

Task Overview

BASICS TASK 1: [INTRODUCTION TO NETWORK SECURITY]

Introduction:

Greetings, inhabitants of cyberspace security! In the present day, this networked world has seemingly made it imperative that individuals or institutions appreciate and put in to practice very elementary ways and means of safety from different kinds of dangers that could ever be encountered within the net. Be it an individual or a small business, there is always need to have a safe network more so in cases where the network is used in handling sensitive data that needs protection as well as the data integrity . In this assignment, we will cover the definition and the importance of network security and the potential threats that may lead to its compromise. We will also outline some measures that can be used to mitigate introduction of such risks and reduce their effects.

Upon completion of this task, basic principles and concepts of network security such as identification of threats and securing a small network using the acceptable standards will have been covered. This will enable you to not only keep your network safe, but also to understand the more complex areas of network security.

In this way, we can proceed on our task of deepening our understanding of how to properly secure networks starting from the identification of threats to their management for our own safety. And with enough work and proper security practices in place, the Internet can be safe for us and everyone else that we care about.

The concept of network security must be understood as it relates to data protection, integrity and availability of network resources. Below is a brief definition of some common network threats and some elementary security solutions.

Network Threats

- 1) **Malware** – A form of software that influences illegal access to networks such as trojan horses, spyware and other malicious codes.
- 2) **Phishing** – An act of social engineering that focuses on fooling users into providing personally identifiable information in an effort to abuse it. This is done mainly via fake emails and websites.
- 3) **DDoS Attacks** – A distributed denial of service attack normally floods a network or server with too much traffic rendering it unavailable to legitimate users.

- 4) **Man-in-the-Middle (MitM) Attacks** – Involves secretly listening in and or tampering with the conversation between two parties.
- 5) **Unauthorized access** – This involves efforts to gain entry into a network or system without permission as such acts may lead to data loss or corruption.
- 6) **Insider Threats** – These are threats emanating from inside the company whether intentional or unregulated.

Basic Security Measures

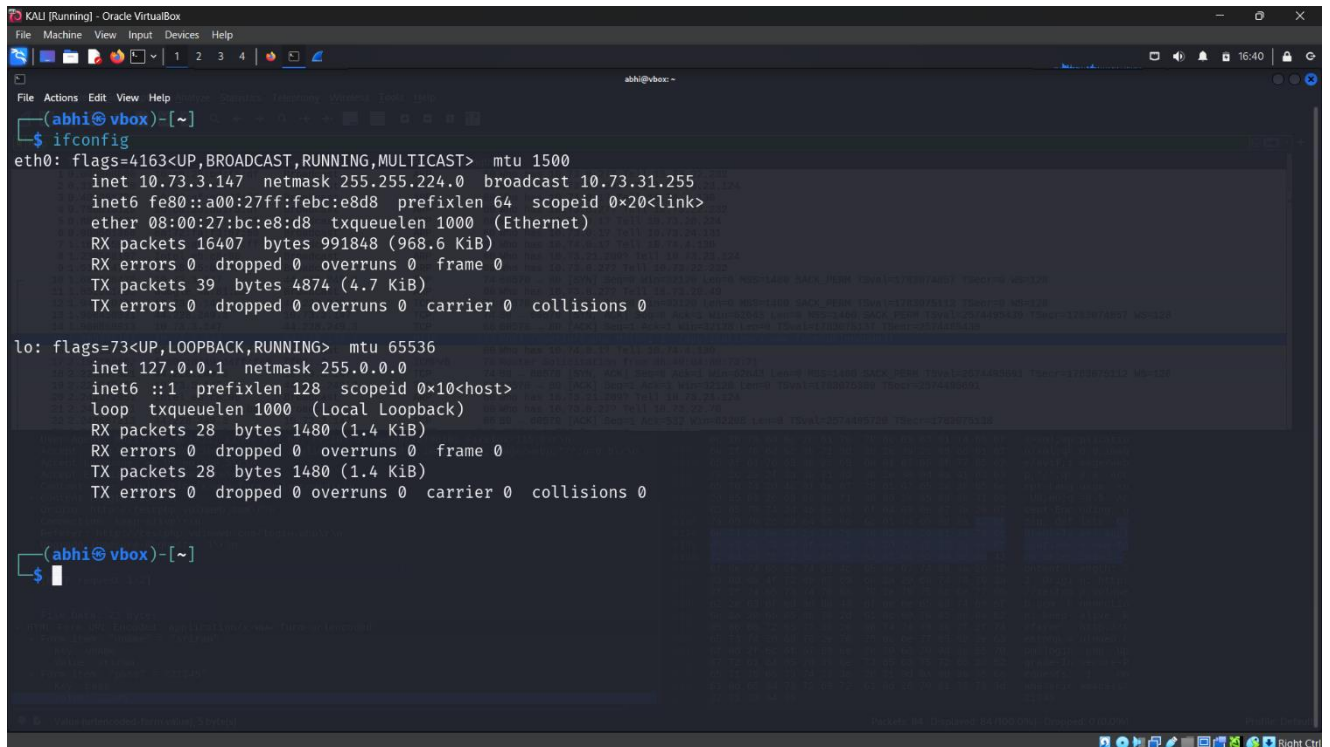
- 1) **Firewalls** – A firewall serves to monitor and control the incoming and outgoing network traffic based on the predetermined security policy of the organization.
- 2) **Antivirus** – The implementation of antivirus helps prevent the intrusion of viruses, worms, malware, and trojan horses into the organization's cyberspace.
- 3) **Regular Software Updates** – The operable systems and the applications installed in the systems are vigorously needed to be updated against the weaknesses present.
- 4) **Secure Password Practices** – Strong Password policies that incorporate complexity and heighten frequencies of password change assist in mitigating unauthorized logins.
- 5) **Network Segmentation** – Alleviating the potential damage in case of a successful attack, and improving the security management as well.
- 6) **Virtual Private Networks (VPNs)** – A VPN is a tool that protects the connection of remote users to the information system by encrypting all, or selected, data that goes over the web.
- 7) **User Education** – Providing training on issues such as phishing and related threats, along with encouraging users to observe safe browsing behavior, would yield a great decrease in the level of risk present.
- 8) **Backup Solutions** – Having a plan in place for the backward coping of any data such backups being done frequently creates assurance that information will not be lost mostly to software like ransomware.

