

Lab Project - 9

Objective:

Linux environment management lab

DURATION: 4 - 5 Hourse

Pre-requisites

1. A Linux machine (Ubuntu, CentOS, Debian, or any other distribution).
2. Administrative privileges (root or sudo).
3. Basic knowledge of network services and firewall configuration.

Lab Task Steps

Part 1: Setup and Verify Networking Configuration

1. Check network interfaces:

- o Run `ip addr` or `ifconfig` to identify your network interfaces.
Typically, your interface may be `eth0`, `ens33`, `enp0s3`, etc.

```
vinu@DESKTOP-5K616C3:~$ ip addr
1: lo: <LOOPBACK,UP,LOWER_UP> mtu 65536 qdisc noqueue state UNKNOWN group default qlen 1000
    link/loopback 00:00:00:00:00:00 brd 00:00:00:00:00:00
```

2. Verify connectivity:

- Make sure you can reach the internet and other machines in your local network:
 - ping 8.8.8.8 (Google DNS server)

```
vinu@DESKTOP-5K616C3:~$ ping -c 4 8.8.8.8
PING 8.8.8.8 (8.8.8.8) 56(84) bytes of data.
64 bytes from 8.8.8.8: icmp_seq=1 ttl=57 time=68.8 ms
64 bytes from 8.8.8.8: icmp_seq=2 ttl=57 time=53.6 ms
64 bytes from 8.8.8.8: icmp_seq=3 ttl=57 time=53.3 ms
64 bytes from 8.8.8.8: icmp_seq=4 ttl=57 time=72.4 ms

--- 8.8.8.8 ping statistics ---
```

- ping <your_gateway_ip>

```
Cisco Packet Tracer PC Command Line 1.0
C:\>ping 192.168.100.11

Pinging 192.168.100.11 with 32 bytes of data:

Reply from 192.168.100.11: bytes=32 time=3ms TTL=128
Reply from 192.168.100.11: bytes=32 time=1ms TTL=128
Reply from 192.168.100.11: bytes=32 time<1ms TTL=128
Reply from 192.168.100.11: bytes=32 time<1ms TTL=128

Ping statistics for 192.168.100.11:
    Packets: Sent = 4, Received = 4, Lost = 0 (0% loss),
    Approximate round trip times in milli-seconds:
        Minimum = 0ms, Maximum = 3ms, Average = 1ms
```

- ping <another_machine_in_the_network>

```
Cisco Packet Tracer PC Command Line 1.0
C:\>ping 192.168.100.11

Pinging 192.168.100.11 with 32 bytes of data:

Reply from 192.168.100.11: bytes=32 time=3ms TTL=128
Reply from 192.168.100.11: bytes=32 time=1ms TTL=128
Reply from 192.168.100.11: bytes=32 time<1ms TTL=128
Reply from 192.168.100.11: bytes=32 time<1ms TTL=128

Ping statistics for 192.168.100.11:
    Packets: Sent = 4, Received = 4, Lost = 0 (0% loss),
    Approximate round trip times in milli-seconds:
        Minimum = 0ms, Maximum = 3ms, Average = 1ms
```

3.) Confirm that iptables is installed:

- Run `iptables --version` to ensure that iptables is installed. If not, install it:

- `sudo apt install iptables` (on Ubuntu/Debian)

```
vinu@DESKTOP-5K616C3:~$ sudo apt install iptable
[sudo] password for vinu:
Reading package lists... Done
Building dependency tree... Done
Reading state information... Done
E: Unable to locate package iptable
vinu@DESKTOP-5K616C3:~$
```

- `sudo yum install iptables` (on CentOS/RHEL)

```
vinu@DESKTOP-5K616C3:~$ sudo apt install iptable
[sudo] password for vinu:
Reading package lists... Done
Building dependency tree... Done
Reading state information... Done
E: Unable to locate package iptable
vinu@DESKTOP-5K616C3:~$
```

Part 2: Configure a Basic Firewall

1. Set default policies:

- By default, we want to deny all incoming traffic and allow outgoing traffic. This can be set as follows:

- 2. `sudo iptables -P INPUT DROP` # Block all incoming traffic

```
root@DESKTOP-5K616C3:~# sudo iptables -P INPUT DROP
root@DESKTOP-5K616C3:~#
```

