

# Re: Firewalls and ephemeral ports

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*Source:*

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Development/microsoft.public.win32.programmer.networks/2005-10/msg00212>

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- *From:* "Arkady Frenkel" <[arkadyf@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:arkadyf@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Thu, 20 Oct 2005 18:46:52 +0200
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If unix do it incrementally , you are lucky and need only open range of ports in your f/w , otherwise you are in problem ( unless you'll decide to turn it off :) ). BTW both those you can do programmatically  
Arkady

"Mark Perschbacher" <[MarkPerschbacher@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:MarkPerschbacher@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)> wrote in message [news:65B4AAB2-E6EF-47D8-BA13-560169C697D5@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:65B4AAB2-E6EF-47D8-BA13-560169C697D5@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)

> Sorry for the confusion, we are using TCP. What is happening is the UNIX  
> server is incrementing its local ports as we send sequential data, and the  
> firewall is seeing ACK's coming back toward us with the same destination  
> address, but different sending port numbers, and is blocking them.

>  
> "Phil Frisbie, Jr." wrote:

>  
>> Mark Perschbacher wrote:

>>  
>>> Several months ago, I posted a question about an issue I am having with  
>>> a  
>>> tcp/ip connection between our W2003 server and a UNIX box. The issue  
>>> is the  
>>> UNIX side sits behind a firewall which is blocking data transmission  
>>> because  
>>> of the ephemeral port connection,ie; a datagram is sent on port x, the  
>>> next  
>>> is on port x2, the firewall sees this change and blocks it. It is a  
>>> global  
>>> setting on the firewall. I just read that ftp connections can be  
>>> configured  
>>> in passive mode. Can this be done for tcp/ip?

>>  
>> Which TCP/IP protocol are you using? UDP or TCP?

>>  
>> At first you refer to a connection which would lead me to think you are  
>> using  
>> TCP, but then you talk about datagrams which are UDP, so please explain  
>> more!

>>  
>> And I still have no idea why you think firewall blocking has anything to

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>> do with  
>> ephemeral ports.  
>>  
>> --  
>> Phil Frisbie, Jr.  
>> Hawk Software  
>> <http://www.hawksoft.com>  
>>

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• **References:**

◆ ***Re: Firewalls and ephemeral ports***

◇ *From:* Phil Frisbie, Jr.

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