Tools and methods:

**Firewall (Windows Defender Firewall or a basic hardware firewall),
Wireshark.**

Steps taken to complete the task:

1.Type 'ifconfig' and click enter key. This should display your Kali ip address.



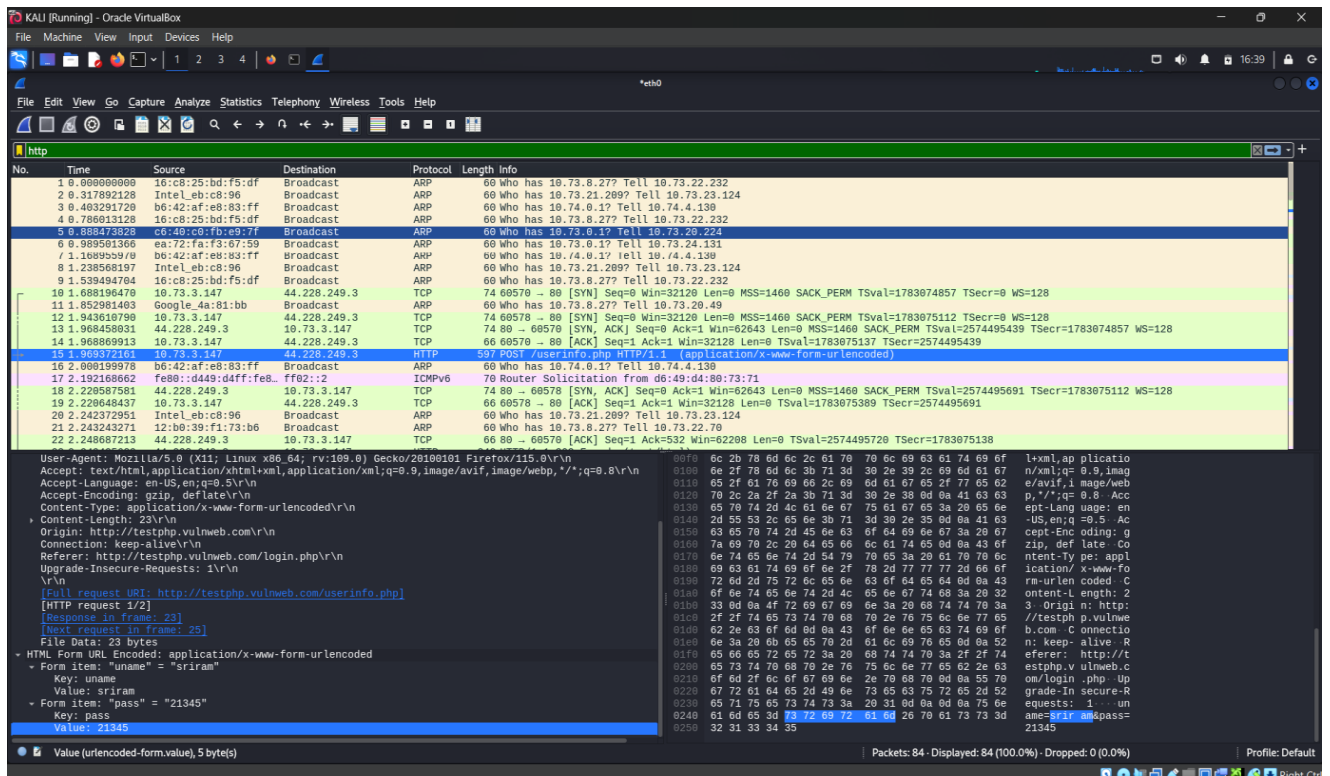
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KALI [Running] - Oracle VM VirtualBox
File Machine View Input Devices Help

