

Cyber criminals are more innovative and savvy than ever before, making it critical for businesses to have a strong cyber security program in place. Use this checklist to see if your cyber security program meets the challenge of modern security threats.

Security Awareness of Staff

Effective cyber security begins with a high level of awareness among your employees. A strong security awareness training program includes a number of elements, which we list here.



Written Policies

Written policies should be in place for all of the following:

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|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bring your own device | <input type="checkbox"/> Software installation | <input type="checkbox"/> Social engineering |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Remote access | <input type="checkbox"/> Wireless | <input type="checkbox"/> Ethics |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clean desk policy | <input type="checkbox"/> Data destruction | <input type="checkbox"/> Acceptable use |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Email | <input type="checkbox"/> Password policies | |

Security Awareness Training Controls

Critical elements of security awareness training include:

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Phishing | <input type="checkbox"/> Ransomware | <input type="checkbox"/> Incident response |
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Vulnerability Assessments

You'll better understand your security strengths and weaknesses and where your areas of highest risk are after a vulnerability assessment. These are typically conducted twice a year for any business in a regulated industry and quarterly for those requiring PCI compliance.

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Prioritization of risks and remediation | <input type="checkbox"/> Compliance attestation | <input type="checkbox"/> Internal and external assessment perspectives |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Third-party suppliers | <input type="checkbox"/> Cloud infrastructure | <input type="checkbox"/> Secure configurations |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Physical security (key fobs, locks, alarms, etc.) | <input type="checkbox"/> Applications | |

Compliance

Many organizations must adhere to regulatory frameworks. For businesses in regulated industries, compliance is a key consideration in creating a security program.

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| <input type="checkbox"/> HIPAA | <input type="checkbox"/> PCI DSS | <input type="checkbox"/> CCPA |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GDPR | <input type="checkbox"/> NYCRR | <input type="checkbox"/> Cyber security frameworks |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Control frameworks | <input type="checkbox"/> Risk management frameworks | |

Threat Detection

Detecting potential threats before they cause problems is an important element of any cyber security program.

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Log correlation | <input type="checkbox"/> Log retention | <input type="checkbox"/> Anomaly detection |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dark web monitoring | | |

Backup and Disaster Recovery

Whether caused by human error or a natural event, disasters happen. Be prepared with a thorough backup and disaster recovery plan.

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| <input type="checkbox"/> File level backup | <input type="checkbox"/> Disk image backups | <input type="checkbox"/> Replication |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Disaster recovery | <input type="checkbox"/> Business continuity | <input type="checkbox"/> Archival |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Incident response and disaster recovery runbook | | |

Email Security

Malicious actors often make their way into a system through something as simple as an email. Your security program should include protection of your email system.

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Email backup and archival | <input type="checkbox"/> eDiscovery | <input type="checkbox"/> Data leakage protection (DLP) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Attachment sandboxing | <input type="checkbox"/> Link protection | <input type="checkbox"/> Email firewall / security gateway |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Spam protection | <input type="checkbox"/> Social engineering | |

Endpoint & Server Security

A vulnerability assessment will automatically flag the absence of certain necessary endpoint and server security measures.

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Advanced malware protection (AMP) | <input type="checkbox"/> Third-party patch management (Adobe, Chrome, Java, etc.) | <input type="checkbox"/> Windows updates |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DNS protection | <input type="checkbox"/> Mobile device management | <input type="checkbox"/> Asset management (warranty and lifecycle) |

Authentication

A basic security measure to have in place is authentication that goes beyond simply creating a strong password.

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| <input type="checkbox"/> RADIUS | <input type="checkbox"/> AD | <input type="checkbox"/> TFA |
| <input type="checkbox"/> MFA | | |

Next Generation Firewall

Stay ahead of cyber criminals that work tirelessly to breach your systems and keep them locked out with a next generation firewall.

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Intrusion detection and prevention | <input type="checkbox"/> Application layer security | <input type="checkbox"/> VPN |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Content filtering | <input type="checkbox"/> Advanced malware protection (AMP) | |

How many of the above have you checked off in your business?

There are a lot of pieces involved in creating an effective security program – from a written policy through a compliance framework.

An outsourced security provider like Access One can help with any and all of the steps it takes to put a better security program in place. Contact us today to get started on the path to better security.