

# Re: Limit Single Instance

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*Source:* <http://coding.derkeiler.com/Archive/Java/comp.lang.java.help/2006-02/msg00053.html>

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- *From:* "jcsnippets.atspace.com" <[admin@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:admin@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Wed, 01 Feb 2006 20:48:56 GMT
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"Gordon Beaton" <[not@xxxxxxxxxx](mailto:not@xxxxxxxxxx)> wrote in message  
[news:43e057a1\\$1@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:43e057a1$1@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)  
> On Tue, 31 Jan 2006 21:33:16 -0000, Allan Bruce wrote:  
> > I had thought of something similar - my only worry is if a firewall does  
> > anything to interfere with this?  
>  
> If you are running a firewall on the host where the application runs,  
> shouldn't it allow connections to itself?

To be able to use this method, the application would need to set up a  
ServerSocket (to listen for other instances which are starting up).

ZoneAlarm, for example, will ask the user whether or not you wish to allow  
program X access to the internet and/or the local network. It will also ask  
you if you want to allow program X to act as a server. I'm guessing that  
you'll see at least the server message pop up with this method.

Although I think it is a very good method, the main disadvantage would be  
mistrusting users, who would immediately question the reasons why your  
program would act as a server. The fact that not-so-knowledgeable users  
nowadays are almost always advised to "trust nobody" because of virii and  
malware, isn't helping this either.

I'll run a simple test later on this evening, and post my findings here.

Regards,

JC  
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<http://jcsnippets.atspace.com>  
a collection of source code, tips and tricks

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