STUDY PLAN

Cisco Firepower Skills

Total Videos: XX  Time: XX hrs
Most learners seeking to learn more about Cisco Firepower have extensive experience in networking and network security. The following skills will equip learners for the greatest success as they engage with the CBT Nuggets Cisco Firepower collection of learning content:

- Install, troubleshoot, configure, and operate medium-sized routing and switching networks;
- Verify and implement network connections to remote sites within a WAN;
- Wireless networking terminology and concepts;
- Mitigation of security vulnerabilities and threats;
- Thorough understanding of protocols including Serial-Line Interface Protocol Frame Relay, IP, EIGRP, Ethernet, ACLs, RIPv2, and more.

Generally speaking, learners seeking to work with Cisco Firepower should have 2-3 years of experience in networking and/or network security.

Cisco Firepower is addressed in the CCNP Security certification, specifically in the 300-210 SITCS exam, one of four exams required for the certification. In order to be eligible for the CCNP Security certification, learners must first earn the CCNA Security certification.

IT pros who have experience in networking and/or network security are best equipped to take on Cisco Firepower. The intermediate-level skills necessary for effectively operating Firepower have most likely been developed by security architects, security engineers, security consultants/specialists, security administrators, systems administrators, or network administrators. Due to the nature of the Cisco Firepower appliance, it is likely that IT pros will encounter this technology in medium-to-large enterprise business environments.

For learner pursuing CCNP Security certification, it is important to be aware that the certification is recognized by DoD 8570 and CNSS 4013, making them eligible for contract and permanent, full-time employment with various US government agencies.

Learn more about the CCNP Security certification from the CBT Nuggets blog. The Roadmap to Success: CCNP Security is part of a series of blog posts designed to help learners better understand certification pathways, career opportunities associated with those certifications, and next steps beyond certification.
EFFECTIVE LEARNING STRATEGIES

• Proceed through all CBT Nuggets video training on double-speed to develop a strong overview of the material; Then proceed through all the training for a second time, taking good notes and focusing on deeper learning.

OR

• Proceed through all CBT Nuggets video training, taking good notes and focusing on deep learning on the first pass; Then proceed back through all training a second time, using double-speed when appropriate.
• Supplement all video training with book study and practical application of knowledge.
• Develop a test or lab environment where new skills can be practiced.

WHAT’S NEXT?

Once you have mastered Cisco Firepower, what should you work to learn next?

Skills
For those learners working to grow their cybersecurity skillset, a thorough understanding of ethical hacking, penetration testing, and programming skills will be valuable next steps.

For those interested in further expanding their networking skillset, developing a deep understanding of wireless networking and cloud computing, as well as network design will set you up for future success.

And for those seeking to develop their sysadmin skillset, building a strong understanding of server infrastructure, cloud platform, and Linux skills will equip you well for future opportunities.

Certifications
For learners interested in pursuing next certification steps, consider the following options:

Cybersecurity
• EC-Council Certified Ethical Hacker (CEH)
• CompTIA Cybersecurity Analyst (CySA+)
• (ISC)2 Certified Information Systems Security Professional (CISSP)

Networking
• Cisco Certified Networking Professional Routing & Switching (CCNP)
• Cisco Certified Design Associate or Professional (CCDA/CCDP)
• Cisco Certified Internetwork Expert Routing & Switching (CCIE)

SysAdmin
• Microsoft MCSE: Core Infrastructure (recommended elective exam: 70-744: Securing Windows Server 2016)
• Microsoft Certified: Azure Administrator Associate (AZ-103) or Microsoft Certified: Azure Solutions Architect Expert (AZ-300 and AZ-301)
• Linux Professional Institute Certified Linux Engineer (LPIC-2)
CISCO FIREPOWER

WATCH
Firepower Threat Defense (FTD) Overview
1. Key Concepts of Firewall Tech
2. FTD Features and Components
3. Zones and Deployment Options

LEARN
Firepower is a Cisco firewall technology that is addressed in the 300-210 SITCS exam. Explore the Cisco website to learn more about the CCNP Security 300-210 SITCS exam, its requirements, and available resources.

Explore our Cisco simulator/emulator recommendations for hands-on practice:
- GNS3 - Cisco emulator
- VIRL - Cisco emulator and modeling lab
- Boson’s network simulator - simulator
- MicroNugget: Building a CCNA Home Lab
- Cisco Packet Tracer

DO
Chasing a certification? Schedule your certification exam with an approved testing site.

Consider purchasing a textbook to supplement your training!
- Essential Firepower: Your best practice guide to configuring Cisco’s Next Generation Firewall by Alex Tatistcheff
- CCNP Guide - CISCO CERTIFIED NETWORK PROFESSIONAL - SECURITY (SITCS) TECHNOLOGY TRAINING WORKBOOK Exam: 300-210 from IP Specialist
- Cisco Firepower Threat Defense (FTD): Configuration and Troubleshooting Best Practices for the Next-Generation Firewall (NGFW), Next-Generation Intrusion Detection (NGIPS), and AMP (Networking Technology: Security) by Nazmul Rajib

“Patience, persistence and perspiration make an unbeatable combination for success.”
- Napoleon Hill
WATCH

Firepower Initial Configuration
1. FMC Initial Plan and Setup
2. FTD Initial Plan and Setup
3. Licensing
4. Adding the FTD to the FMC for Mgmt
5. Planning for FTD Interfaces and Routing
6. Configuring FTD Interfaces and Routing

LEARN

Explore the Cisco Firepower Configuration Guides (FMC, FDM, and Special Guides).

