



## Digital Self Defense 102: Firewalls

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### Useful Web Links

#### General Awareness

RIT Information Security <http://security.rit.edu>

*The homepage for the RIT Information Security Office contains many useful links and tutorials.*

ITS <http://www.rit.edu/its>

*The ITS homepage has links to helpful information and free software that you can use to protect yourself*

NCSA Staysafeonline <http://www.staysafeonline.info>

*Stay Safe Online has a wealth of information for staying safe while using the Internet.*

CERT <http://www.cert.org/>

*CERT is a government funded organization that monitors Internet threats.*

Microsoft Security Home Page <http://www.microsoft.com/security/>

*The Microsoft Security page can keep you up to date on the latest threats and vulnerabilities*

#### Firewall Links

ZoneLabs: <http://www.zonelabs.com>

Google: <http://www.google.com>

McAfee Virus Information Library: <http://vil.nai.com>

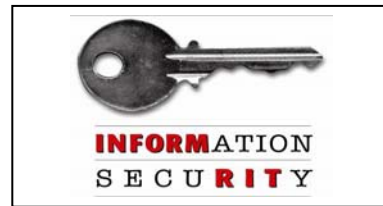
### Key Terms

**Firewall** – A firewall monitors and protects your network connections to prevent unauthorized connections from being made.

**Alert** – A firewall generates an alert when it sees network traffic that may be malicious. These alerts generally require your attention to accept or deny the traffic.

### Managing Alerts

The best way to manage alerts is to use internet search engines and databases. If you are unsure about an alert simply search for it on the internet and you will find information about what it is that is trying to use your network connection.

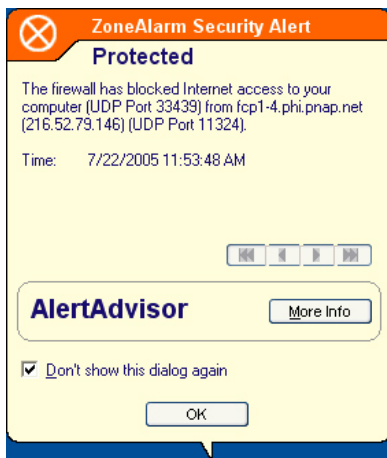


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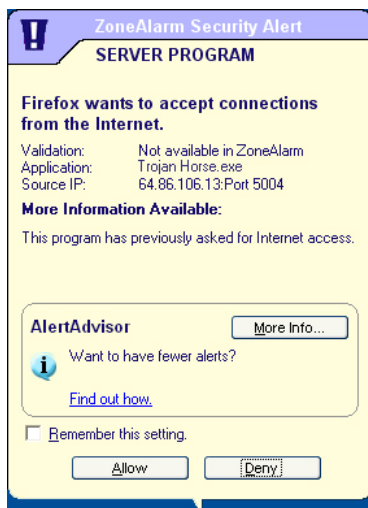


### Types of Alerts

**New Program** – This alert appears when a program is trying to access the internet for the first time. If this is a trusted program like an e-mail client or web browser, you can allow it.



**Protected** – This alert means that somebody has tried to connect to your computer and the firewall has blocked access successfully. This is nothing to worry about.



**Server Program** – This alert means that a program is trying to allow others to connect to it on your computer. This is usually a bad thing. Unless you know that you are going to be running a server/service for other users you should deny this.