

Securing Windows 7

Lesson 10

Objectives

- Understand authentication and authorization
- Configure password policies
- Secure Windows 7 using the Action Center
- Configure Windows Firewall
- Protect sensitive data
- Configure parental controls

Authenticating and Authorizing Users

Two of the most important functions of Windows 7:

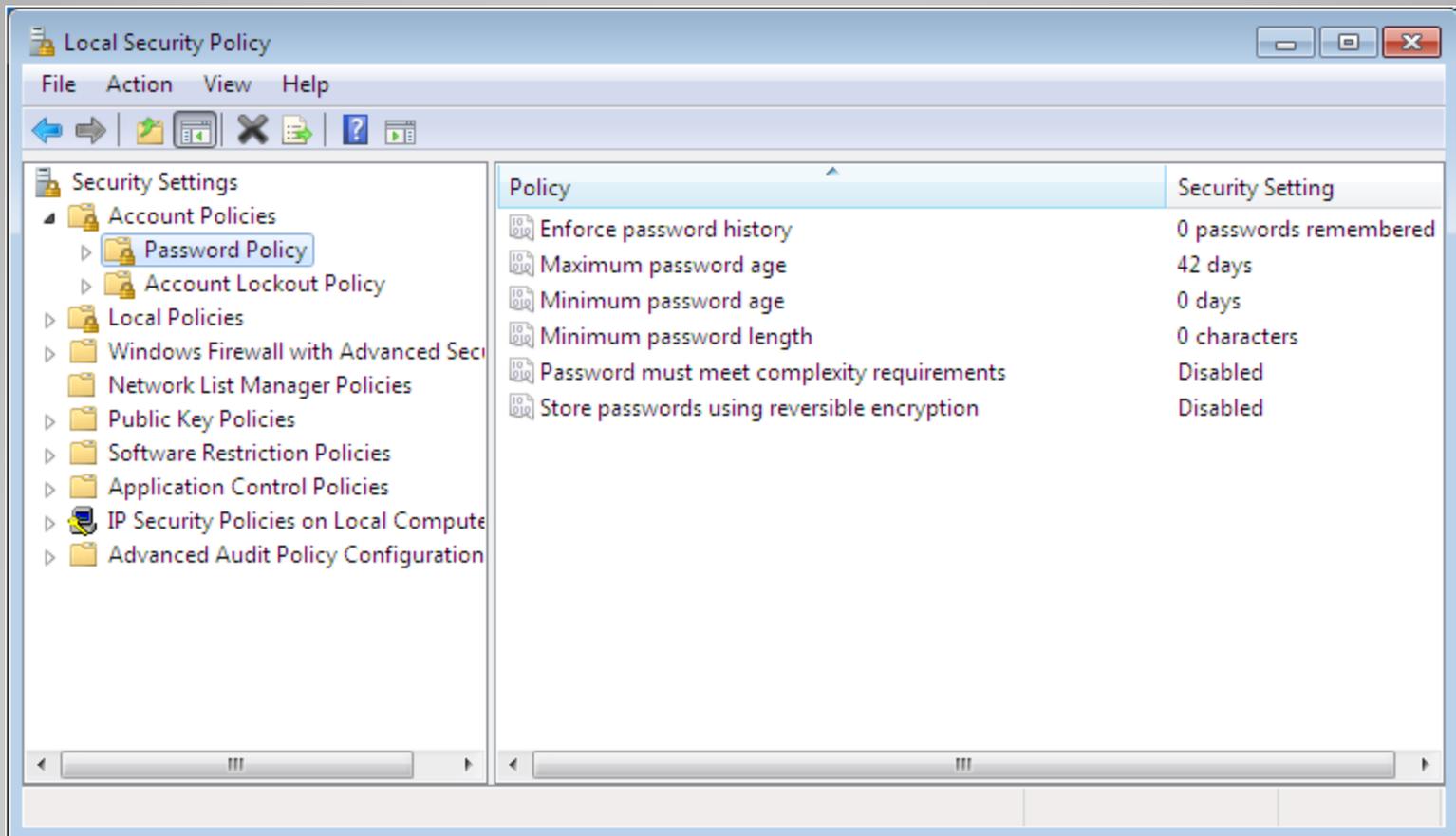
Authentication: Confirms the identity of a user

Authorization: Specifies which resources the user is permitted to access

Configuring Password Policies

- Used to enforce good password security practices
- Local Security Policy on individual computers, or Group Policy on an AD DS

