

How to enable Remote Desktop (RDP) on Windows server 2012

<https://vpsie.com/knowledge-base/enable-remote-desktop-rdp-windows-server-2012/>

Intro:

In this how-to we will walk you through on How-To Enable RDP in Windows Server 2012.

Remote Desktop Protocol (RDP) is a protocol expanded by Microsoft that allows you to connect and control another computer via an existing network making it a remote connection.

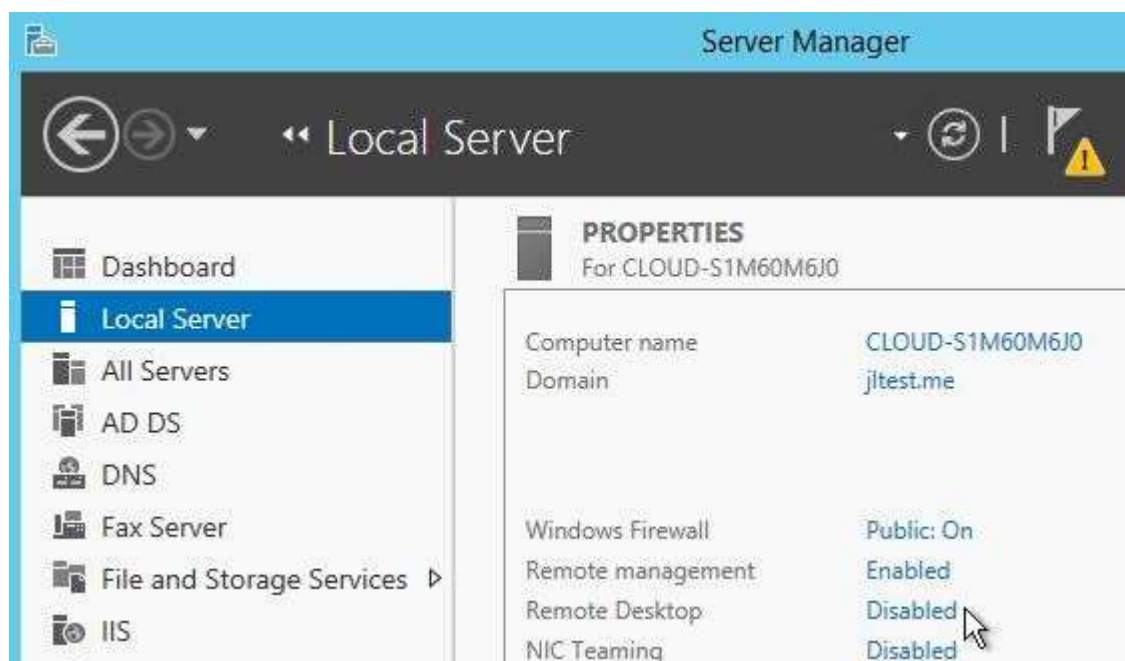
Keep in mind that you can also use console access to your server from VPSie console in case of emergencies as needed or to modify/configure RDP or network settings.

Prerequisites

- A Server with Windows Server 2012. If you do not have a server already, you can create and spin a new server up in under 2 minutes.
- RDP client from remote machine – this can be native windows RDP client on windows or MAC client such as 2X parallels client.