- 3. `sudo iptables -P FORWARD DROP` # Block forwarding
`sudo iptables -P OUTPUT ACCEPT` # Allow all outgoing traffic

```
root@DESKTOP-5K616C3:~# sudo iptables -P FORWARD DROP
root@DESKTOP-5K616C3:~# sudo iptables -P OUTPUT ACCEPT
```

2.) Allow established connections:

- To maintain established connections (like active SSH sessions), you need to allow the related and established connections:

```
sudo iptables -A INPUT -m state --state ESTABLISHED,RELATED  
-j ACCEPT
```

```
vinu@DESKTOP-5K616C3:~$ sudo iptables -A INPUT -m state --state ESTABLISHED,RELATED -j ACCEPT  
[sudo] password for vinu:
```

3.) Allow SSH access (port 22):

- You need to allow SSH traffic to connect remotely to the system. This is done by allowing inbound traffic on port 22:

```
sudo iptables -A INPUT -p tcp --dport 22 -j ACCEPT  
vinu@DESKTOP-5K616C3:~$ sudo iptables -A INPUT -p tcp --dport 22 -j ACCEPT  
vinu@DESKTOP-5K616C3:~$
```

4.) Allow HTTP/HTTPS (ports 80, 443):

If your server will serve web pages, open HTTP and HTTPS ports:

1. `sudo iptables -A INPUT -p tcp --dport 80 -j ACCEPT` #
Allow HTTP

```
vinu@DESKTOP-5K616C3:~$ sudo iptables -A INPUT -p tcp --dport 80 -j ACCEPT  
vinu@DESKTOP-5K616C3:~$
```

```
sudo iptables -A INPUT -p tcp --dport 443 -j ACCEPT #  
Allow HTTPS
```

```
vinu@DESKTOP-5K616C3:~$ sudo iptables -A INPUT -p tcp --dport 443 -j ACCEPT  
vinu@DESKTOP-5K616C3:~$
```

5.) Allow ICMP (ping) requests:

- You can allow ICMP traffic for ping functionality:

```
sudo iptables -A INPUT -p icmp --icmp-type echo-request -j ACCEPT
```

```
vinu@DESKTOP-5K616C3:~$ sudo iptables -A INPUT -p icmp --icmp-type echo-request -j ACCEPT
vinu@DESKTOP-5K616C3:~$
```

6.) Save your rules:

- To ensure the firewall rules persist after reboot, save the iptables rules:

```
sudo iptables-save > /etc/iptables/rules.v4 # For
Debian/Ubuntu
```

```
vinu@DESKTOP-5K616C3:~$ sudo iptables-save > /etc/iptables/rules.v4
-bash: /etc/iptables/rules.v4: No such file or directory
vinu@DESKTOP-5K616C3:~$
```

```
sudo service iptables save # For
CentOS/RHEL
```

Part 3: Test Firewall Rules



1. Test SSH connection:

- From another machine, try to SSH into your Linux server. It should work if port 22 is open.
- `ssh user@<server-ip>`

- "Connection refused"



- Ensure SSH is installed and running on the server:

```
sh  
  
sudo systemctl status ssh
```

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If it's inactive, start it:



```
sh  
  
sudo systemctl start ssh
```

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- "Permission denied (publickey, password)"

- Check if the correct SSH key is being used:

```
sh  
  
ssh -v user@<server-ip>
```

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- If using key authentication, make sure your `~/.ssh/authorized_keys` file contains the correct

2.) Test web server access (if applicable):

- If you allowed HTTP/HTTPS, try accessing the server from a browser:
 - `http://<server-ip>` for HTTP
 - `https://<server-ip>` for HTTPS (if SSL is configured)

2. Check Firewall Rules

- Ensure HTTP (port 80) and HTTPS (port 443) are open:

```
bash Copy Edit  
  
sudo ufw allow 80/tcp  
sudo ufw allow 443/tcp  
sudo ufw status
```

3. Verify Web Service Binding

- Check if your server is listening on the correct ports:

```
bash Copy Edit  
  
netstat -tulnp | grep -E "80|443"
```

4. Confirm DNS or IP Address

- If using a domain, confirm DNS resolution:

```
bash Copy Edit  
  
nslookup <your-domain>
```

Ask anything

5. Check SSL Configuration (if using HTTPS)

- Test SSL with:

```
bash
openssl s_client -connect <server-ip>:443
```

6. Try Accessing from a Browser

- Open `http://<server-ip>` or `https://<server-ip>` and check for errors.