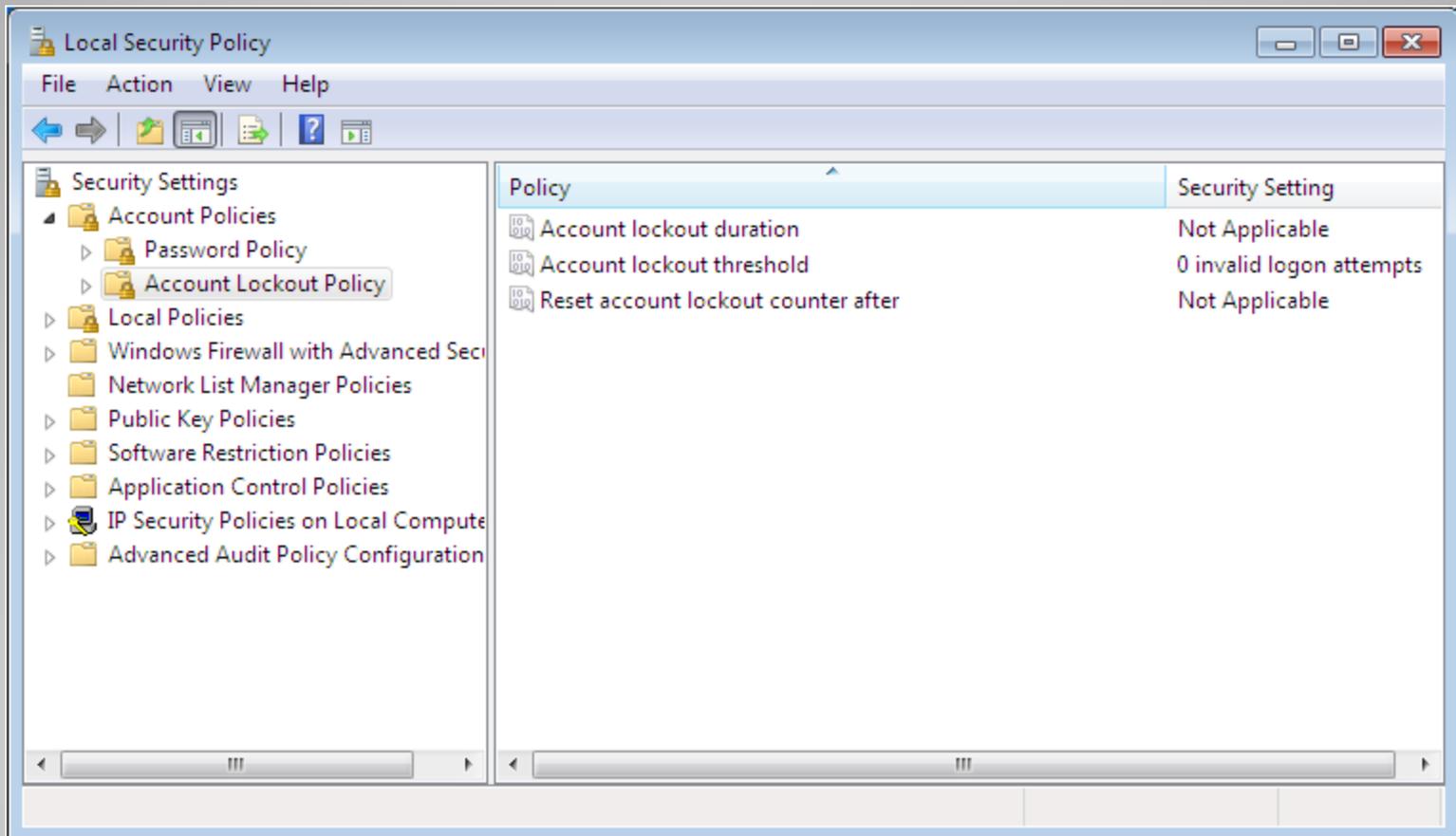
Password Policy



The screenshot displays the Local Security Policy console window. The left-hand pane shows a tree view of security settings, with 'Account Policies' expanded and 'Password Policy' selected. The right-hand pane displays a list of password-related policies and their current settings.

Policy	Security Setting
Enforce password history	0 passwords remembered
Maximum password age	42 days
Minimum password age	0 days
Minimum password length	0 characters
Password must meet complexity requirements	Disabled
Store passwords using reversible encryption	Disabled

Account Lockout Policies

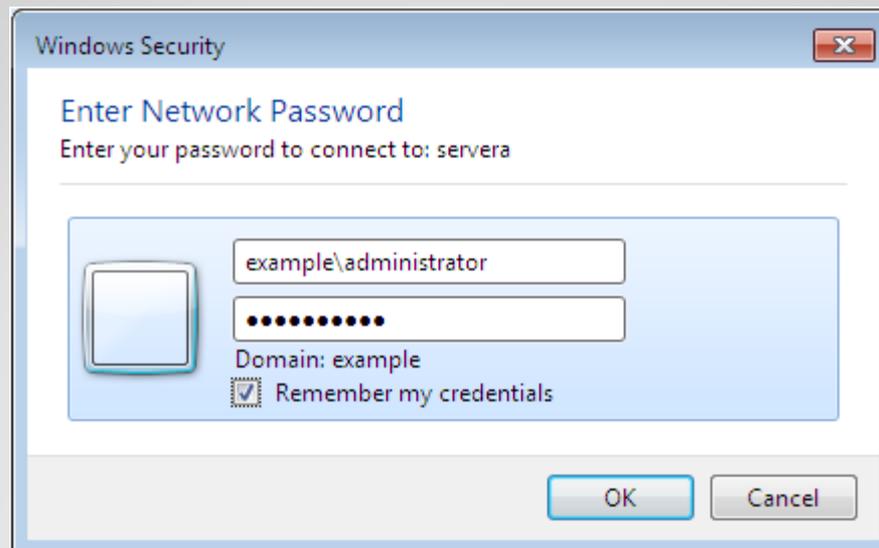


The screenshot displays the Windows Local Security Policy console. The left-hand pane shows a tree view of security settings, with 'Account Lockout Policy' selected under 'Account Policies'. The right-hand pane displays a table of the configured policies.

Policy	Security Setting
Account lockout duration	Not Applicable
Account lockout threshold	0 invalid logon attempts
Reset account lockout counter after	Not Applicable

