MacOS Filter needed
Posted by timber - 16 Jul 2018 01:12

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Greetings - Looking for a recommendation for a good filter for MacOs. Recognize there is no perfect solution - had been using K9 a while back but unfortunately I was going around it.

Thanks!

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Re: MacOS Filter needed
Posted by Serenity123 - 20 Jul 2018 05:18

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I am using a combination of K9 and the "SelfControl" app and so far it is working for me thank god. With SelfControl you can completely block access to the internet for up to 24 hours, this way K9 does the initial filtering and when you feel your defences lowering down you can take an action of recovery by blocking your access to the internet. Hope this helps, wishing you a serene and sober day.

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Re: MacOS Filter needed
Posted by searching62 - 31 Jul 2018 18:16

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I use OpenDNS at home. www.opendns.com/home-internet-security/ They have free services and the paid services are about $20.00 per year. It's configured on your router, so any device connected to your router is automatically included.

I have been very happy with it.

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Re: MacOS Filter needed
Posted by Markz - 31 Jul 2018 18:49

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Sounds interesting.

How is it different to internal device filtering?

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Re: MacOS Filter needed
Posted by mzl - 31 Jul 2018 19:23

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Markz wrote on 31 Jul 2018 18:49**:**

Sounds interesting.

How is it different to internal device filtering?

Looks like it will refuse to look up the IP address for names on its blacklist.

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Re: MacOS Filter needed
Posted by searching62 - 31 Jul 2018 20:28

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It's a proxy service. All internet traffic is directed through their servers, and known bad addresses are blocked. The big difference between this and device based applications are:

1. There is no local application. Nothing on the machine that can be paused or bypassed.

2. The service is configurable. It can block various types of traffic including malicious websites as well as adult websites.

There are 2 ways to set it up. I prefer setting it up on the router. But, it can be configured locally on each machine and on mobile devices as well.

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Re: MacOS Filter needed
Posted by mzl - 31 Jul 2018 21:04

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searching62 wrote on 31 Jul 2018 20:28**:**

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Watch out because a proxy really stops your requests under all circumstances. But a DNS server is easy to get around.

I'm deliberately not saying how because I don't want to mess things up for people who are content with using DNS lookup to "filter" the internet.

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Re: MacOS Filter needed
Posted by lionking - 31 Jul 2018 22:06

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mzl wrote on 31 Jul 2018 21:04**:**

searching62 wrote on 31 Jul 2018 20:28**:**

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Some clarification.

OpenDNS is not a proxy service at all. It is a DNS server which allows whitelists and blacklists.

When setup on the router and locking down both physical and remote access to the router it is not bypassable, unless you are tunneling your traffic through a vpn, etc... Which any filter won't be able to block if they allow tunneling.

There is some setbacks with DNS based filtering.

1: It cannot filter sub domains.

2: It doesn't filter direct IP addresses.

3: It doesn't work with IPv6. (Which can be disabled at the router)

Some background on what DNS is, standard websites on the internet are only accessible via IP addresses. When you type in google.com it is sending the request to a DNS server to translate google.com to 172.217.10.238 or one of google's other addresses. OpenDNS filters those requests and blocks it. So you can either allow all of google.com or block all.

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