3.)Test ping:

- From another machine, ping the server to ensure ICMP traffic is allowed.
 - `ping <server-ip>`

Part 4: Enhance Security (Optional)

1. Block all incoming traffic by default, but allow specific IP ranges:

- You can restrict access to the server to specific IP ranges, for example:

```
2. sudo iptables -A INPUT -s 192.168.1.0/24 -j ACCEPT      #
   Allow local network
```

```
root@rhel:~# sudo iptables -A INPUT -s 192.168.1.0/24 -j ACCEPT
root@rhel:~#
```

```
3. sudo iptables -A INPUT -s <trusted-ip> -j ACCEPT      #
   Allow a specific trusted IP
```

```
vinu@DESKTOP-5K616C3:~$ sudo iptables -A INPUT -s <trusted-ip> -j ACCEPT
-bash: trusted-ip: No such file or directory
vinu@DESKTOP-5K616C3:~$
```

```
sudo iptables -A INPUT -j DROP                          #
Block everything else
```



```
vinu@DESKTOP-5K616C3:~$ sudo iptables -A INPUT -j DROP
[sudo] password for vinu:
vinu@DESKTOP-5K616C3:~$
```

2.)Log dropped packets:

- You can enable logging to monitor dropped packets:

```
sudo iptables -A INPUT -j LOG --log-prefix "Dropped Packet: "
```

```
vinu@DESKTOP-5K616C3:~$ sudo iptables -A INPUT -j LOG --log-prefix "Dropped Packet: "
vinu@DESKTOP-5K616C3:~$
```

3.)Rate limiting (Optional):

- To prevent brute-force attacks on services like SSH, you can limit the number of connections:

```
sudo iptables -A INPUT -p tcp --dport 22 -m conntrack --ctstate NEW -m limit --limit 5/minute -j ACCEPT
```

```
vinu@DESKTOP-5K616C3:~$ sudo iptables -A INPUT -p tcp --dport 22 -m conntrack --ctstate NEW -m limit --limit 5/minute -j ACCEPT
vinu@DESKTOP-5K616C3:~$
```

Part 5: Monitor and Manage Firewall

1. View current firewall rules:

- Check the current rules using:

```
sudo iptables -L
```

```

root@rhel:~# sudo iptables -L
Chain INPUT (policy ACCEPT)
target     prot opt source                destination
ACCEPT     all  --  192.168.1.0/24          anywhere

Chain FORWARD (policy ACCEPT)
target     prot opt source                destination

Chain OUTPUT (policy ACCEPT)
target     prot opt source                destination
root@rhel:~#

```

2.) Flush all rules (reset firewall):

- If you want to reset the firewall to its default state (deny all traffic):

```

sudo iptables -F
root@rhel:~# sudo iptables -F
root@rhel:~#

```

3.) Delete a specific rule:

- If you need to delete a specific rule, use:

```

sudo iptables -D INPUT -p tcp --dport 80 -j ACCEPT
vinu@DESKTOP-5K616C3:~$ sudo iptables -D INPUT -p tcp --dport 80 -j ACCEPT
vinu@DESKTOP-5K616C3:~$

```

Lab Task: Configuring Port Blocking, IP Allowance, IP Range, and Protocol Allowance using `iptables`

Objective:

- Block/allow specific ports.
 - Permit traffic from specific IP addresses.
 - Allow traffic only from certain IP ranges.
 - Allow/deny specific network protocols.
-

Prerequisites:

1. A Linux machine (Ubuntu, CentOS, or any distribution).
2. Administrative privileges (root or sudo).
3. Basic networking knowledge and the ability to use the terminal.