(abhi@vbox)-[~]
$ ifconfig
eth0: flags=4163<UP,BROADCAST,RUNNING,MULTICAST> mtu 1500
    inet 10.73.3.147 netmask 255.255.224.0 broadcast 10.73.31.255
    inet6 fe80::a00:27ff:febc:e8d8 prefixlen 64 scopeid 0x20<link>
    ether 08:00:27:bc:e8:d8 txqueuelen 1000 (Ethernet)
    RX packets 16407 bytes 991848 (968.6 KiB)
    RX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 frame 0
    TX packets 39 bytes 4874 (4.7 KiB)
    TX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 carrier 0 collisions 0

lo: flags=73<UP,LOOPBACK,RUNNING> mtu 65536
    inet 127.0.0.1 netmask 255.0.0.0
    inet6 ::1 prefixlen 128 scopeid 0x10<host>
    loop txqueuelen 1000 (Local Loopback)
    RX packets 28 bytes 1480 (1.4 KiB)
    RX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 frame 0
    TX packets 28 bytes 1480 (1.4 KiB)
    TX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 carrier 0 collisions 0

(abhi@vbox)-[~]
$
```

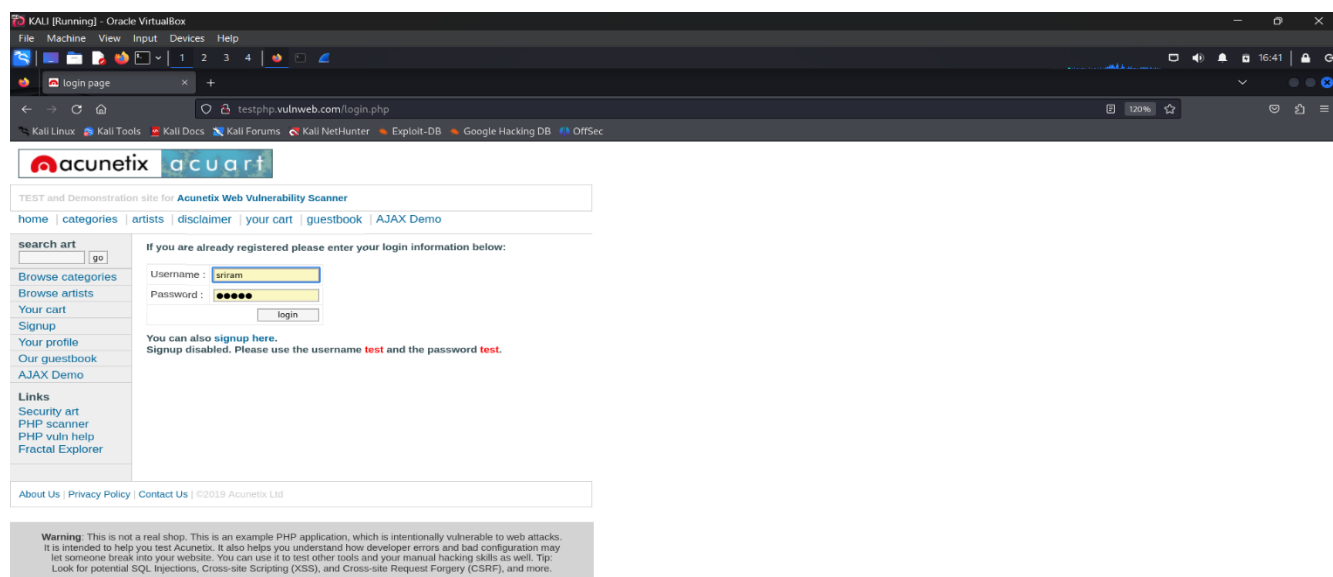
2.Launch wireshark on your host system, configure to capture traffic based on your network connections.



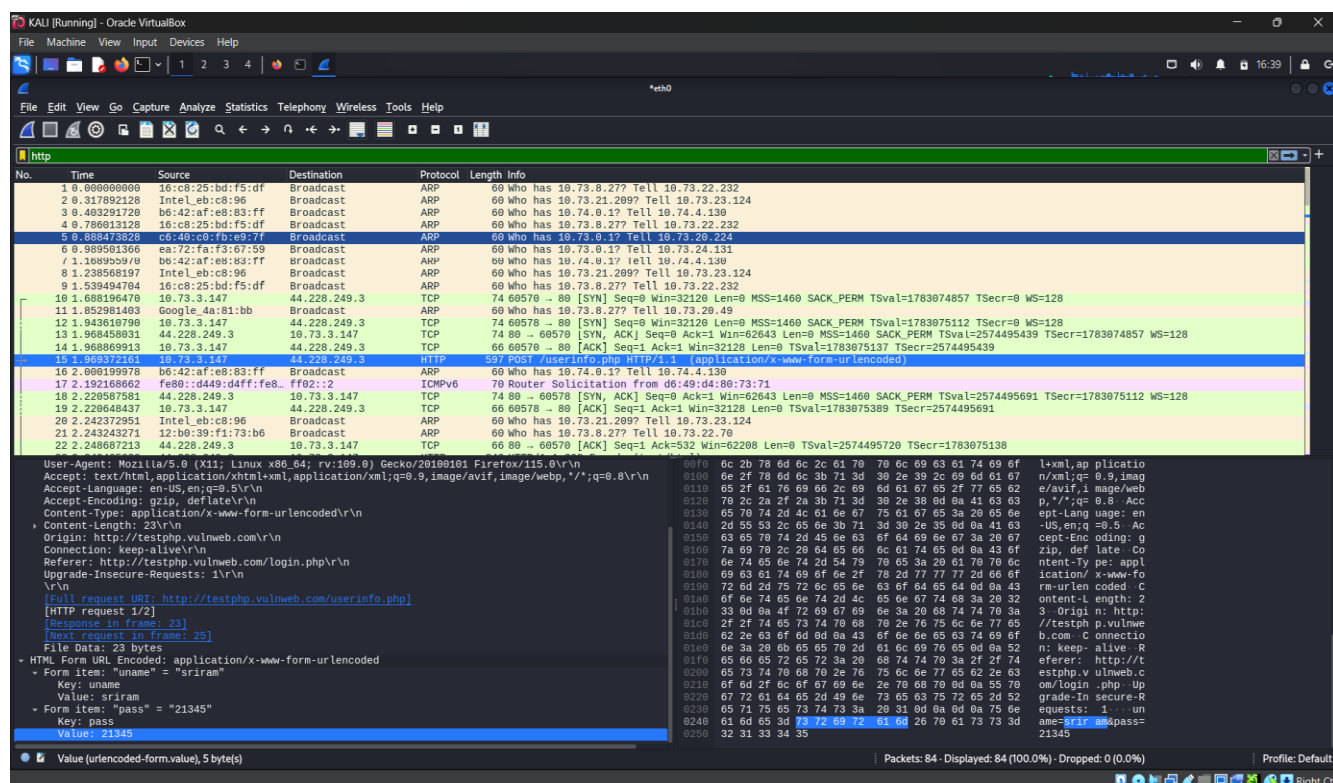
No.	Time	Source	Destination	Protocol	Length	Info
1	0.000000000	10.73.3.147	10.73.3.124	ARP	60	Who has 10.73.3.124? Tell 10.73.3.147
2	0.000000000	10.73.3.147	10.73.3.124	ARP	60	Who has 10.73.3.124? Tell 10.73.3.147
3	0.000000000	10.73.3.147	10.73.3.124	ARP	60	Who has 10.73.3.124? Tell 10.73.3.147
4	0.000000000	10.73.3.147	10.73.3.124	ARP	60	Who has 10.73.3.124? Tell 10.73.3.147
5	0.000000000	10.73.3.147	10.73.3.124	ARP	60	Who has 10.73.3.124? Tell 10.73.3.147
6	0.000000000	10.73.3.147	10.73.3.124	ARP	60	Who has 10.73.3.124? Tell 10.73.3.147
7	1.108950919	10.73.3.147	10.73.3.124	ARP	60	Who has 10.73.3.124? Tell 10.73.3.147
8	1.238568197	10.73.3.147	10.73.3.124	ARP	60	Who has 10.73.3.124? Tell 10.73.3.147
