



Cybersecurity Checklist

Cybersecurity is essential for protecting your identity and digital information, especially if you are a high-net-worth individual, family, or company. Cybercriminals are constantly developing new and sophisticated ways to attack, so it is important to take steps to protect yourself.

This cybersecurity checklist provides a starting point for improving your cybersecurity posture. It includes a variety of recommendations, from creating strong passwords to implementing security solutions for your network and devices.

Be vigilant and educate yourself. Understand the risks to your devices and your network. Stay up to date by taking an annual online course about cybersecurity. Talk about it within your family and your company.

Passwords

- ✓ Use a password manager to create and manage strong, unique passwords for all your accounts. We use LastPass, but there are many options. Sharing an account with your spouse and your family is a great way to stay secure. Plus, it remembers all those logins and passwords for you.
- ✓ Enable multi-factor authentication (MFA) whenever possible.

Router

- ✓ Change the default router password and wireless password.
- ✓ Change the default router name and the name of the WiFi network (SSID).
- ✓ Change the built-in firewall in the ISP's router to the most secure settings.
- ✓ Consider adding a separate firewall device to your network.
- ✓ Disable wireless if you don't need it.
- ✓ Make sure the password for your WiFi is strong and that you use the latest security protocols (WPA3 is best).
- ✓ Create a guest network for visitors.

Endpoints

- ✓ Keep all your devices (computers, mobile phones, printers, etc.) fully updated with the latest security patches.
- ✓ Install daily updated anti-virus software.
- ✓ Consider installing endpoint detection and response (EDR) software for even more protection.

Data backups

- ✓ Back up your important data regularly to a secure cloud service or to a mix of cloud, office, and home locations.
- ✓ Test your backups regularly to make sure they can be restored successfully.

Remote access

- ✓ Use a VPN to secure your traffic when you connect to the internet remotely.

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Access control

- ✓ Restrict access to your company's sensitive data and systems to only those who need it.

Email security

- ✓ Consider using an email security solution to protect your email from phishing attacks and other threats.

Mobile security

- ✓ Secure your mobile phones with strong passwords and multi-factor authentication. Many mobile phones are the weakest link amongst your digital devices. Be vigilant!
- ✓ Consider using a mobile security solution to protect your devices from malware and other threats.

Employee education

- ✓ Educate your employees about cybersecurity risks and best practices. Review what good attacks look like, what *to* do, and what *not* to do when you run into one.

Privacy settings

- ✓ Review your privacy settings on social media and other online accounts to limit the amount of information that is publicly available.

Credit score monitoring

- ✓ Check your credit score at least once a year for signs of fraud. You can get a free copy once per year from the major credit rating agencies – Equifax, TransUnion, and Experian.
- ✓ Check out a free service like Credit Karma to monitor your credit on a more regular basis.
- ✓ Create an account at each of the credit rating agencies and freeze your credit score.
- ✓ Consider freezing your kid(s)'s credit score(s) until they need their credit.

Secure disposal of old devices

- ✓ When you dispose of old devices, make sure to erase all your data securely.
- ✓ For the best effect, pull out the hard drive from the device and burn it in an outside firepit.
- ✓ Recycle your old devices through someone trustworthy.

Additional tips

- ✓ Be wary of phishing emails and other scams.
- ✓ Don't click on links in emails or text messages from unknown senders.
- ✓ Be careful about what information you share online.
- ✓ Keep your software up to date.

Following the recommendations in this checklist can help protect your identity and digital information from cybercriminals. However, it is important to remember that cybersecurity is an ongoing process. You should regularly review your security practices and make changes as needed to keep up with the latest threats.

We also recommend that you consult with a cybersecurity expert to get personalized advice and support. They can help you to assess your specific risks and develop a comprehensive cybersecurity plan.

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