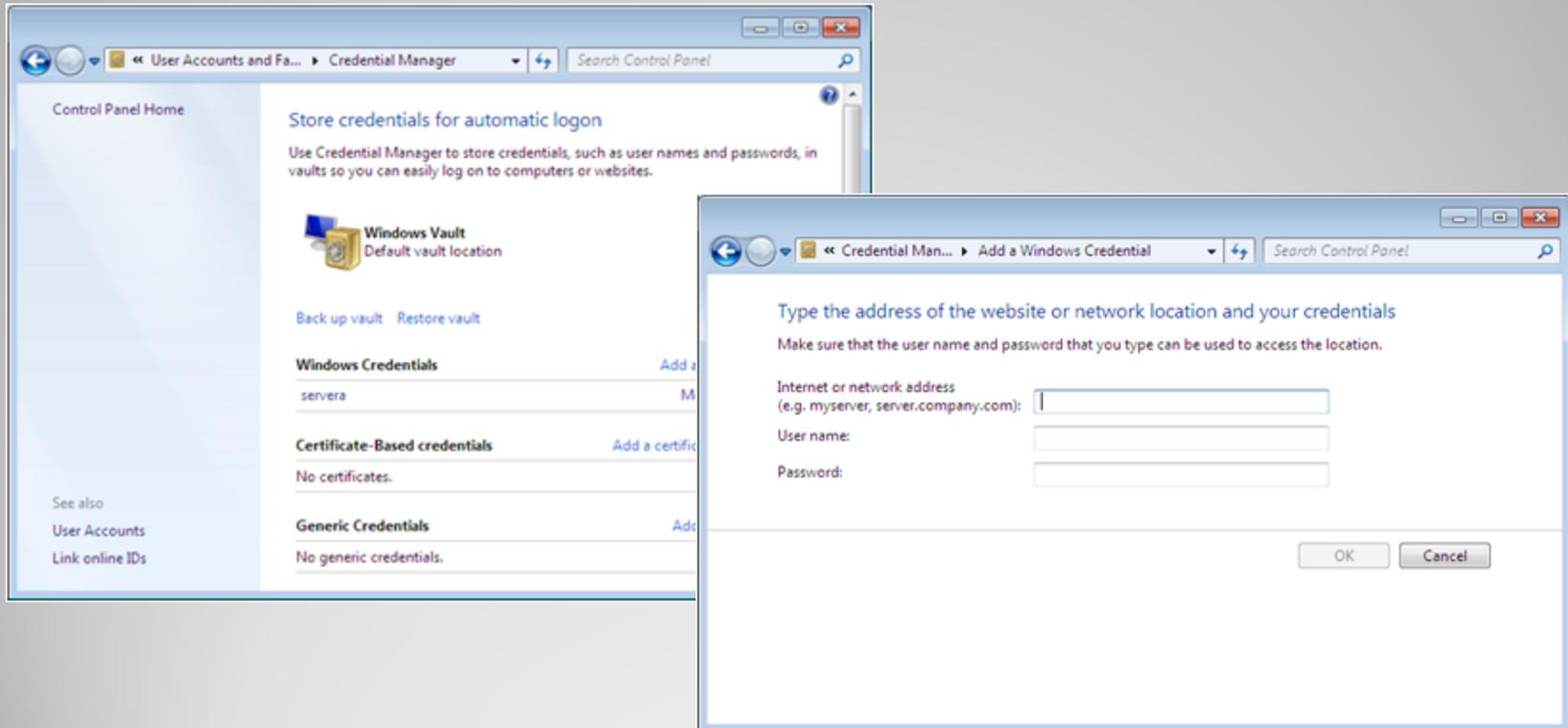
Using Credential Manager

- Stores usernames and passwords for servers and Web sites in Windows Vault
- Remember my credentials checkbox adds credentials to the Windows Vault



Using Credential Manager

- Credentials can be added directly



Smart Cards

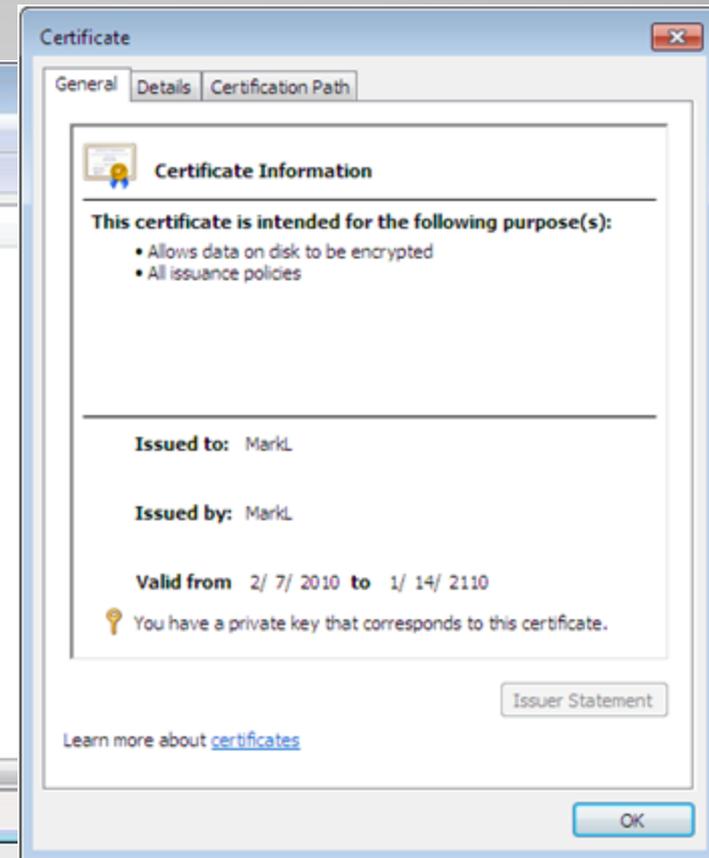
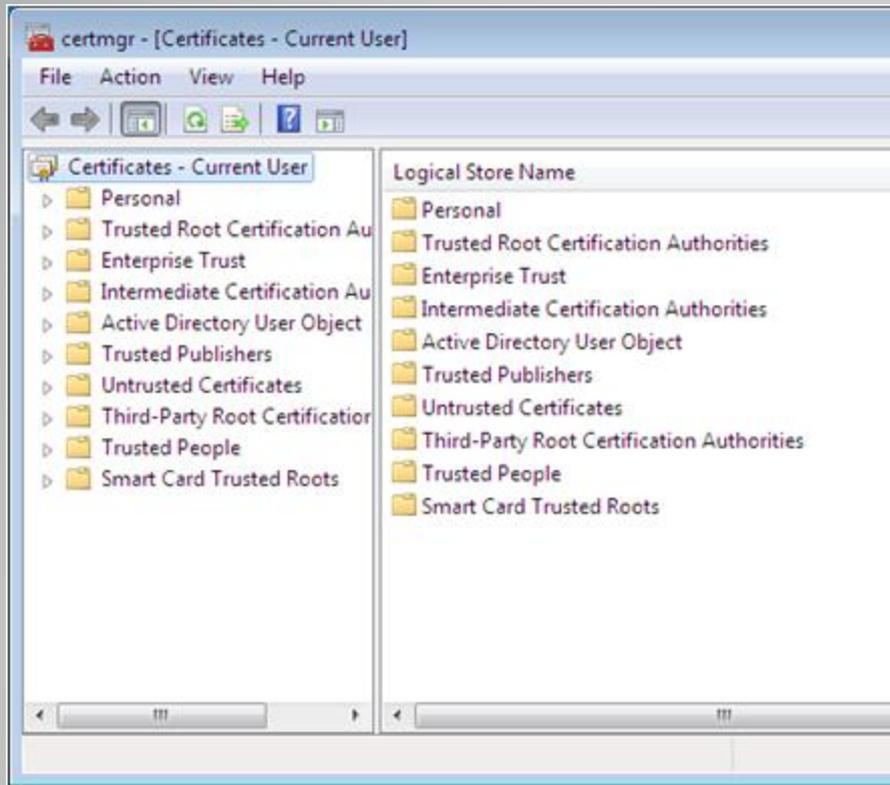
- High security alternative to passwords
- Requires the use of a credit card-like device
- Support for Smart Cards built into Windows 7
- Group Policy controls how authentication with Smart Cards is enforced