9	1.539494704	10.73.3.147	10.73.3.124	ARP	60	Who has 10.73.3.124? Tell 10.73.3.147
10	1.680196470	10.73.3.147	10.73.3.124	ARP	60	Who has 10.73.3.124? Tell 10.73.3.147
11	1.852981403	10.73.3.147	10.73.3.124	ARP	60	Who has 10.73.3.124? Tell 10.73.3.147
12	1.943610790	10.73.3.147	10.73.3.124	ARP	60	Who has 10.73.3.124? Tell 10.73.3.147
13	1.968458931	10.73.3.147	10.73.3.124	ARP	60	Who has 10.73.3.124? Tell 10.73.3.147
14	1.968696913	10.73.3.147	10.73.3.124	ARP	60	Who has 10.73.3.124? Tell 10.73.3.147
15	1.968721610	10.73.3.147	10.73.3.124	ARP	60	Who has 10.73.3.124? Tell 10.73.3.147
16	2.000199978	10.73.3.147	10.73.3.124	ARP	60	Who has 10.73.3.124? Tell 10.73.3.147
17	2.192168662	10.73.3.147	10.73.3.124	ARP	60	Who has 10.73.3.124? Tell 10.73.3.147
18	2.220587581	10.73.3.147	10.73.3.124	ARP	60	Who has 10.73.3.124? Tell 10.73.3.147
19	2.220648437	10.73.3.147	10.73.3.124	ARP	60	Who has 10.73.3.124? Tell 10.73.3.147
20	2.242372951	10.73.3.147	10.73.3.124	ARP	60	Who has 10.73.3.124? Tell 10.73.3.147
21	2.242324271	10.73.3.147	10.73.3.124	ARP	60	Who has 10.73.3.124? Tell 10.73.3.147
22	2.248687213	10.73.3.147	10.73.3.124	ARP	60	Who has 10.73.3.124? Tell 10.73.3.147

User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (X11; Linux x86_64; rv:109.0) Gecko/20100101 Firefox/115.0\r\n\r\nAccept: text/html,application/xhtml+xml,application/xml;q=0.9,image/avif,image/webp,*/*;q=0.8\r\n\r\nAccept-Language: en-US,en;q=0.5\r\n\r\nAccept-Encoding: gzip, deflate\r\n\r\nContent-Type: application/x-www-form-urlencoded\r\n\r\nContent-Length: 23\r\n\r\nOrigin: http://testphp.vulnweb.com\r\n\r\nConnection: keep-alive\r\n\r\nReferer: http://testphp.vulnweb.com/login.php\r\n\r\nUpgrade-Insecure-Requests: 1\r\n\r\n\r\n[Full request URI: http://testphp.vulnweb.com/userinfo.php]\r\n\r\n[HTTP request 1/2]\r\n\r\n[Response in frame: 23]\r\n\r\n[Packet request in frame: 25]\r\n\r\nFile Data: 23 bytes\r\n\r\n+ HTML Form URL Encoded: application/x-www-form-urlencoded\r\n+ Form item: "uname" = "srram"\r\n+ Key: uname\r\n+ Value: srram\r\n+ Form item: "pass" = "21345"\r\n+ Key: pass\r\n+ Value: 21345

