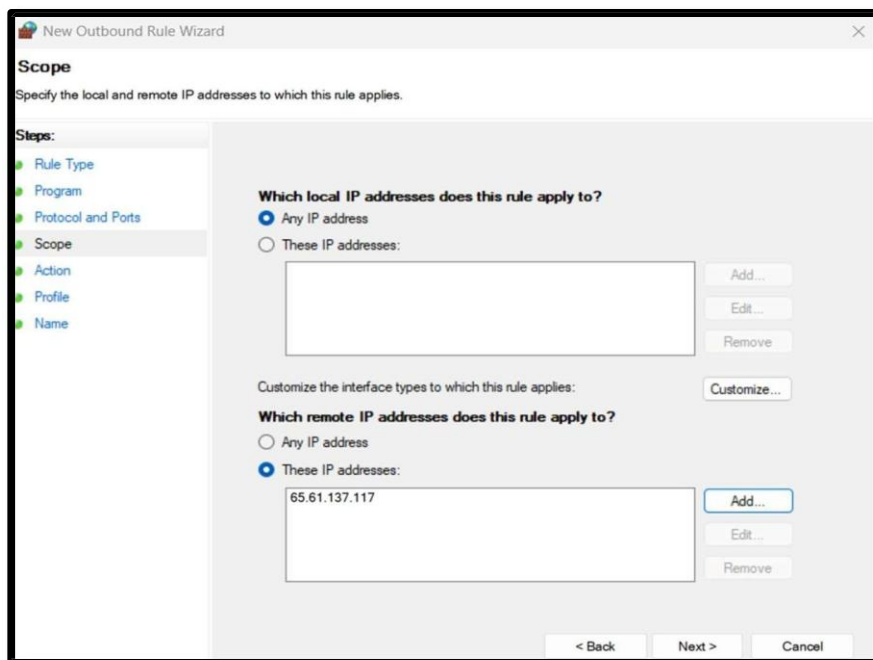


```
Microsoft Windows [Version 10.0.26100.2605]
(c) Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

C:\Users\VIDHI>nslookup testfire.net
Server:  jio-cachedns.jio.com
Address:  49.45.0.4

Non-authoritative answer:
Name:    testfire.net
Address:  65.61.137.117

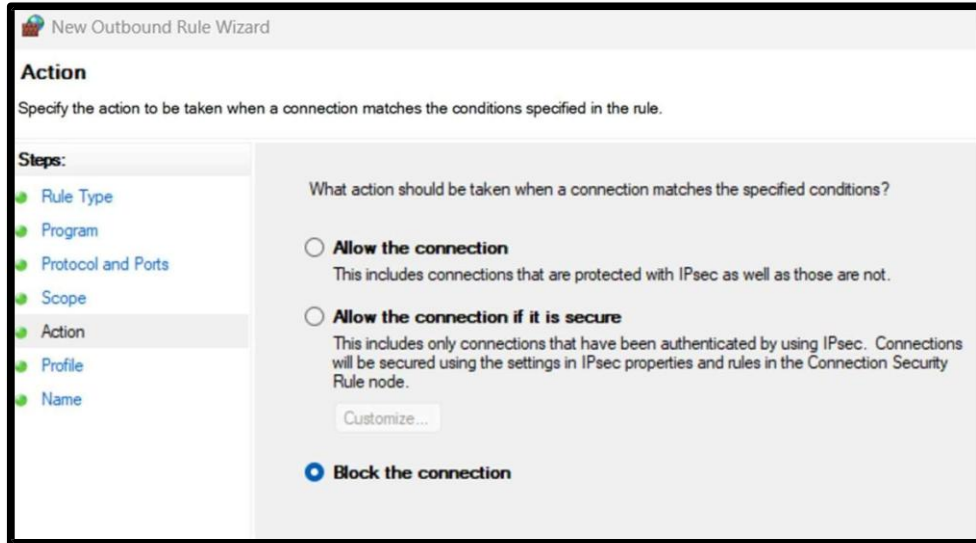
C:\Users\VIDHI>
```



7. Set Action:

- Choose the action for this rule:
 - **Allow the connection:** Permit the connection.

