Systems & Network Security

Jonathan Brewer
Network Startup Resource Center
jon@nsrc.org



What do we mean by security?

- A good definition:
 - -"[...]processes and mechanisms by which compubased equipment, information and services are protected from unintended or unauthorized access change or destruction"
 - "Computer security also includes protection from unplanned events and natural disasters"

What are we trying to protect?

- Infrastructure
 - Routers, switches, and associated data
- Hosts, services
 - Mail, DNS, ...
- Data
 - Files, databases, ...
- Users
 - Passwords, privileged accesses





In other words...

- Host security
 - Remember, everything is a host
 - Protect the infrastructure as well as the hosts running services
- Data security
 - Mitigating what "they" have access to, once they're inside
- Intrusion Detection
 - Try and detect malicious behaviour





Our Approach

- 1. Prevent and protect
- 2. Detect
- 3. Mitigate





Security Threats and Trends

- Threats
 - DDoS
 - Data Breach / theft of customer databases (Sony, Citigroup)
 - Defacement or Vandalism
 - Malware, viruses, malicious PDF, Flash, Java
- Motivations
 - Political / Ideological
 - Commercial
 - Gaming
 - Vandalism
 - Personal / Social networking related
 - Revenge / disputes between groups
 - Extortion