Steps for the Lab Task:

1. Verify Current Networking and Firewall Configuration

1. **Check IP addresses and network interfaces:** Run the following command to get a list of network interfaces and their IP addresses.

```
ip addr
root@rhel:~# ip addr
1: lo: <LOOPBACK,UP,LOWER_UP> mtu 65536 qdisc noqueue state UNKNOWN group default qlen 1000
    link/loopback 00:00:00:00:00:00 brd 00:00:00:00:00:00
    inet 127.0.0.1/8 scope host lo
        valid_lft forever preferred_lft forever
    inet6 ::1/128 scope host
```

2.) Verify if `iptables` is installed: Check if `iptables` is available on your system.

```
iptables -version
root@rhel:~# iptables --version
iptables v1.8.10 (nf_tables)
```

3.) Check current `iptables` rules: List all existing rules in the firewall.

```
sudo iptables -L
```

```
root@rhel:~# iptables --version
iptables v1.8.10 (nf_tables)
root@rhel:~# sudo iptables -L
Chain INPUT (policy ACCEPT)
target     prot opt source                destination

Chain FORWARD (policy ACCEPT)
target     prot opt source                destination

Chain OUTPUT (policy ACCEPT)
target     prot opt source                destination
```

2. Block Specific Ports

You can block incoming traffic on specific ports using `iptables`.

1. Block incoming traffic on port 80 (HTTP):

- This will block all HTTP traffic from reaching your server.

```
sudo iptables -A INPUT -p tcp --dport 80 -j DROP
```

```
root@rhel:~# sudo iptables -A INPUT -p tcp --dport 80 -j DROP
```

```
root@rhel:~#
```

2.)Block incoming traffic on port 443 (HTTPS):

- This will block all HTTPS traffic.

```
sudo iptables -A INPUT -p tcp --dport 443 -j DROP
vinu@DESKTOP-5K616C3:~$ sudo iptables -A INPUT -p tcp --dport 443 -j ACCEPT
vinu@DESKTOP-5K616C3:~$
```

3.)Verify the changes:

- List the rules to ensure that the ports are blocked.

```
sudo iptables -L
root@rhel:~# sudo iptables -L
Chain INPUT (policy ACCEPT)
target     prot opt source                destination
ACCEPT     all  --  192.168.1.0/24          anywhere

Chain FORWARD (policy ACCEPT)
target     prot opt source                destination

Chain OUTPUT (policy ACCEPT)
target     prot opt source                destination
root@rhel:~#
```

4.) Test port blocking:

- From a different machine, try to access the blocked port using `curl` or a browser.
- You should not be able to reach the server on ports 80 or 443.

```
2. sudo iptables -A INPUT -p tcp --dport 80 -j ACCEPT #
Allow HTTP
```

```
vinu@DESKTOP-5K616C3:~$ sudo iptables -A INPUT -p tcp --dport 80 -j ACCEPT
vinu@DESKTOP-5K616C3:~$
```

```
sudo iptables -A INPUT -p tcp --dport 443 -j ACCEPT #
Allow HTTPS
```

```
vinu@DESKTOP-5K616C3:~$ sudo iptables -A INPUT -p tcp --dport 443 -j ACCEPT
vinu@DESKTOP-5K616C3:~$
```

3. Allow Traffic from Specific IP Addresses

You can allow or deny traffic based on specific IP addresses.

1. **Allow SSH (port 22) only from a specific IP address (e.g., 192.168.1.100):**

```
sudo iptables -A INPUT -p tcp -s 192.168.1.100 --dport 22 -j ACCEPT
```

```
root@rhel:~# sudo iptables -A INPUT -p tcp -s 192.168.1.100 --dport 22 -j ACCEPT
root@rhel:~#
```

4.)Block SSH access from all other IP addresses:

```
sudo iptables -A INPUT -p tcp --dport 22 -j DROP
```

```
vinu@DESKTOP-5K616C3:~$ sudo iptables -A INPUT -p tcp --dport 22 -j DROP
vinu@DESKTOP-5K616C3:~$
```

5.)Verify the changes:

- List the rules again to confirm the changes.

```
sudo iptables -L
```

```
root@rhel:~# sudo iptables -L
Chain INPUT (policy ACCEPT)
target     prot opt source                destination
ACCEPT     all  --  192.168.1.0/24        anywhere

Chain FORWARD (policy ACCEPT)
target     prot opt source                destination

Chain OUTPUT (policy ACCEPT)
target     prot opt source                destination
root@rhel:~#
```