Managing Certificates

- Used for a variety of authentication tasks, internally, on the local network, and on the Internet.
- Windows 7 maintains a certificate store for each user – Automated
- Users can manage their certificate stores directly using Certificates snap-in

Certificates Snap-In

- Certmgr.msc



Using Biometrics

- Scans a physical characteristic of a user to confirm identity
- *Windows Biometric Framework* provides core biometric functionality and a Biometric Device control panel

Elevating Privileges

- Use *Run As Administrator* context menu option
- Use command line *runas.exe* command:

```
runas /user:example\administrator  
"notepad.exe\script.vbs"
```

Troubleshooting Authentication Issues

- Password loss is the most common problem.
- There is no way for an administrator to read a password.
- Passwords must be reset.
- Users can change their own password if they know their old password.
- Administrator can reset password without supplying old password.
- Password reset Disk is better option.

Authorizing Users

- Authorization grants the user access to certain resources:
 - Using permissions
 - Configuring user rights

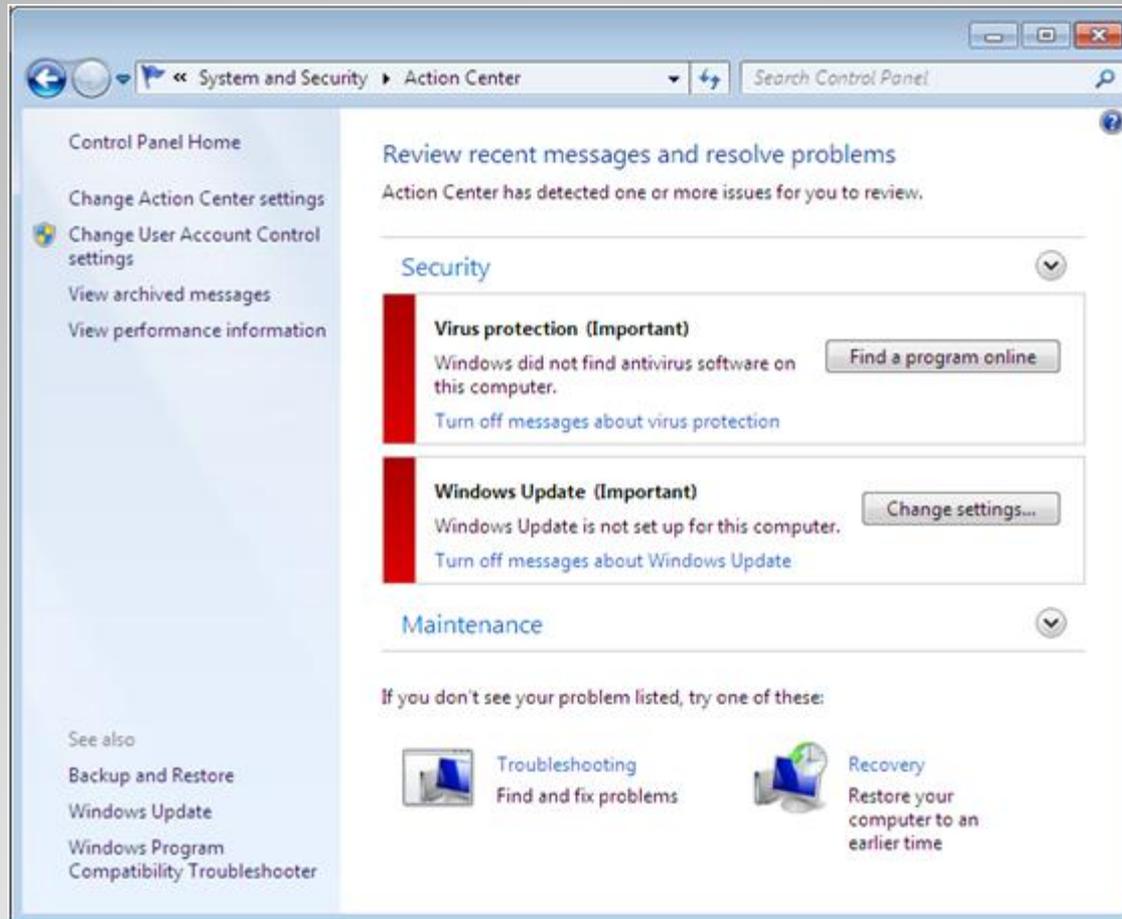
Defending Against Malware

- Malware: Malicious software created specifically for the purpose of infiltrating or damaging a computer system without the user's knowledge or consent
- Viruses
- Trojan horses
- Worms
- Spyware
- Adware

