



# Fireware Essentials Exam Study Guide

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The Fireware Essentials exam tests your knowledge of how to configure, manage, and monitor a WatchGuard Firebox or XTM device that runs Fireware OS. This exam is appropriate for network administrators who have experience configuring and managing Firebox or XTM devices that run Fireware OS v11.9 or higher.

## Exam Overview

### Key Concepts

To successfully complete the Fireware Essentials Exam, you must understand these key concepts:

#### *Fireware Knowledge*

- Firebox and XTM device activation and initial setup
- Network configuration
- Policy and proxy configuration
- Subscription services configuration
- User Authentication
- Device monitoring, logging, and reporting
- Branch office and mobile VPN configuration

#### *General IT Knowledge*

- IPv4 networking concepts (DNS, TCP/IP, DHCP, NAT, static routing)
- General understanding of firewalls

## Exam Description

### **Content**

60 multiple choice (select one option), multiple selection (select more than one option), true/false, and matching questions

### **Passing score**

75% correct

### **Time limit**

Two hours

### **Reference material**

You cannot reference printed or online materials during the exam.

### **Test environment**

This is a proctored exam, with two location testing options:

- Kryterion testing center
- Online, with virtual proctoring through an approved webcam

### **Prerequisites**

The Fireware Essentials instructor-led course is recommended, but not required.

## Prepare for the Exam

WatchGuard provides training, courseware, and reference materials to help you prepare for the Fireware Essentials Exam. In addition to the training, courseware and reference materials described in the subsequent sections, we strongly recommend that you install, deploy, and manage one or more Firebox or XTM devices that run Fireware OS v11.9 or higher before you begin the exam.

## Instructor-Led Training

We recommend that you attend an instructor-led training class with hands-on lab exercises. Classes are often held in-region, sponsored by sales or a local WatchGuard distributor. We also offer complimentary VILT technology-based training classes for partners. WatchGuard end-users can also register for a class in our network of WatchGuard Certified Training Partners (WCTPs).

- Partners — Register for training [here](#) (login required)
- End-users — View the current [WCTP training schedule](#) on the WatchGuard website

## Self-Study Materials

WatchGuard offers courseware that you can use for self-study, or to reinforce instructor-led training. We recommend that you review all available courseware before you take the exam. Courseware is available on the Technical Training tab in the WatchGuard Portal (login required).

### ***Fireware Essentials Student Guide***

The *Fireware Essentials Student Guide* courseware (PDF) is used in the instructor-led Fireware Essentials course, and is also available online for self-study and review.

If your schedule allows you the time to set up one or more Firebox or XTM devices to complete all of the exercises in the *Student Guide*, we recommend that you use the *Student Guide* as your primary self-study material to prepare for the exam.

### ***Fireware Essentials Online Course***

This self-paced course is a series of online modules that cover most of the content in the Fireware Essentials instructor-led course, but without the hands-on exercises.

## Other Resources

### ***Online Help***

The Online Help systems provided for the various WatchGuard Fireware XTM management tools include detailed information to expand on the principles presented in the Fireware Essentials training courseware.

For the knowledge categories included in the [Assessment Objectives](#) section, we recommend that you review the corresponding content in the appropriate Help system.

You can find these Help systems on the WatchGuard website documentation pages:

- [WatchGuard System Manager Help](#)
- [Fireware XTM Web UI Help](#)
- [WatchGuard Dimension Help](#)

### ***Video Tutorials***

The Fireware Video Tutorials include information about specific subjects to help you learn more about some areas of Fireware XTM OS. You can use these videos to help you expand your understanding of Fireware, as it relates to the knowledge categories specified in the [Assessment Objectives](#) section.

You can find the Video Tutorials on the WatchGuard website documentation pages:

[Video Tutorials](#)

### ***Configuration Examples***

Fireware XTM configuration examples give you the information you need to configure your Firebox or XTM device to meet certain specific business needs. For each example we provide reference configuration files so you can see the final configuration of the features involved in each use case. We also include a guide to cover the details of each configuration. You can use these configuration examples to help you expand your understanding of Fireware XTM, as it relates to the knowledge categories specified in the [Assessment Objectives](#) section.