3. Visit <http://testphp.vulnweb.com/login.php> in your Kali Linux.



4. the username is “Sriram” and the password is “21345” and Login with the credential, Capture the traffic using your Wireshark. Filter for 'http' and find post request, Right click on post request and follow the tcp stream. You should clearly see the credentials you entered on the login page you visited in your Kali.



This is visible because http protocol is unsecured.

5.To implement security measures using window Firewall on host system. Click on window firewall icon goto- advanced setting- Inbound Rules, Click on new ruleSelect 'custom' from rule, typeClick on 'Scope' You have local and remote ip address sections. Set rule on local ip address Input your desired device ip address which you intend to block it access to your local network.

The screenshot shows the 'New Inbound Rule Wizard' window at the 'Scope' step. The title bar reads 'New Inbound Rule Wizard'. The left sidebar lists the steps: Rule Type, Program, Protocol and Ports, Scope (selected), Action, Profile, and Name. The main area is titled 'Specify the local and remote IP addresses to which this rule applies.' It contains two sections: 'Which local IP addresses does this rule apply to?' and 'Which remote IP addresses does this rule apply to?'. In the local section, the 'These IP addresses' radio button is selected, and the text box contains '44.228.249.3'. In the remote section, the 'Any IP address' radio button is selected. Navigation buttons at the bottom are '< Back', 'Next >', and 'Cancel'.

Scope

Specify the local and remote IP addresses to which this rule applies.

Steps:

- Rule Type
- Program