Test the configuration:

- Try to SSH into the server from 192.168.1.100 — it should work.
- Try from any other IP — it should be blocked.

```
root@rhel:~# sudo iptables -A INPUT -p tcp -s 192.168.1.100 --dport 22 -j ACCEPT
root@rhel:~#
```

```
root@DESKTOP-5K616C3:~# sudo iptables -P INPUT DROP
root@DESKTOP-5K616C3:~#
```

4. Allow Traffic from a Specific IP Range

You can also allow traffic from a specific range of IPs. For example, if you want to allow access to your server from a range of IP addresses within the 192.168.1.0/24 subnet:

1. Allow traffic from the IP range 192.168.1.0/24:

```
sudo iptables -A INPUT -p tcp -s 192.168.1.0/24 --dport 22 -j ACCEPT
```

```
root@rhel:~# sudo iptables -A INPUT -p tcp -s 192.168.1.0/24 --dport 22 -j ACCEPT
root@rhel:~#
```

2.)Block traffic from all other IP ranges:

```
sudo iptables -A INPUT -p tcp --dport 22 -j DROP
```

```
vinu@DESKTOP-5K616C3:~$ sudo iptables -A INPUT -p tcp --dport 22 -j DROP
vinu@DESKTOP-5K616C3:~$
```

3.)Verify the rules:

```
sudo iptables -L
```

```

root@rhel:~# sudo iptables -L
Chain INPUT (policy ACCEPT)
target     prot opt source                destination          tcp dpt:
DROP       tcp  -- anywhere              anywhere             tcp dpt:http
ACCEPT     tcp  -- 192.168.1.100         anywhere             tcp dpt:ssh
ACCEPT     tcp  -- 192.168.1.0/24        anywhere             tcp dpt:ssh

Chain FORWARD (policy ACCEPT)
target     prot opt source                destination

Chain OUTPUT (policy ACCEPT)
target     prot opt source                destination
root@rhel:~#

```

4.)Test the configuration:

- Try accessing the server from an IP within the 192.168.1.0/24 range — it should work.

```

root@rhel:~# sudo iptables -A INPUT -s 192.168.1.0/24 -j ACCEPT
root@rhel:~#

```

- Try accessing from an outside range — it should be blocked.

```

vinu@DESKTOP-5K616C3:~$ sudo iptables -A INPUT -p tcp --dport 22 -j DROP
vinu@DESKTOP-5K616C3:~$

```


5. Allow Specific Protocols (TCP, UDP, ICMP)

You can allow or block specific network protocols (e.g., TCP, UDP, ICMP).

1. Allow all incoming ICMP (Ping) requests:

```
sudo iptables -A INPUT -p icmp --icmp-type echo-request -j ACCEPT
```

```
vinu@DESKTOP-5K616C3:~$ sudo iptables -A INPUT -p icmp --icmp-type echo-request -j ACCEPT
vinu@DESKTOP-5K616C3:~$
```

2.Allow incoming UDP traffic on port 53 (DNS):

```
sudo iptables -A INPUT -p udp --dport 53 -j ACCEPT
```

```
DESKTOP-5K616C3:~$ sudo iptables -A INPUT -p udp --dport 53 -j ACCEPT
DESKTOP-5K616C3:~$
```

3.)Allow incoming TCP traffic on port 22 (SSH):

```
sudo iptables -A INPUT -p tcp --dport 22 -j ACCEPT
```

```
DESKTOP-5K616C3:~$ sudo iptables -A INPUT -p tcp --dport 22 -j ACCEPT
DESKTOP-5K616C3:~$
```

4.)Block UDP traffic:

- Block all UDP traffic.

```
sudo iptables -A INPUT -p udp -j DROP
```

```
DESKTOP-5K616C3:~$ sudo iptables -A INPUT -p udp -j DROP
DESKTOP-5K616C3:~$
```

