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Create, Manage and Delete Wireless Filters On Windows

Windows allows users to manage WLAN networks from Command Prompt. It is done by creating wireless filters to prevent that computer from connecting to the specific WiFi network. Settings wireless filter is very important in case if you suspect your PC may join a suspicious wireless network and risk the security. One of the major threat of a computer with WiFi facility is to get connected to suspicious Ad-hoc networks. A hacker runs an ad-hoc network can steal data from your computer if it is connected it and the risk is higher if file and printer sharing are enabled. A properly set WLAN filter can protect your laptop from all the above risks. This tutorial explains how to create, manage and remove WLAN filter on Windows 8, Windows 7, Vista and XP computers.

How To Manage Wireless Filters

This section explains Command Prompt method to set wireless filter for a WiFi network on Windows PC. It also explains how to delete the Wlan filter in case if you no longer want to block that particular network on your computer. We can block both infrastructure and Ad-hoc networks by creating Wlan filters. I have explained this part with practical examples.

1. Block a Wireless Network By Wlan Filter

You can set wireless filters for both adhoc and infrastructure 802.11 networks. Format of the code to create wireless filter to block a network is provided below.

```
netsh wlan add filter permission={allow|block|denyall} ssid=NETWORKNAME networktype={infrastructure|adhoc}
```

Now let us consider a practical example. Here I am going to create a filter for WiFi network "Siju1". It is an adhoc network and the command to enable filter to block it is given below. You must start Command Prompt as administrator to perform it. Right click on cmd on Window search and select run as administrator. Before running this command, make sure WLAN AutoConfig service is started.

```
netsh wlan add filter permission=block ssid=siju1 networktype=adhoc
```

If you haven't completed above two tasks, you may get an error like this.



Now we must do following tasks.

- [Run Command Prompt as administrator](#)

To enable wireless filter, command prompt must run as administrator. Follow the steps to run your command prompt as administrator.

[Run command prompt as administrator](#)

- [Start WLAN AutoConfig](#)

To do this follow the steps provided in the link below.

[Enable wiansvc \(Wlan AutoConfig Service\) on Your Computer](#)

If you have completed these two steps before running the command on DOS prompt, you will get a message like this.

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You will see the message the filter is added on the system successfully.

2. Show All Wireless Filters Set

If any wireless filter is set on your computer ago, it will stop you from accessing the specific network. So, in order to verify there are no unauthorized or unwanted wireless filters are turned on, you must periodically check all WLAN filters set on your Windows computer. You can display all available wireless filters by typing following command on Command Prompt.

```
netsh wlan show filters
```



3. Delete Wlan Filter

If any wireless filters set on your computer to prevent from connecting to a specific connection, you can remove them from DOS prompt itself. The syntax for the command to delete filter is given below.

```
netsh wlan delete filter permission={allow|block|denyall} ssid=NETWORKNAME networktype={infrastructure|adhoc}
```

Now let us check the procedure to check and remove unwanted filters.

- View available filters by running the command `netsh wlan show filters` on DOS Prompt.



Here I need to delete sij1u1 filter.

- Type the command below to delete the specific filter. Make sure DOS prompt is running as administrator.

```
netsh wlan delete filter permission=block ssid=siju1 networktype=adhoc
```

- Press enter button



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