



FIREWALL

Widespread use of the Internet has led to great advances in communication and learning. However, connecting to the Internet also puts your notebook at increased risk of encountering viruses, worms, spyware, identity thieves and other nasty threats that can compromise your privacy and security. For these reasons, all computers that connect to the Internet should have reliable firewall protection.

1. WHAT IS A FIREWALL?

A firewall is essentially a hardware or software solution that prevents outside sources from accessing your notebook without your permission. A firewall can be likened to a deadbolt lock: when it is installed, it prevents unwanted visitors from entering your home. A firewall that prevents threats from entering into your computer is often referred to as an **“Inbound firewall.”**

Unlike a deadbolt, which can be quite easily opened from inside the home, a firewall can also provide reliable protection against communications being sent from your notebook, out into the Internet, without your knowledge. This is often referred to as an **“Outbound firewall.”**

Personal, or **“software,”** firewalls monitor the traffic to and from a network or the Internet on a single computer. If you don't have a personal firewall installed on your notebook, you are leaving yourself more vulnerable to attack.

Many home networking devices, such as wireless access points, come with built-in hardware firewalls. A quick check of your manual should tell you whether they do.

2. DO I NEED A FIREWALL?

All notebooks that connect to the Internet, whether via DSL, cable or dial-up, should have a firewall installed. Without the security of a firewall, you are more vulnerable to security breaches.

3. IF I HAVE A FIREWALL, DO I STILL NEED ANTI-VIRUS SOFTWARE?

Yes. Just because a firewall is protecting your notebook from unauthorised access or information sharing, doesn't mean that a security threat can't slip in through another channel. The fact that email and instant messaging programs also use the Internet to communicate means that viruses and other malicious software (often called **“malware”**) can use them to infiltrate your notebook. Anti-virus software will protect against this additional threat.

4. DID MY TOSHIBA NOTEBOOK COME WITH A FIREWALL?

If your notebook is running Windows XP SP2, you have access to a built-in firewall called **“Windows Firewall”** (previously known as **“Internet Connection Firewall.”**) Windows Firewall monitors inbound activity, blocking any connections that outsiders may attempt to make with your computer. Be advised, however, that Windows Firewall does not provide outbound firewall protection.



5. HOW CAN I TELL IF I HAVE A FIREWALL?

Windows XP Users (Inbound Protection only)

If you are running Windows XP Service Pack 2 (SP2), Windows Firewall should be turned on by default. You can double-check whether or not it is via the Windows Firewall or the Security Center. Click on the **Start** button and choose **Control Panel**. From the **Control Panel**, go to either the **Security Center** or the **Windows Firewall**.

For more information on Windows Firewall, please visit:

http://www.microsoft.com/windowsxp/using/security/internet/sp2_wfintro.msp.

If you haven't downloaded SP2, and would like to, please visit:

<http://update.microsoft.com/microsoftupdate/v6/muoptdefault.aspx?In=en&returnurl=http://update.microsoft.com/microsoftupdate/v6/default.aspx?In=en-us>.

If you choose not to download SP2, you still have access to the Internet Connection Firewall (ICF) that is built into Windows XP. Information on ICF, plus step-by-step instructions on how to enable this functionality, can be found at:

<http://www.microsoft.com/windowsxp/using/networking/learnmore/icf.msp>.

Toshiba Tip: If there is another firewall product that better meets your security needs, be sure to turn off Windows Firewall or Internet Connection Firewall before installing and running the new firewall.

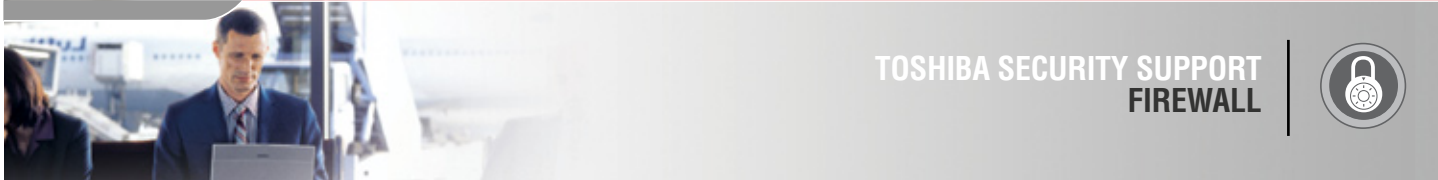
OTHER OPERATING SYSTEMS

Earlier versions of Windows, such as Windows 2000, Windows 98 or Windows Millennium Edition (ME), don't include firewall protection. You can check to see whether a third-party firewall is installed on your notebook by clicking on **Start** and **All Programs** to browse through your list of installed programs. Some of the most common firewall programs leveraged by home users are supplied by **Symantec**, **McAfee** and **Trend Micro**, among others.

6. HOW DO I GET A FIREWALL IF I DO NOT HAVE ONE?

The links below provide information about various firewall products:

- Norton Personal Firewall (Symantec): <http://www.symantec.com/sabu/nis/npf/>
- McAfee Personal Firewall Plus: <http://us.mcafee.com/root/package.asp?pkgid=103&cid=16270>
- Trend Micro PC-cillin Internet Security: <http://www.trendmicro.com/en/products/desktop/pc-cillin/evaluate/overview.htm>



HELPFUL FIREWALL LINKS

McAfee Technical Support

<http://ts.mcafeehelp.com/default.asp?siteID=1>

Symantec Technical Support for Norton Anti-Virus

http://www.symantec.com/techsupp/support_options.html

Trend Micro Technical Support

<http://kb.trendmicro.com/solutions/search/default.asp>

Microsoft Security at Home

<http://www.microsoft.com/athome/security/default.msp>