5.)Verify the changes: List the rules again to ensure all protocols and ports are configured as needed.

```
sudo iptables -L
root@rhel:~# sudo iptables -L
Chain INPUT (policy ACCEPT)
target     prot opt source                destination
ACCEPT     all  --  192.168.1.0/24          anywhere

Chain FORWARD (policy ACCEPT)
target     prot opt source                destination

Chain OUTPUT (policy ACCEPT)
target     prot opt source                destination
root@rhel:~#
```

6.)Test the configurations:

- Test ICMP by pinging the server.

```
nu@DESKTOP-5K616C3:~$ ping google.com
PING google.com (142.251.42.14) 56(84) bytes of data.
bytes from bom12s19-in-f14.1e100.net (142.251.42.14): icmp_seq=1 ttl=50 time=61.9 ms
bytes from bom12s19-in-f14.1e100.net (142.251.42.14): icmp_seq=2 ttl=50 time=73.9 ms
bytes from bom12s19-in-f14.1e100.net (142.251.42.14): icmp_seq=3 ttl=50 time=75.1 ms
bytes from bom12s19-in-f14.1e100.net (142.251.42.14): icmp_seq=4 ttl=50 time=73.9 ms
```

- Test UDP and TCP services using tools like `nc`, `ping`, or `curl` to ensure proper functionality.

Using Curl

```
bash
```

[Copy](#) [Edit](#)

```
curl -v http://<hostname_or_IP>:<port>
```

- Example:

```
bash
```

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```
curl -v http://192.168.1.1:80
```

This tests if an HTTP service is running on port 80.

Using Ping

For basic reachability, use:

```
bash
```

[Copy](#) [Edit](#)

```
ping <hostname_or_IP>
```

Example:

```
bash
```

[Copy](#) [Edit](#)

```
ping 192.168.1.1
```

However, `ping` only tests ICMP and not TCP/UDP service availability.

6. Allow Specific IP and Port Combinations

You can also allow specific combinations of IP and port.

1. Allow traffic from 192.168.1.100 to port 22 (SSH):

```
sudo iptables -A INPUT -p tcp -s 192.168.1.100 --dport 22 -j ACCEPT
```

```
root@rhel:~# sudo iptables -A INPUT -p tcp -s 192.168.1.100 --dport 22 -j ACCEPT
root@rhel:~#
```

2. Allow traffic from 192.168.1.0/24 to port 80 (HTTP):

```
sudo iptables -A INPUT -p tcp -s 192.168.1.0/24 --dport 80 -j ACCEPT
```

```
root@rhel:~# sudo iptables -A INPUT -s 192.168.1.0/24 -j ACCEPT
root@rhel:~#
```

3.) Block all other IP addresses from accessing port 80:

```
sudo iptables -A INPUT -p tcp --dport 80 -j DROP
```

```
SKTOP-5K616C3:~$ sudo iptables -A INPUT -p tcp --dport 80 -j DROP
SKTOP-5K616C3:~$
```

7. Save and Make `iptables` Rules Persistent

Once you have configured your firewall rules, make them persistent across reboots.

1. **On Debian/Ubuntu:** Save the rules to a file to persist them across reboots.

```
sudo iptables-save > /etc/iptables/rules.v4
~$ sudo iptables-save > /etc/iptables/rules.v4
~$ sudo iptables-save > /etc/iptables/rules.v4: No such file or directory
~$
```

2.) On CentOS/RHEL:

```
sudo service iptables save
```

For Ubuntu/Debian-based systems:

```
bash

sudo iptables-save | sudo tee /etc/iptables/rules.v4
```

If using `nftables` (modern alternative to `iptables`):

```
bash

sudo nft list ruleset > /etc/nftables.conf
sudo systemctl restart nftables
```

8. Flush All Rules and Reset Firewall

If you want to reset the firewall to a clean state, you can flush all existing rules.

1. Flush all iptables rules:

```
sudo iptables -F  
-5K616C3:~$ sudo iptables -F  
-5K616C3:~$
```

2. Verify that all rules are removed:

```
sudo iptables -L  
SKTOP-5K616C3:~$ sudo iptables -L  
INPUT (policy DROP)  
    prot opt source      destination  
  
FORWARD (policy DROP)  
    prot opt source      destination  
  
OUTPUT (policy ACCEPT)  
    prot opt source      destination
```