You can find the Configuration Examples on the WatchGuard website documentation pages:

[Configuration Examples](#)

## Assessment Objectives

The Fireware Essentials Exam evaluates your knowledge of the categories in the subsequent list. For each knowledge category assessed in this exam, the *Weight* column includes the approximate percentage of exam questions from that knowledge category. Because some exam questions require skills or knowledge from more than one category, the weights do not exactly correspond to the percentage of exam questions.

Category	Skills	Weight
Device Administration	Configure and install a Firebox or XTM device with the default security settings	20%
	Connect to Fireware XTM Web UI	
	Edit a device configuration in Policy Manager	
	Install a feature key	
	Upgrade and downgrade Fireware XTM OS	
	Create a device backup image	
	Enable remote administration	
	Configure role-based administration	
	Understand the default threat protection features of Fireware	
Authentication	Configure Firebox authentication for users and groups	5%
	Configure user authentication with a third-party authentication server	
Device Monitoring, Logging, and Reporting	Use WatchGuard System Manager and Firebox System Manager to monitor a device	15%
	Use Dimension to monitor a device	
	Run diagnostic tasks in Firebox System Manager	
	Set up a WatchGuard Log Server	
	Enable logging to a Dimension Log Server or a WatchGuard Log Server	
	Review log messages generated by a Firebox or XTM device	
Networking and Network Address Translation (NAT)	Understand how to enabled logging for reports	
	Configure an external, trusted, optional, or custom interface	15%
	Configure secondary network on an interface	
	Add a static route, and read the Route table	
	Configure WINS and DNS, and why this is important	
	Understand when to use dynamic NAT, 1-to-1 NAT, static NAT, NAT loopback	
Configure dynamic NAT, 1-to-1 NAT, and static NAT		

Category	Skills	Weight
Policies, Proxies, and Application Layer Gateways	Understand policy precedence	15%
	Understand the function of the default firewall policies	
	Understand the function of incoming and outgoing proxy actions	
	Configure policies for different users and groups	
	Configure Firebox authentication for users and groups	
	Configure a Firebox to use a third-party authentication server	
Subscription Services	Configure Application Control, WebBlocker, spamBlocker, Gateway AntiVirus, Intrusion Prevention Service, Data Loss Prevention, Reputation Enabled Defense, and APT Blocker	15%
Virtual Private Networking	Understand the differences between the three branch office VPN types	15%
	Configure a manual BOVPN between two Firebox or XTM devices	
	Use log messages to troubleshoot a branch office VPN tunnel	
	Understand the differences between the four mobile VPN types	
	Configure Mobile VPN with IPSec and Mobile VPN with SSL	
	Configure authentication for mobile VPN users	

