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r/debian • 1 yr. ago  
nebyneb1234

## Installed Debian and Set Up All Services, Realized UFW Isn't Installed—Necessary?

I recently completed setting up Debian with all my services, both in Docker and on bare-metal, only to realize that UFW wasn't even installed. Now, I'm debating whether I actually need it or not.

In the past, I've relied on UFW in Ubuntu, where it seemed to "just work" without much intervention. However, considering the myriad of services I have running now, I'm concerned that diving into firewall configurations might open up a can of worms that I don't have the time or inclination to deal with.

My network setup involves my TP-Link Archer AX1500 controlling external ports, which makes me question the necessity of managing every single port locally. I prioritize external accessibility over local device port access.

Given these factors, I'm wondering: Do I really need UFW for my current setup? Any insights or advice would be greatly appreciated!

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AnEspresso • 1y ago

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Just in case if you want same set up as Ubuntu, it's as easy as follows:

```
apt install ufw
ufw enable
ufw default deny incoming
ufw default allow outgoing
```

 14   Reply ...



**LloydAtkinson** • 1y ago

Don't forget that Docker bypasses UFW by doing internal stuff, and it's barely a footnote. There's a lot of open issues about this, it is shit. I don't think most people including devs know that Docker ports can just be accessed from outside even if UFW reports that it is blocked.

Just an FYI as I only realised myself recently.

 5   Reply ...



**vfkdgejsf638bfvw2463** • 1y ago

If you have an external firewall you don't really need to worry about a firewall on your local computer.

I'd say it's only necessary if you have a laptop that leaves the house or something of that nature.

But it may be a good idea to install one anyway, I use firewallD.

 3   Reply ...



**rofffalafel** • 1y ago

I install host based firewalls on all of my systems, especially important on those which may be exposed to the public internet hosting a service. It acts as another layer of defense in protecting the system from an errant service you didn't mean to expose (this is my biggest pet peeve with Debian, is it auto starts services after installation). If an attacker were to establish persistence on the system, and they do not have root, the firewall may make it harder to pivot to other systems, or spin up a command and control service as they move laterally and use the system as a proxy.

 3   Reply ...



**RayneYoruka** • 1y ago

Debian 12 uses nftables nowadays... ew

 1   Reply ...



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SWITCH.



**nebyneb1234** OP • 1y ago

It's a headless server, so I'm guessing not.

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