- Protocol and Ports
- Scope**
- Action
- Profile
- Name

Which local IP addresses does this rule apply to?

☐ Any IP address

☒ These IP addresses:

44.228.249.3

Add... Edit... Remove

Customize the interface types to which this rule applies: Customize...

Which remote IP addresses does this rule apply to?

☒ Any IP address

☐ These IP addresses:

Add... Edit... Remove

< Back Next > Cancel

6.Click on block the connection.

The screenshot shows the 'New Inbound Rule Wizard' window at the 'Action' step. The title bar reads 'New Inbound Rule Wizard'. The left sidebar lists the steps: Rule Type, Program, Protocol and Ports, Scope, Action (selected), Profile, and Name. The main area is titled 'Specify the action to be taken when a connection matches the conditions specified in the rule.' It contains the question 'What action should be taken when a connection matches the specified conditions?' and three radio button options: 'Allow the connection', 'Allow the connection if it is secure', and 'Block the connection'. The 'Block the connection' option is selected. Navigation buttons at the bottom are '< Back', 'Next >', and 'Cancel'.

Action

Specify the action to be taken when a connection matches the conditions specified in the rule.

Steps:

- Rule Type
- Program
- Protocol and Ports
- Scope
- Action**
- Profile
- Name

What action should be taken when a connection matches the specified conditions?

☐ **Allow the connection**
This includes connections that are protected with IPsec as well as those are not.

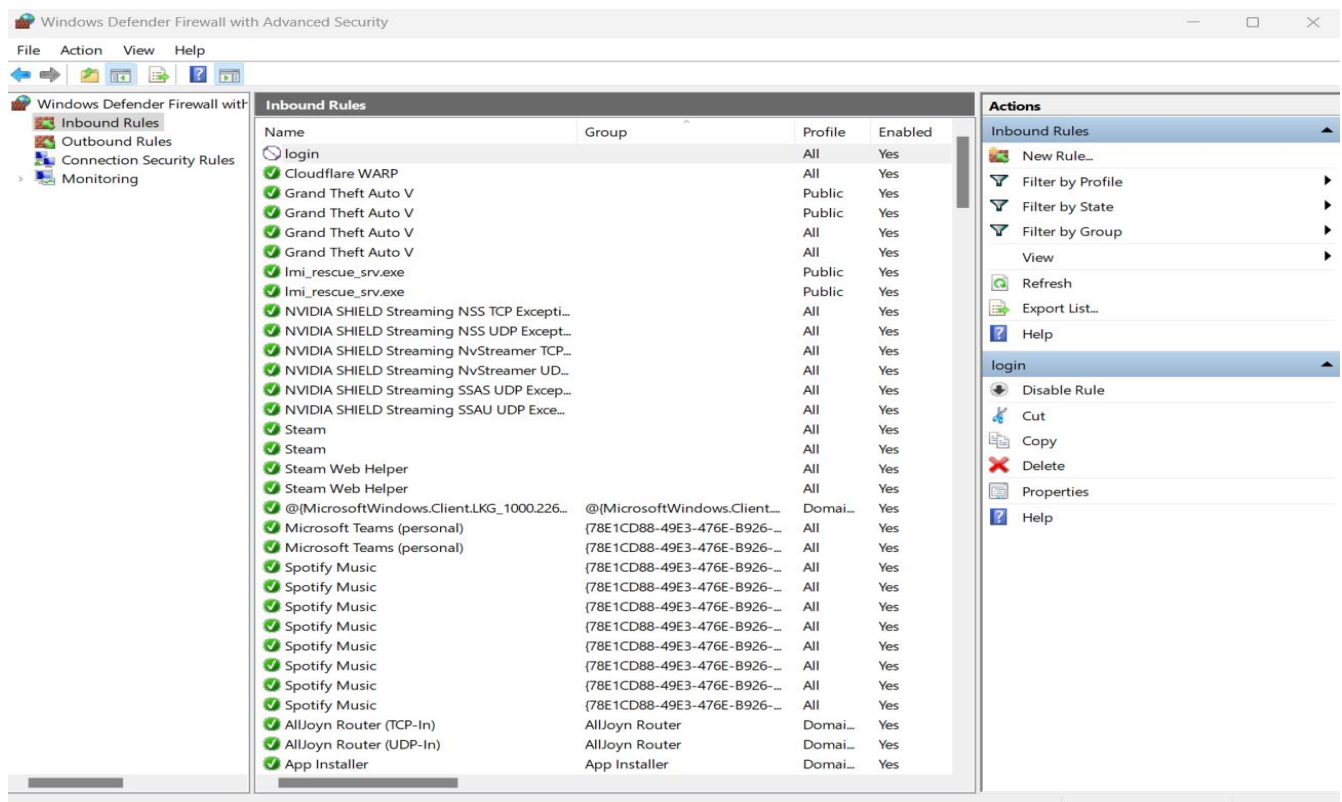
☐ **Allow the connection if it is secure**
This includes only connections that have been authenticated by using IPsec. Connections will be secured using the settings in IPsec properties and rules in the Connection Security Rule node.

Customize...

☒ **Block the connection**

< Back Next > Cancel