## Example Exam Questions

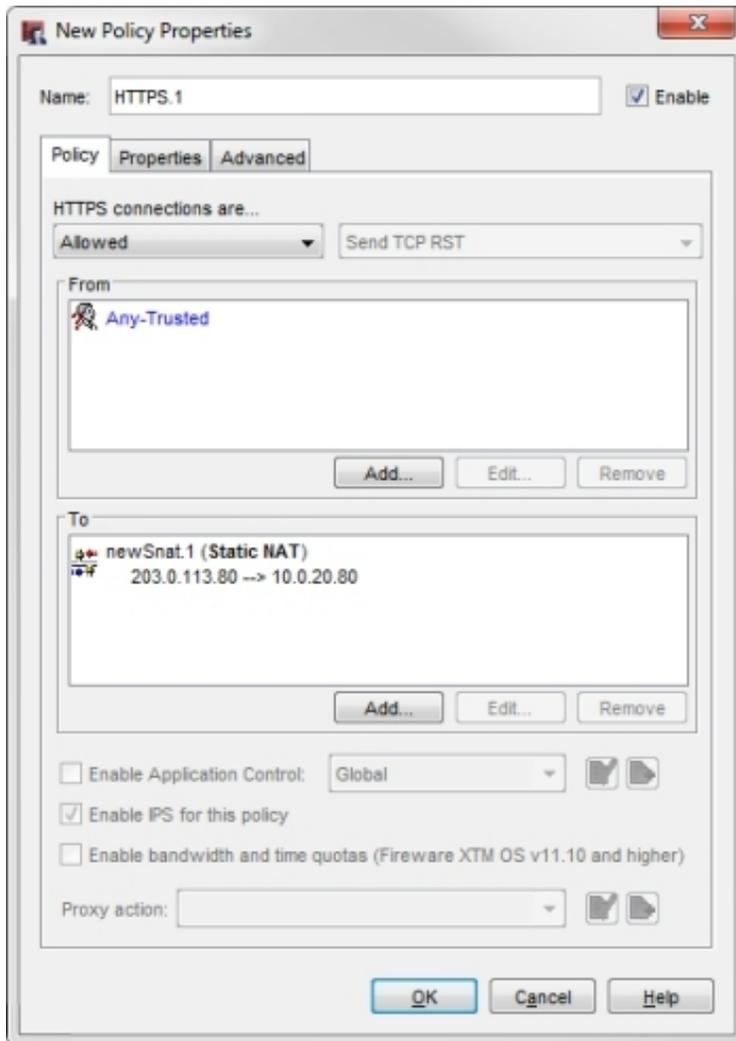
The exam includes multiple choice, multiple selection, true/false, and matching questions. The subsequent examples show the types of questions to expect on the exam.

1. What is the purpose of the WatchGuard policy? (Select one.)
  - a. Allows management connections to the Fireware XTM Web UI
  - b. Allows branch office VPN connections between two WatchGuard devices
  - c. Allows management connections to the device from WatchGuard System Manager
  - d. Allows connections to the device from a WatchGuard Log Server
  
2. From the policies shown in this image, can users in the Sales group connect to websites with HTTPS? (Select one.)

Order /	Action	Policy Name	Policy Type	From	To
1	✓	FTP	FTP	Any-Trusted, Any-Optional	Any-External
2	✓	HTTP	HTTP	Sales (Firebox-DB)	Any-External
3	✓	HTTPS-proxy	HTTPS-proxy	Accounting (Firebox-DB)	Any-External
4	✓	WatchGuard Authen...	WG-Auth	Any-Trusted, Any-Optional	Firebox
5	✓	WatchGuard Web UI	WG-Fireware-XTM-WebUI	Any-Trusted, Any-Optional	Firebox
6	✓	Ping	Ping	Any-Trusted, Any-Optional	Any
7	✓	WatchGuard	WG-Firebox-Mgmt	Any-Trusted, Any-Optional	Firebox
8	✓	Outgoing	TCP-UDP	Any-Trusted, Any-Optional	Any-External

- a. No. The HTTPS-Proxy policy only allows HTTPS traffic for the Accounting group.
- b. Yes. The HTTP policy allows HTTP and HTTPS traffic for the Sales group.
- c. Yes. The Outgoing policy allows HTTPS traffic from the Sales group.
- d. No. The Outgoing policy does not allow any traffic from the Sales group.

3. What is the purpose of the policy included in this image? (Select one.)



- To allow clients on an external network to connect to an HTTPS server on a trusted or optional network using its public IP address
- To allow clients on an external network to connect to an HTTPS server on a trusted or optional network using its private IP address
- To allow clients on your trusted network to connect to an HTTPS server on a trusted or optional network using its public IP address
- To allow clients on your trusted network to connect to an HTTPS server on a trusted or optional network using its private IP address

## Register for the Exam

To schedule an exam, you must create a Kryterion user account.

1. Log in to the WatchGuard website with your WatchGuard account credentials.
2. Select the **Technical Training** tab.
3. At the right side of the page, click **Register for an exam**.  
*This opens a WatchGuard-branded Kryterion web page.*
4. At the top-right corner of the page, click the link to create a new Kryterion user account, or log in with an existing Kryterion user account for WatchGuard exams.
5. Click **Schedule an Exam**.

For more information about the certification process, see this [FAQ](#).

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