

Disclaimer

OIT and Network Services does not guarantee that the security recommendations we make are adequate for all circumstances or will guarantee that your system is secure. The Network Services staff assesses risks versus benefits and makes decisions regarding security measures and patches just like any good network administrator should. Our recommendations consist of what we consider reasonable practices and reflect the decision we have made regarding security patches. Most importantly, our recommendations regarding patches assumes that the first two general security recommendations listed below regarding application software and surfing the Internet are being followed. Many security patches are for application software and for risks involved with surfing the Internet. Since we do not use our servers as workstations or surf the Internet from the servers we do not need to apply these patches. We strongly recommend that all network administrators do the same.

General Security Recommendations for Servers

- Do not use your server as a workstation or install applications software such as Microsoft Office, Outlook, etc. on a server.
- Do not surf the Internet from a server.
- Network administrators should have a separate workstation for administrating the network (they should not be working on the server). Use a screen saver with a password on this workstation.
- Remove all software that is not needed such as all multimedia components, wallpaper, Microsoft Wallet etc. from all servers.
- If you are using the web services remove all of the sample files from the server.
- If you have installed web services and or FTP services but are not using them disable the services on the server.
- Do not use FAT partitions for web pages. There is no security unless the partition is NTFS.
- If you use Microsoft Front Page Extensions make sure you understand and use the security options. If you are not using Front Page, uninstall the Front Page Extensions.
- Keep your service packs and security patches up to date.