7. Input name (login) to identify the rule you just created, Click finish. Your window firewall will block the device ip address you provided preventing access to your network.



Conclusion:

In today's world, practicing network security in every endeavor is paramount as it helps one to safeguard their private data from being misused by malicious individuals. Appropriately, it is possible to mitigate and even erase chances of unauthorized access to information or impersonation by using rudimentary solutions such as strong authentication, firewalls, and locked networks especially known as WPA3 for Wi-Fi connection. Hence, encouraging others to adopt such practices increases the rates of internet security. Of utmost importance is the need to be active and offensive at all times, as there will always be threats in the domain, that aim to violate the privacy of individual, utopian cyberspace interactions. Tsiatsos, Vasilakos, & Symeonidis (2017) underscore that, network security is not the concern only of IT managers but rather everyone in the modern society should have basic knowledge of it. To this end, cybercriminals have been known to utilize various strategies ranging from fake websites to spear phishing and online harassment to compromise a person or service for the purpose of gaining unauthorized access or even overthrowing it. Good habits of network security such as updating programs, using hard to guess passwords, and keeping away from link which looks fishy helps in the protection of both work and personal information. Safeguarding the network comprises of implementing such protective security measures as

placing a firewall and encryption so that the information traversing the network is kept safe. Education and awareness are also significant in combating these cyber dangers thereby contributing to a safer experience for all web users.