EXPLAINED EASY

TYPES OF FIREWALL

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PACKET FILTERING FIREWALL

Think of this as a security guard at a nightclub checking IDs. The guard only lets people in if they meet certain criteria.

This firewall examines small chunks of data (packets) as they try to enter or leave a network. It checks the packet's source, destination, and other basic information to decide whether to allow it through or block it.

Santosh Nandakumar

STATEFUL INSPECTION FIREWALL

Imagine a more attentive security guard who not only checks IDs but also remembers who's already inside and watches how people behave.

This firewall keeps track of the state of network connections passing through it. It can determine if a packet is the start of a new connection, part of an existing connection, or not part of any connection.

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APPLICATION LAYER FIREWALL

Picture a very thorough security guard who not only checks IDs and watches behavior but also understands the specific activities happening inside the club and can make decisions based on that.

This firewall can understand specific applications and protocols. It can detect if unwanted protocols or applications are being used over allowed ports, or if protocols are being abused.

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NEXT-GENERATION FIREWALL

This is like having a high-tech security system that combines all the previous guards' abilities, plus uses advanced technology to detect more complex threats.

NGFWs combine traditional firewall technology with additional features like intrusion prevention, deep packet inspection, and application awareness. They can make more intelligent decisions about traffic passing through the network.

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CLOUD FIREWALL

Instead of having security guards at your physical location, you hire a security company that monitors and protects your property remotely.

This is a cloud-based security solution that provides firewall and other security features as a service. It's particularly useful for protecting cloud-based assets and for organizations with distributed networks.

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CIRCUIT-LEVEL FIREWALL

Imagine a security guard who doesn't look at what's inside the packages people are carrying, but instead focuses on making sure the person delivering the package is allowed to do so and is following the correct procedure.

It monitors TCP handshaking between packets to determine whether a requested session is legitimate. Once the session is established, it doesn't inspect the contents of packets; it only ensures that the communication follows the correct protocol.

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PROXY FIREWALL

Think of this as a middleman who receives requests from people inside a building, goes out to get what they need, and then brings it back. The people inside never directly interact with the outside world.

Acts as a middleman between internal and external networks. It intercepts all traffic, hiding true network addresses. It thoroughly inspects requests and responses, provides logging, and can filter content.

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