

# Installation and Configuration of a Windows Server 2016 Domain Controller

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## Introduction

This document is intended as a step-by-step guide for installing and setting basic security settings for a Domain Controller.

We will walkthrough basic settings and configurations, giving you a starting point to create and maintain a secure Windows 2016 Domain Controller. We advise you use this guide in addition to other available guides, supplementing this information with strategies outlined on the Microsoft Security site as well as SANS, NSA and NIST. This will improve the security of your domain.

Do not consider your domain, or computers in your domain invincible from hacking, viruses or worms because you set certain policies discussed in this guide. You must also keep current service packs, updates, hot-fixes and security patches applied to the all systems on your network. Not merely Servers, but also Workstations and any other network devices.

Following Microsoft best practices for security will reduce the chances of security breaches, but maintaining good practices, end-user communication, and thorough documentation for your own environment is an absolute necessity!

We hope you enjoy this document!

## Section I: Installing Windows 2016 Server Software

### MUST-READ LINKS!

Windows Server 2016

<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/windows-server/windows-server-2016>

System Requirements for Windows 2016 Server

<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/windows-server/get-started/system-requirements>

Important Issues in Windows Server 2016

<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/windows-server/get-started/windows-server-2016-ga-release-notes>

### BEST PRACTICES

- Never install a new system on the public network.
- Start system in a development environment then move system to your production network.
- Patch system immediately after installation.
- Apply all security settings to system.
- Configure Host Based Firewall.
- Install and update Anti-Virus software.
- Verify all settings.
- When upgrading or reloading a system, perform a full backup prior to installation.

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