Security in Windows 7

- Lesson 7, “Working with Applications,” you learn about the security features included in Internet Explorer 8.
- Lesson 9, “Working with Workgroups and Domains,” you learn how User Account Control helps to prevent malware from obtaining administrative privileges.
- Lesson 12, “Working with Mobile Computers,” you learn about the security features specifically designed for use on mobile and wireless computers.

Introducing Windows 7 Action Center



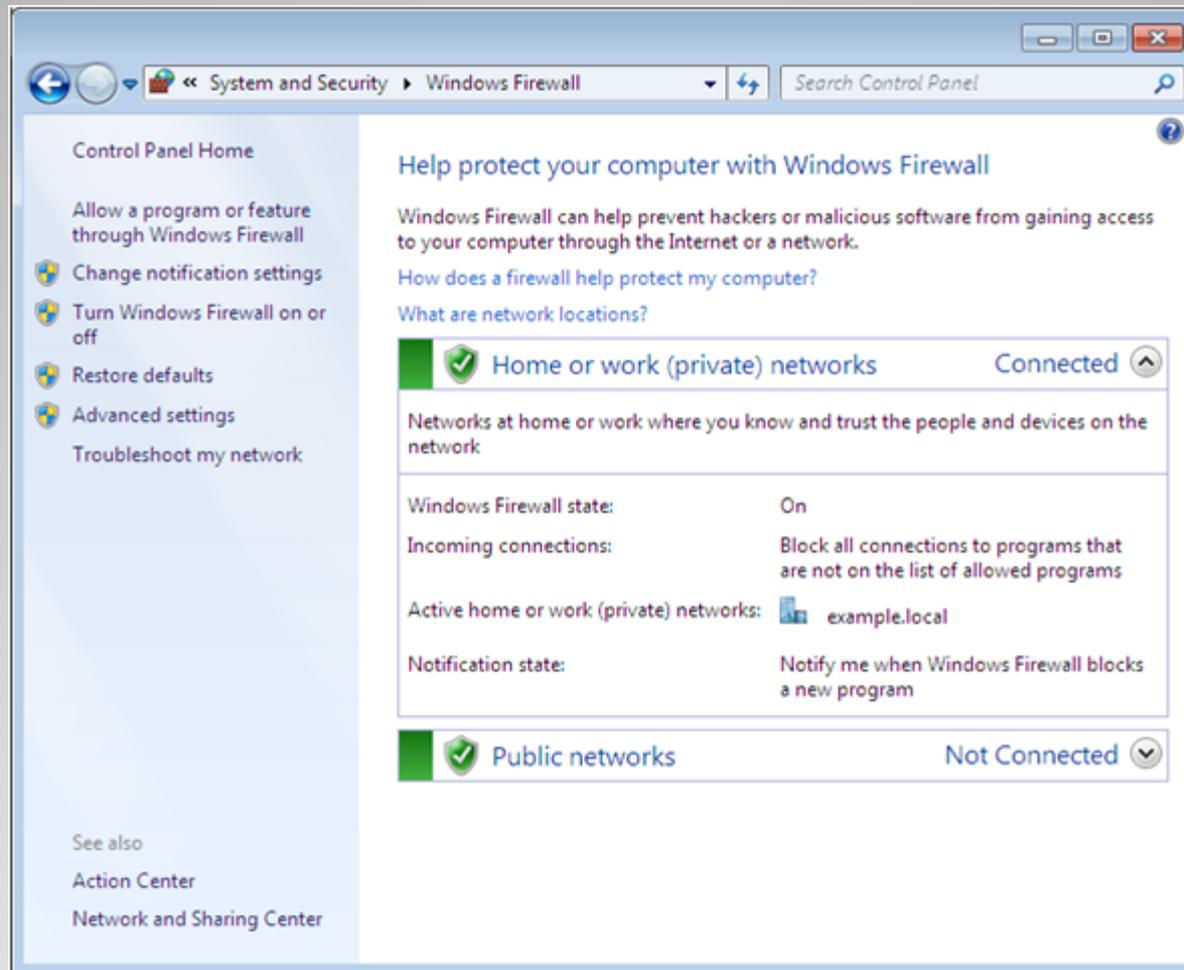
Introducing Windows Firewall

- A *firewall* is a software program that protects a computer by allowing certain types of network traffic in and out of the system while blocking others.