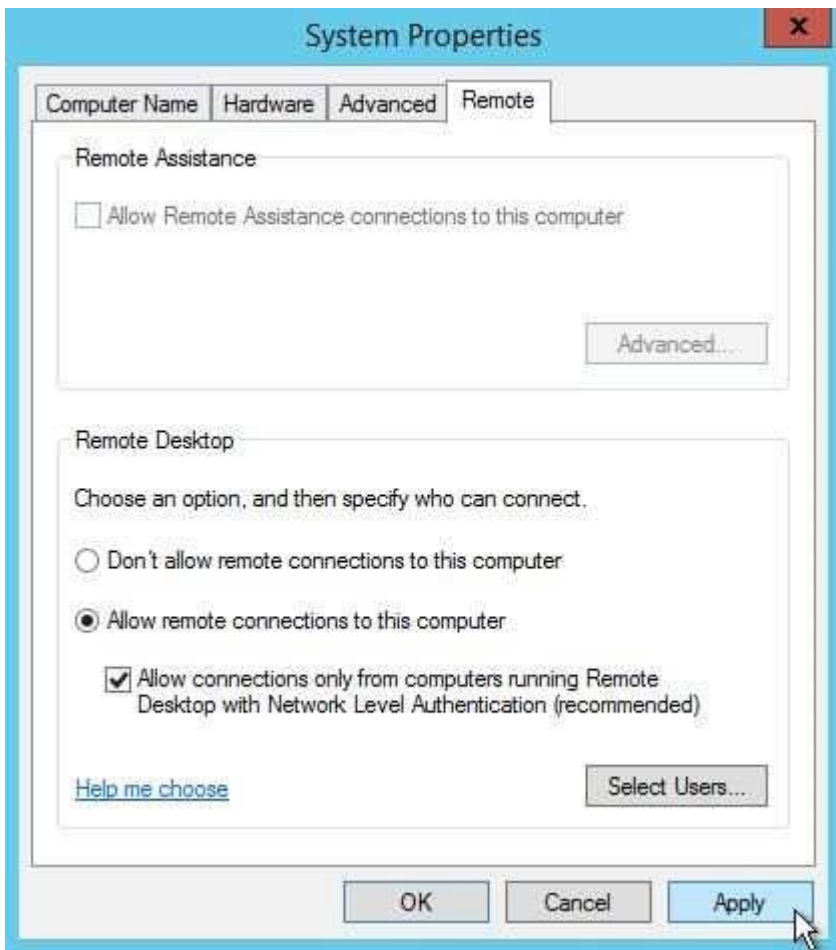
Enable RDP in Windows Server

Open the **Server Manager** from the taskbar/ Click on **Local Server** / Locate Remote Desktop under **Properties** which is currently Disabled and Click on **Disabled**



