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10 ways to achieve cyber readiness

Best practices for modern day business

45% of small businesses report that their security measures are ineffective at mitigating attacks.

Source: Ponemon Institute, October 2020

75% of small businesses could not continue operating if they were hit with a ransomware attack.

Source: Small and Medium-Sized Businesses Ransomware Survey, CyberCatch, April 2022

When it comes to cyberattacks, businesses of all sizes can be targeted. The consequences can be devastating. With cyber incidents being a matter of when, not if, securing your business is essential.

1 Train employees

Teach employees how to recognize and report suspicious activity, avoid vulnerabilities and comply with your cybersecurity policies.

2 Continuously update your software and systems

Run the latest versions and utilize the most current security patches. Tighten network security and use reputable antivirus software.

3 Strengthen passwords

They should contain letters, numbers, symbols and special characters. Prompt your employees to update them every few months.

4 Utilize two-factor authentication

Before granting access to apps and systems, verify users with a numerical code sent by email or text along with their passwords.

Better to be proactive than be the victim of a cyberattack

5 Control access

Limit physical access to your computers, printers, servers and devices. Create user accounts for each employee to track usage.

6 Backup all your data

Use the 3-2-1 method. Back up at least three copies of your important files and servers, two locally and one on a secure cloud. The physical media can include external hard drives, CDs, DVDs and flash drives.

7 Assess your risks and vulnerabilities

Understand how to securely store, manage and share the volumes of sensitive data you are responsible for. Evaluate how you eliminate duplicate files and outdated information before it becomes a gateway to trouble.

8 Protect Remote Workforce

Consider virtual desktop environments, as well as cloud-based cybersecurity solutions that protect the device, cloud and identity of the user. And insist that workers regularly update and bolster the password to their home routers.

9 Have an Incident Response Plan

Every minute counts when your business is hit. Respond faster by laying out an incident plan in advance and training your staff. Ensure it includes protocols for the most common types of security breaches: ransomware, phishing and website hacking.

10 Invest in cyber insurance

While these measures can reduce your risks, they cannot deter them all. For that reason, cyber insurance is a must. Remember, without cyber insurance, the financial burden of a cyberattack can be devasting.

With cyber security threats evolving, preparation is key. Let us show you how to minimize the dangers and damages of a cyber attack.

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