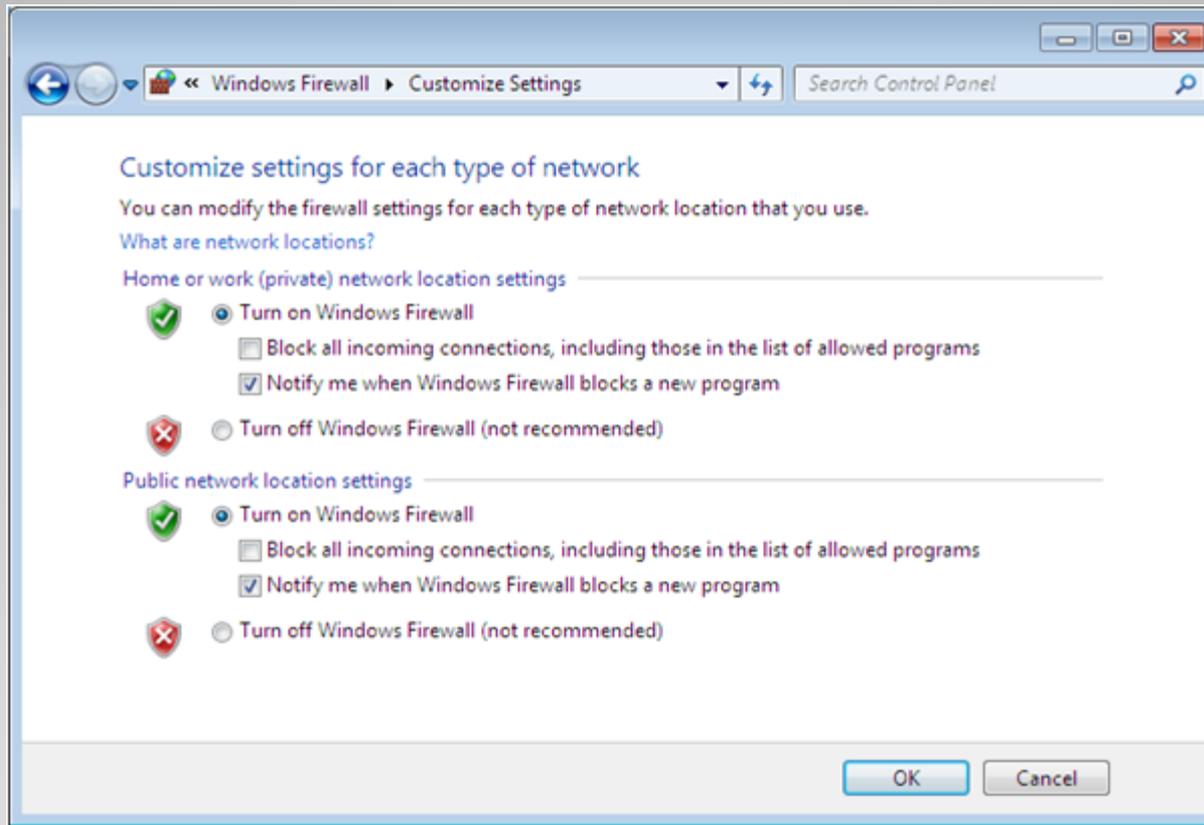
Understanding Firewalls

- Base their filtering on TCP/IP characteristics:
 - IP address - Specific computers
 - Protocol numbers - Transport layer protocol
 - Port number - Application running on computer
- **Rules** are used to filter traffic two ways:
 - Admit all traffic, except that which applies to the rules
 - Block all traffic, except that which applies to the rules