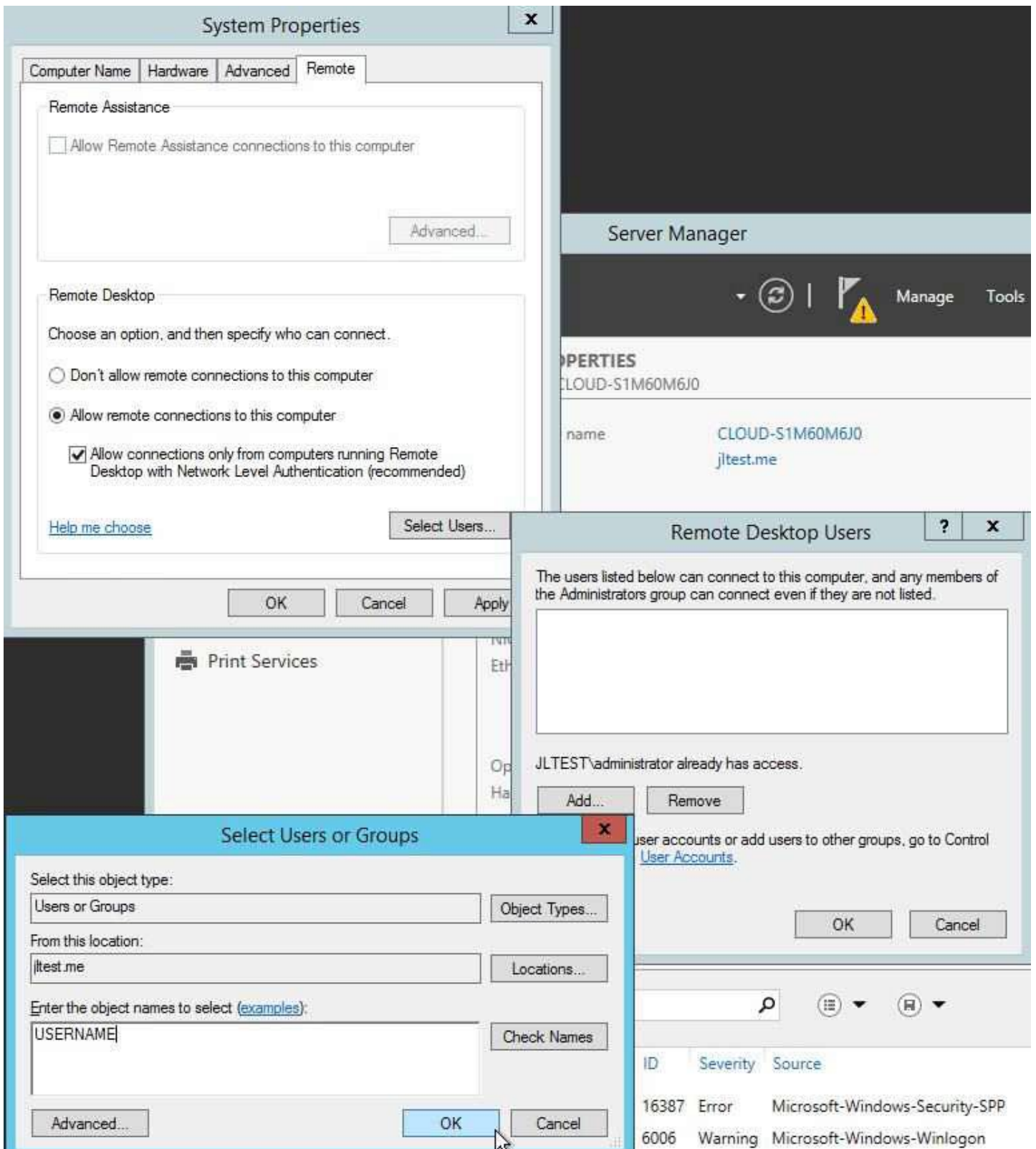
Server manager

System Properties window will appear. Select Allow remote connections to this computer and its recommended to check the box below.