DO

Register for Cisco DevNet to explore the Firepower Learning Labs! (Registration is free.)

Consider exploring these labs today:
- FMC objects and CRUD operations

Practice, practice, practice!

Join the CBT Nuggets Learner Community and to discuss your learning and questions with other CBT Nuggets learners.

“\nThe price of success is hard work, dedication to the job at hand, and the determination that whether we win or lose, we have applied the best of ourselves to the task at hand.”

- Vince Lombardi
WATCH
Firepower Routing and NAT
1. Forwarding IP Packets
2. Confirming Interfaces and Routing
3. NAT Basics and Terminology
4. Planning for Auto NAT
5. Implementing Auto NAT
6. Implementing Manual NAT

LEARN
Explore the Cisco CCNP Security Study Group - even if you’re not pursuing certification at this time - from Cisco Learning Network to learn more about Cisco Firepower.

Dig into Cisco documentation to learn more about Cisco Firepower:
• Routing
• NAT

DO
Practice, practice, practice!

Optional supplemental learning:
• IPv6 Subnetting course. Check out this 34-video course to brush up on your subnetting skills, presented by trainer Keith Barker.

“Ambition is the path to success, persistence is the vehicle you arrive in.”
- William Eardley IV
### WATCH

**Firepower Access Control Policies**
- Access Control Policy Overview
- Access Control Policy Rule Actions Concepts
- Access Control Policy Rule Actions Demonstration
- URL Filtering
- Malware and File Inspections
- SSL/TLS Decryption
- IPS Inspection

45 min.  7 min.  6 min.  6 min.  8 min.  8 min.  4 min.

### LEARN
Dig into Cisco documentation to learn more about [Cisco Firepower](https://www.cisco.com):
- [Access Control](#)
- [SSL Decryption](#)

### DO
Explore the Cisco DevNet [Firepower Learning Labs](https://www.cisco.com)!
Consider exploring these labs today:
- [Firewall Management Center (FMC) access control policies](#)
- [Hands-On (Optional Advanced Exercise): Exploring FMC Access Control Policies and Modifying Policies with the FMC REST API](#)

Explore the [Todd Lammle blog](https://www.toddlammle.com) to learn more about Cisco Firepower.
Recommended posts include:
- [Which IPS Rules does Cisco Enable on your Firepower System?](https://www.toddlammle.com)
- [Think you know? You’re probably wrong!](https://www.toddlammle.com)

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> "Continuous, unflagging effort, persistence and determination will win. Let not the man be discouraged who has these."

- James Whitcomb Riley
### WATCH

**Firepower Discovery**
- 1. Firepower Discovery Overview  
- 2. Implementing a Discovery Policy  
- 3. Viewing Discovery Host Profiles  
- 4. Using NMAP Scans with Host Profiles

Duration:
- 14 min.
- 3 min.
- 3 min.
- 5 min.
- 3 min.

### LEARN

Dig into Cisco documentation to learn more about **Cisco Firepower**:
- **Interfaces**

Explore Cisco documentation to learn more about **Cisco Firepower Management Center**:
- **Discovery and Identity**
  - **Host Identity Sources**
  - **Network Discovery Policies**

### DO

Visit the **CBT Nuggets Learner Community** to ask questions of other Cisco learners.

Practice what you learn using the **Cisco DevNet Learning Labs**.

### Quote

“*It is what we know already that often prevents us from learning.*”

- Claude Bernard
LEARN
Dig into Cisco documentation to learn more about Cisco Firepower:
• Security Intelligence
• Security Intelligence Blacklisting

DO
Explore the Todd Lammle blog to learn more about Cisco Firepower.

Recommended posts include:
• How to find the list of IP, URL, and DNS entries in the Cisco Firepower Feed
• Yet Another Awesome Undocumented Hidden Feature in the new Cisco Firepower 6.4 code!

“
It is not knowledge, but the act of learning, not possession but the act of getting there, which grants the greatest enjoyment.”
- Carl Friedrich Gauss
DO
Review Cisco’s SITCS Study Material to fill in any knowledge gaps.

“Your mind will answer most questions if you learn to relax and wait for the answer.”
- William S. Burroughs
LEARN
Dig into Cisco documentation to learn more about Cisco Firepower:
• Network Address Translation (NAT)
• Site-to-Site VPN
• Remote Access VPN

DO
Download the Next Generation Network Security e-handbook from Computer Weekly and consider their other available free ebooks.

“"I learned the value of hard work by working hard.”
- Margaret Mead
WATCH
Firepower SSL Decryption

LEARN
Dig into Cisco documentation to learn more about [Cisco Firepower](https://www.cisco.com/c/en/us/products/security/firepower-1/)

DO

“Ask yourself the secret of your success. Listen to your answer, and practice it.”
- Richard Bach
LEARN
Dig into Cisco documentation to learn more about Cisco Firepower:
• System Settings
• System Management

DO

“\nThe results you achieve will be in direct proportion to the effort you apply.\”
- Denis Waitley
### WATCH

Cisco Firepower High Availability

1. Firepower HA Concepts  
2. Components and Requirements of HA  
3. Planning for HA  
4. Demonstrating Firepower HA

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### LEARN

Dig into Cisco documentation to learn more about Cisco Firepower high availability and scalability:

- [7000 and 8000 Series Device High Availability](#)
- [8000 Series Device Stacking](#)

### CONGRATULATIONS. YOU HAVE COMPLETED:
CISCO FIREPOWER SKILLS!

“*No one succeeds without effort. Those who succeed owe their success to perseverance.*”

- Ramana Maharshi