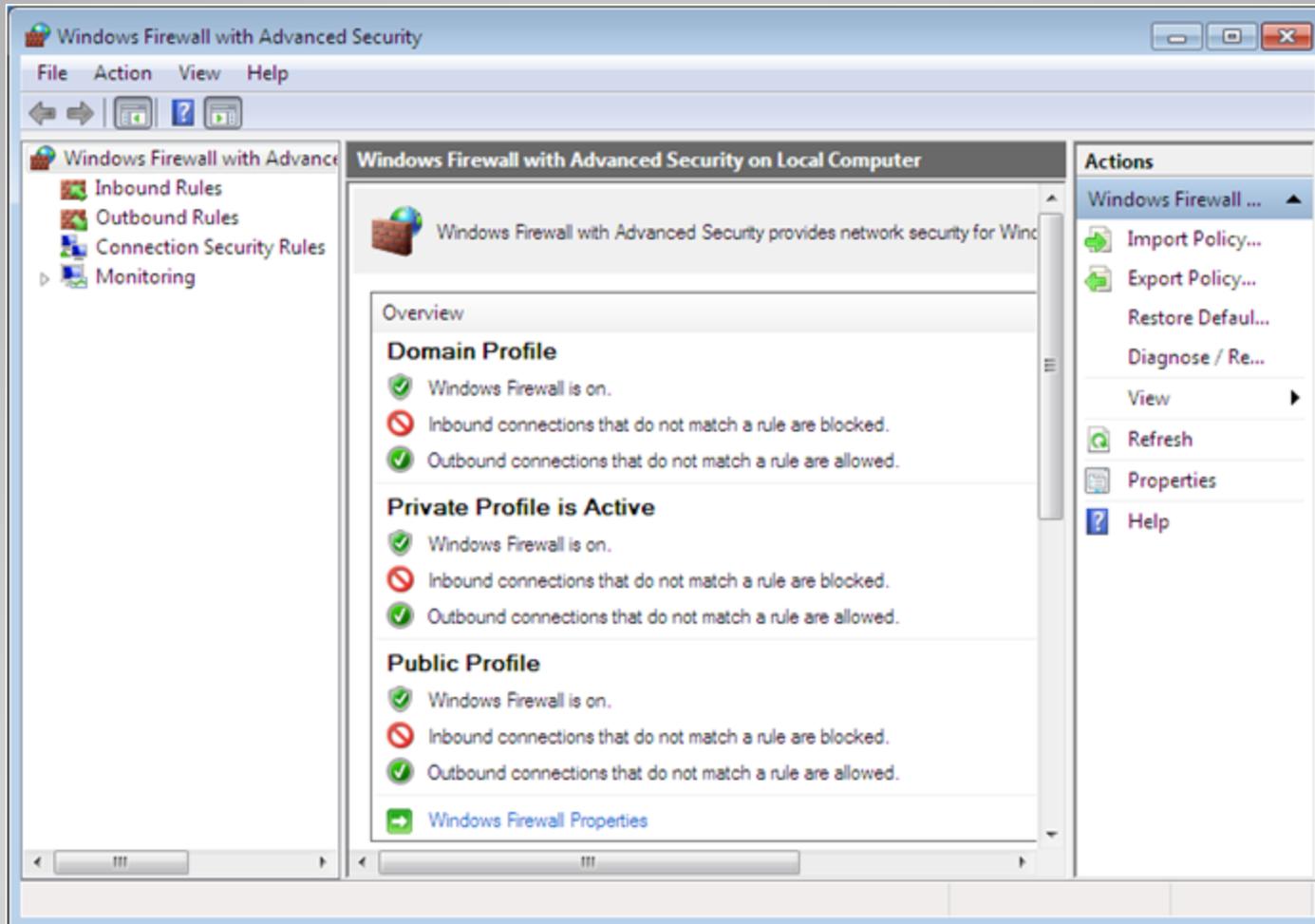
The Windows Firewall Window



Using the Windows Firewall Control Panel

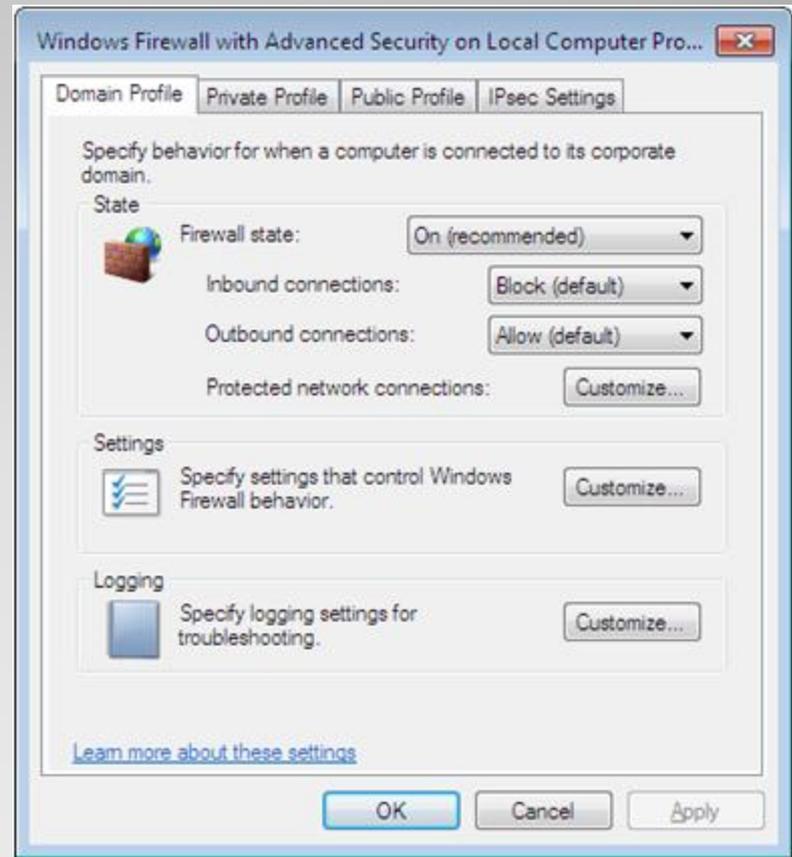


Using the Windows Firewall with Advanced Security Console

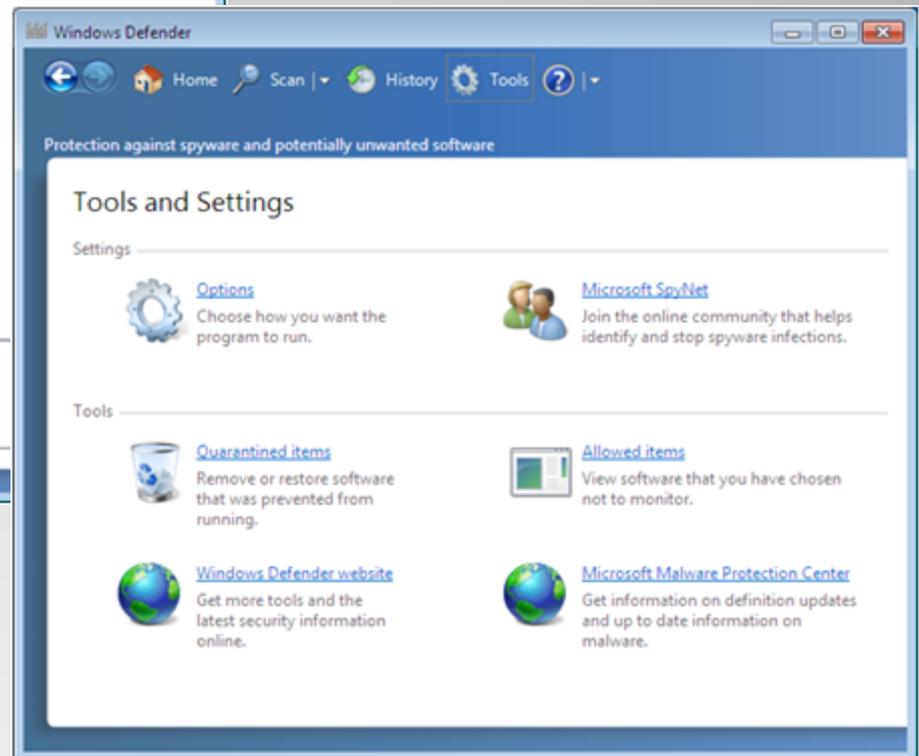
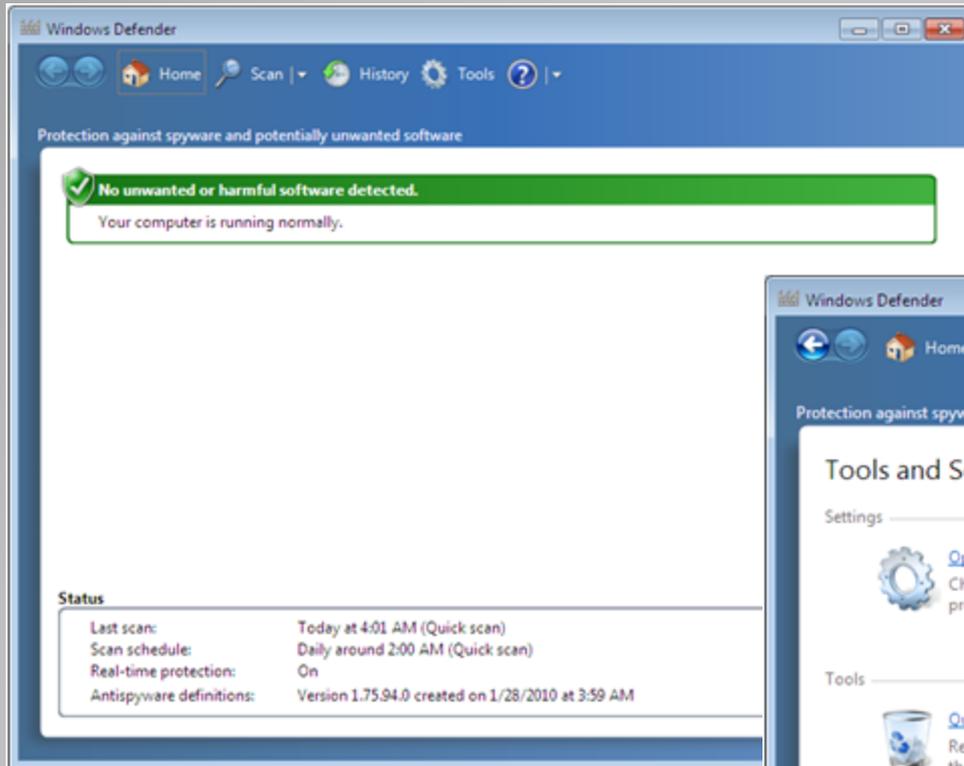