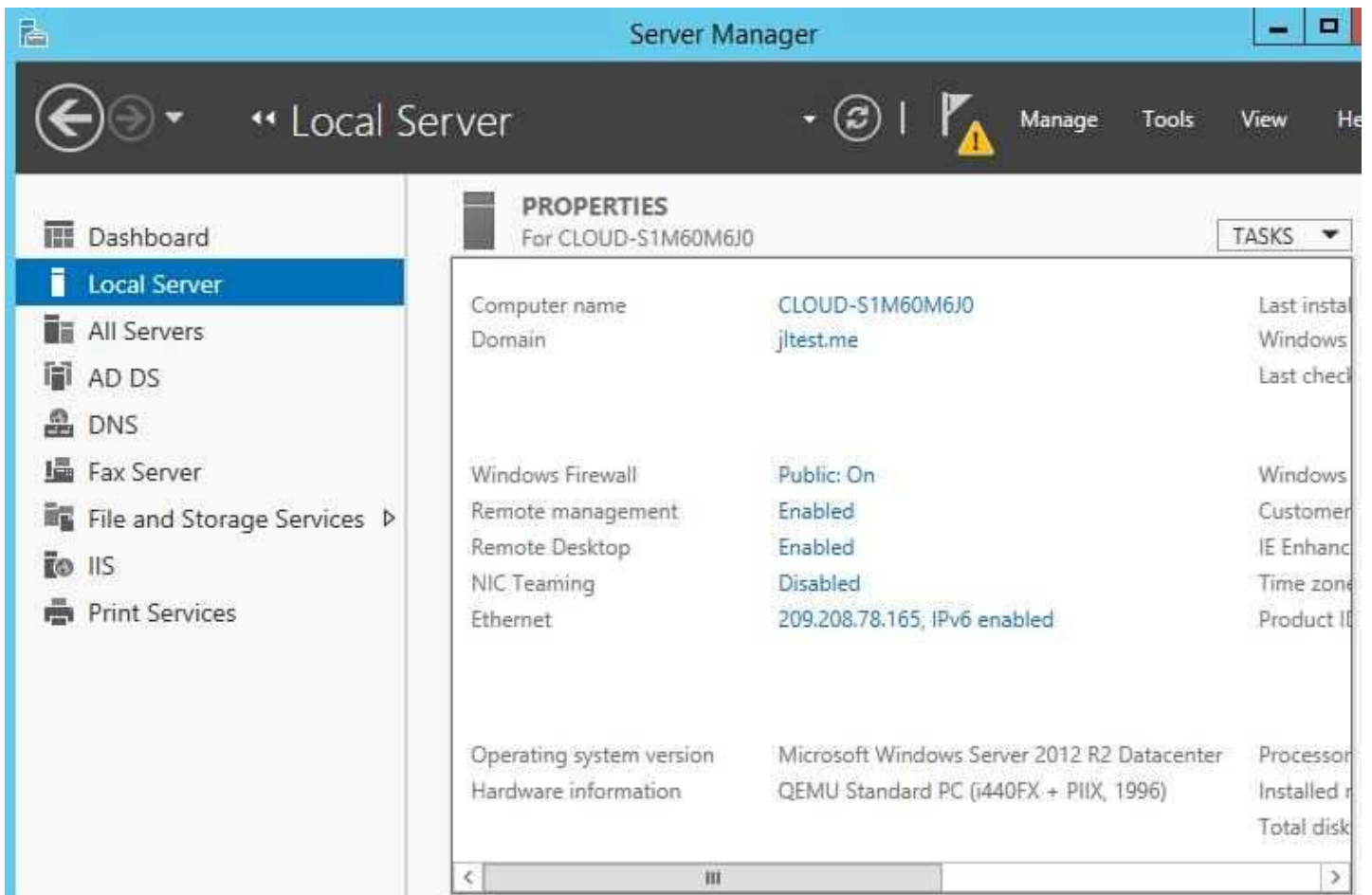
System allow screen

You can also add specific users in the **Select Users** tab. By default, the administrator is allowed. You can add other users by clicking **Select Users**/ Click **Add**/ insert a username and click OK.



Remote Desktop username to allow – administrators already have access.

You can now verify that RDP is enabled and you can see that the status went from **Disabled** to **Enabled**.



Confirm

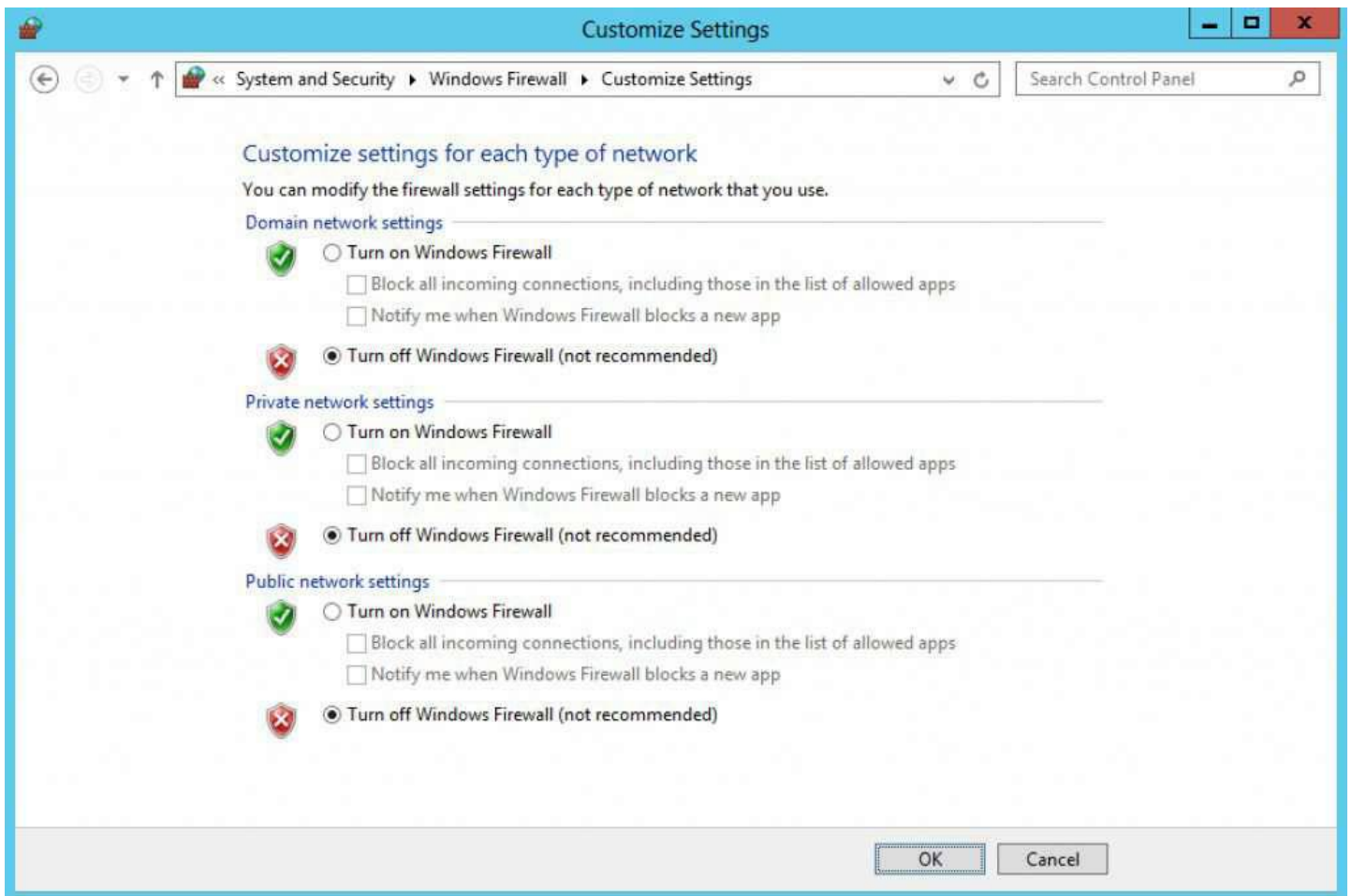
Also make sure Firewall rules has been updated to allow incoming traffic – easiest way for testing is to disable firewall completely from control panel :

