

# Re: router – firewall

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*Source:*

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Windows/microsoft.public.windows.server.sbs/2006-01/msg05491.html>

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For \$200, you can build a decent machine and run Smoothwall. Mine is a 533mhz w/ 256mb ram.

<http://www.smoothwall.org/>

Use the 2.0, since 3.0 is still Alpha...many people make the mistake of getting 3.0 and find out it's buggy.

I have it in front of our Exchange server. I also have many 'mods' from the 'homebrew' section of the support forums. Adzap, VPN, OpenSwan, Squid, Shields Up, Labrea tarpit/honey pot, Guardian, etc.

The only issue I've had with it is UPS, but I haven't taken the time to fix it; and I had Guardian extra touchy and it was blocking our DNS servers.

Leythos wrote:

> In article <11trh1tqnhoem0a@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>, bzyfon@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx  
> says...

>

>>hmm.... I'm not an IT guru at all :)

>>but isn't VPN the best way to access

>>>company server working for example at home

>

>

> Several things:

>

> Firewall Appliances, you won't find quality units with any reasonable  
> set of features for under \$1000 US, and most of the good ones will run  
> about \$2000 for a full set of features like HTTP Proxy and SMTP Proxy  
> services that can filter content (things you don't want) out of those  
> sessions to provide a great level of protection.

>

> VPN, any VPN you setup for file sharing will be slow, not because it's a  
> VPN, but because most users will have slow internet connections when  
> compared to their normal office LAN connection. What we see is people  
> that browse the network shares, click on a 200 meg file, then click 6  
> more times since it didn't open instantly, then wonder why their machine  
> is just sitting there – it's because it can take several minutes to  
> actually open a 200 meg file over a DSL/Cable connection.

>

> Users that have dedicated workstations at the office – you can do remote

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- > connections several ways:
- >
- > 1) User VPN's into firewall appliance and then RD's into their work
- > computer – firewall limits access to just their dedicated workstation.
- >
- > 2) User RWW's into company and does the same
- >
- > 3) User accesses workstation via RD or VNC and the firewall limits
- > connections to users by IP address ranges.
- >
- > 4) Setup a dedicated Terminal Server box and then use method #1 except
- > the connection is to the Terminal Server, not their desktop computer.
- >
- > There are other methods, but not as pretty.
- >
- > We setup most offices with a VPN into a firewall appliance, then limit
- > them to their workstation or the terminal server and to specific ports
- > needed to reach those, which means that a home users compromised
- > computer (viruses) can't spread to the office computer (since we don't
- > allow all ports via VPN and we don't allow mapping of drives in a RD
- > session).
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### • **References:**

- ◆ **router – firewall**
  - ◇ From: bzyf
- ◆ **Re: router – firewall**
  - ◇ From: Steve
- ◆ **Re: router – firewall**
  - ◇ From: bzyf
- ◆ **Re: router – firewall**
  - ◇ From: Susan Bradley, CPA aka Ebitz – SBS Rocks [MVP]
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- ◆ **Re: router – firewall**
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