Using the Windows Firewall with Advanced Security Console

- Default profile settings can be modified
- Inbound and outbound rules can be created



Introducing Windows Defender



Malicious Software Removal Tool

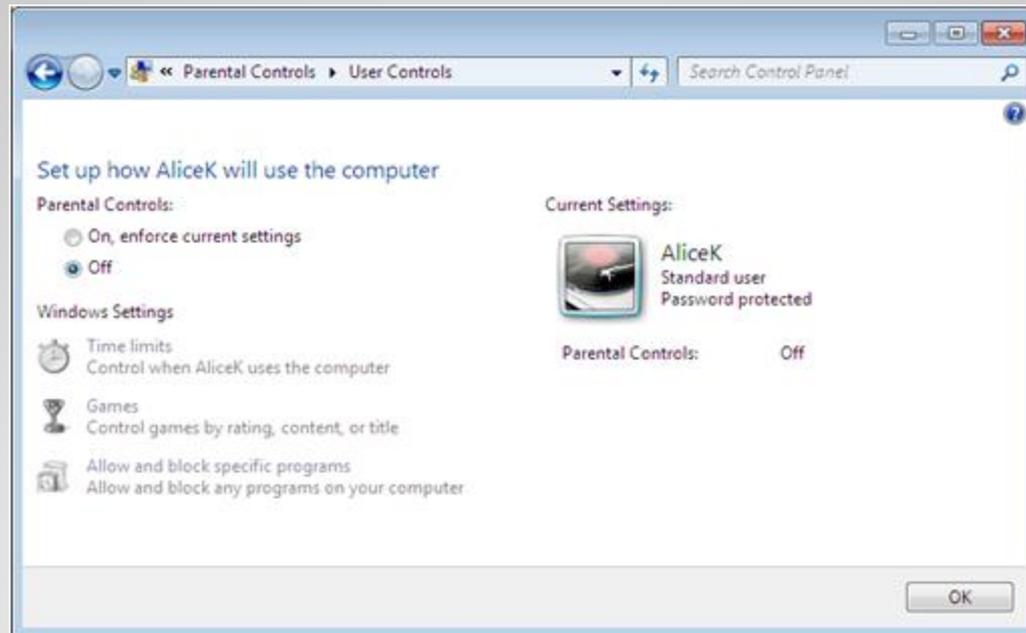
- A single user virus scanner supplied with monthly updates
- Removes any potentially damaging software it finds
- There are no controls and is not permanently installed
- Should install a full-featured antivirus program on Windows 7

Using the Encrypting File System (EFS)

- EFS is a feature of NTFS that encodes the files on a computer.
- The system is keyed to a specific user account.
- Uses *public* and *private* keys (PKI).
- The user who creates the file is the only person who can read it.

Configuring Parental Controls

Parental controls enables parents to limit their children's access to specific Internet sites, games, and applications.



Setting Up Parental Controls

- Based on user accounts – Every family member must have their own account
- Impose restrictions on accounts
 - Filter Web sites users are allowed to access
 - Limit downloads from Internet sites
 - Enforce time limits for computer use
 - Restrict access to games by rating, content, or title
 - Allow or block specific applications

Skills Summary

- Password Policies enforce password security practices.
- Credential Manager is a tool that stores the user names and passwords people supply to servers and Web sites in a Windows Vault.
- Permissions and user rights are used to authorize users' access to resources and tasks.
- Action Center is a centralized console that enables users and administrators to access, monitor, and configure the various Windows 7 security mechanisms.

Skills Summary (cont.)

- Windows Firewall is a software program that protects a computer by allowing certain types of network traffic in and out of the system while blocking others.
- Windows Defender helps to defend against spyware.
- The Malicious Software Removal Tool is a single user virus scanner.
- The Encrypting File System (EFS) is a feature of NTFS that encodes the files on a computer.