Go to **Control Panel -> System and Security -> Windows Firewall**

Click on the left sidebar the link:

Turn Windows Firewall on or off

and then select for each level to turn it on or off.

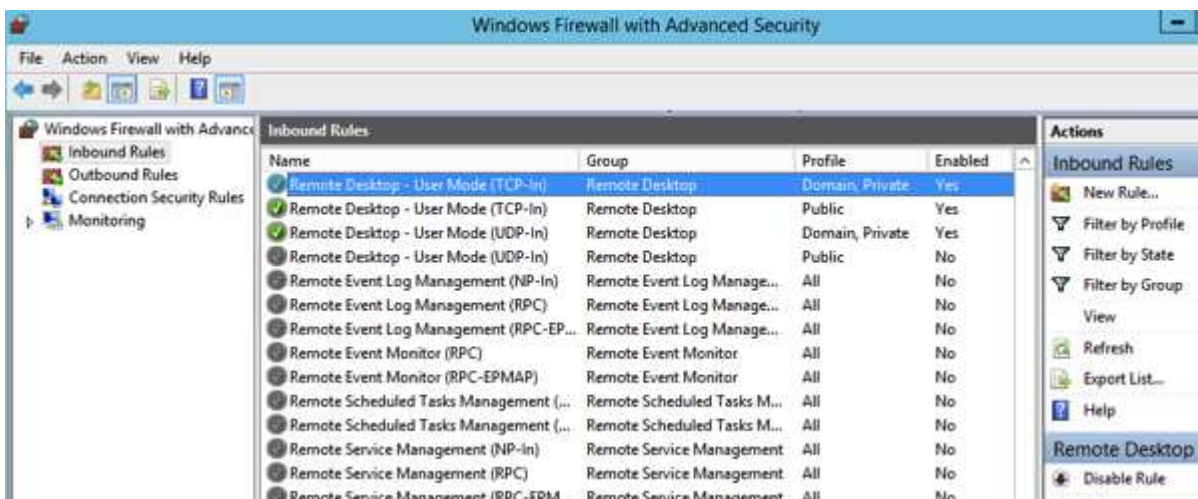


The last thing I want to say, either you are getting dirty hands on linux or windows, do not turn off firewall. You can disable it for a while or for testing purposes, but if you want to stay secure (as secure as you can) do not turn it off.

Note: It's recommended to add firewall rules to allow traffic as needed rather than disabling it however for quick test that would be easier – to accomplish this :

Enable the rule that permits access through the Windows Firewall.

1. Search for Firewall and open “Windows Firewall and Advanced Security”.
2. Find the rule “Remote Desktop – User Mode TCP-in” and **ENABLE Rule**



Congratulations! You have just Enabled RDP in Windows Server 2012. Thank you for following along in this How-To and check back with us for any new updates.

We are constantly adding new apps as they are demanded by our users to insure a smooth and easy integration that would lead to a better overall user's experience .