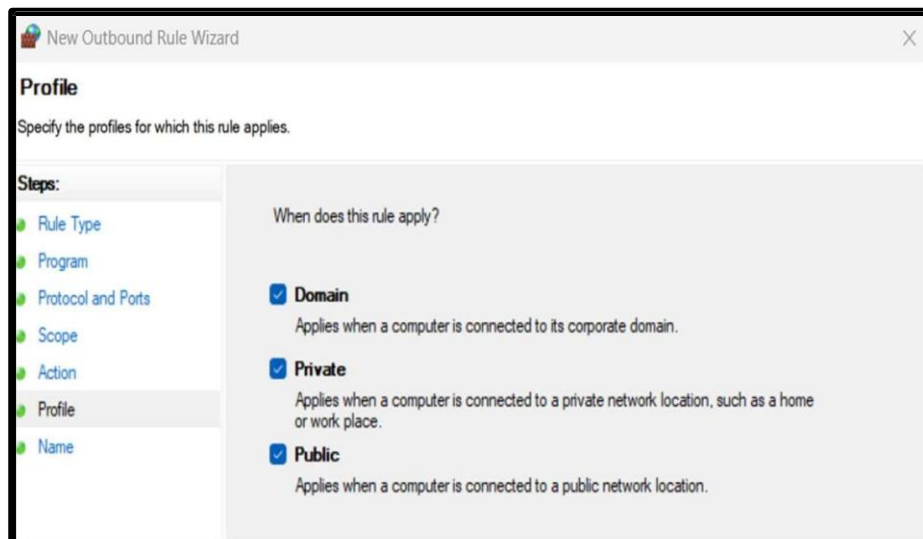
- **Allow the connection if it is secure:** Allow only secure connections.
- **Block the connection:** Deny the connection.



- Click Next.

8. Apply the Rule to Profiles:

- Choose the profile(s) where the rule will apply:
 - **Domain:** For domain-connected networks.
 - **Private:** For private networks like home or work.
 - **Public:** For public networks like cafes or airports.



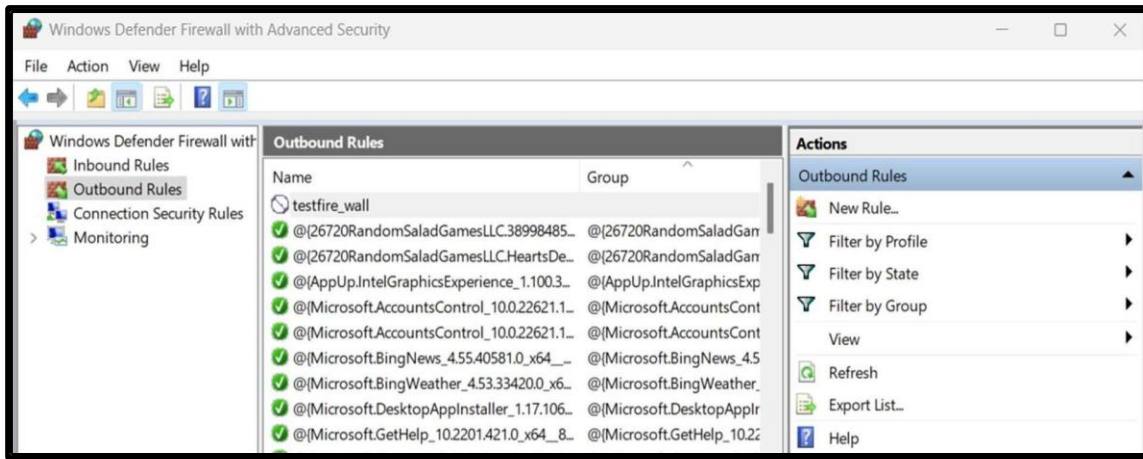
- Click **Next**.

9. Name and Describe the Rule:

- Provide a meaningful name (e.g., "testfire_wall").
- Optionally, add a description for reference.
- Click **Finish**.

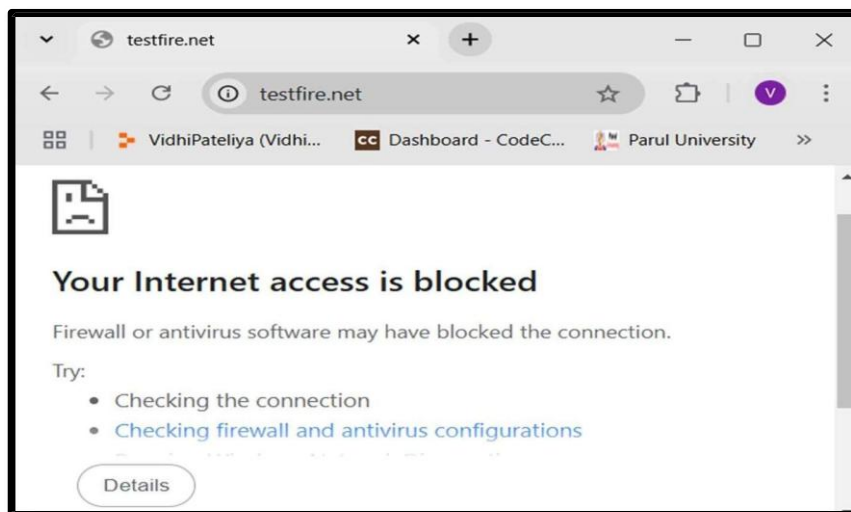
10. Verify the Rule:

- Go back to the **Inbound Rules** or **Outbound Rules** list.
- Locate your new rule by name and ensure it is enabled.



11. Test the Configuration:

- Attempt to use the program or port affected by the rule to confirm its behaviour.



12. Edit or Delete Rules (if necessary):

- Right-click the rule and choose **Properties** to modify settings.
- Select **Disable Rule** or **Delete** to deactivate or remove it.

