Windows Firewall Configuration

1. Open Firewall Configuration Tool

GUI Method:

1. Press **Windows + R**, type wf.msc, and press **Enter**. (This opens the Windows Defender Firewall with Advanced Security.)

Command-line (PowerShell) Method: wf.msc

2. List Current Firewall Rules

PowerShell: Get-NetFirewallRule | Format-Table -AutoSize

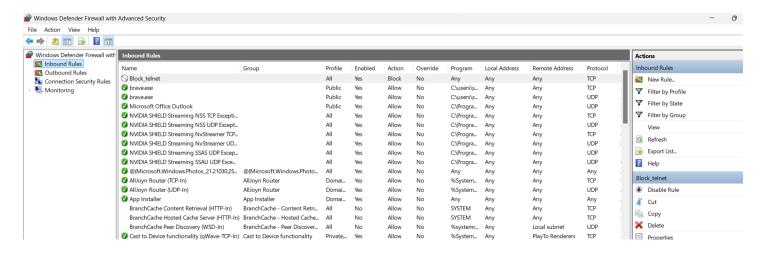
Or filter for inbound rules only: Get-NetFirewallRule -Direction Inbound

3. Add Rule to Block Inbound Traffic on Port 23 (Telnet)

GUI Method:

- 1. In the left panel, click **Inbound Rules** → **New Rule**.
- 2. Choose Port → Next.
- 3. Select **TCP** and enter $23 \rightarrow Next$.

- 4. Select **Block the connection** → **Next**.
- 5. Apply to all profiles → **Next**.
- 6. Name it e.g. Block_Telnet → Finish.



PowerShell: New-NetFirewallRule -DisplayName "Block_Telnet" -Direction Inbound - LocalPort 23 -Protocol TCP -Action Block

4. Test the Rule

Local Test (PowerShell):

Test-NetConnection -ComputerName localhost -Port 23

Remote Test (From another system): telnet <your_IP> 23

```
PS C:\Users\sharm> Test-NetConnection -ComputerName localhost -Port 23
WARNING: TCP connect to (::1 : 23) failed
WARNING: TCP connect to (127.0.0.1 : 23) failed
                       : localhost
ComputerName
RemoteAddress
                       : ::1
RemotePort
                       : 23
InterfaceAlias
                       : Loopback Pseudo-Interface 1
SourceAddress
                       : ::1
PingSucceeded
                       : True
PingReplyDetails (RTT) : 0 ms
TcpTestSucceeded
                       : False
```

6. Remove the Test Block Rule

GUI:

• Go to **Inbound Rules**, find Block_Telnet, right-click → **Delete**.

PowerShell: Remove-NetFirewallRule -DisplayName "Block_Telnet"

How a Firewall Filters Traffic

A firewall works by applying a set of **rules** to decide whether to **allow, block, or limit** network traffic.

- Packet Filtering: Inspects packet headers (IP, port, protocol) to decide.
- **Stateful Inspection:** Tracks ongoing connections and applies rules based on connection state.
- **Application Filtering:** Controls traffic based on applications/services.
- **Profiles:** Rules can differ for private, public, and domain networks.

In our case:

• We blocked Telnet (port 23) inbound → prevented any device from establishing a connection.