SECURITY BASECAMP

Secure Your Business

CYBER SECURITY TIPS

for SMALL- and MEDIUM BUSINESSES (SMBs)

Small businesses are increasingly targeted by cybercriminals due to perceived weaker defenses. The Quick Tips below are a summary of The Cybersecurity for Small Business Guide, created by the FTC in partnership with NIST, DHS, and SBA which offers practical advice to help small business owners understand cybersecurity risks and implement cost-effective, actionable protections.

QUICK TIPS & RECOMMENDATIONS

CYBERSECURITY BASICS

- Encrypt devices and sensitive data.
- Use multi factor authentication (MFA).
- Back up data regularly online and in the cloud.
- Apply automatic software updates.
- Require strong, unique passwords.

PHISHING

- Teach staff to identity phishing emails and to avoid clicking suspicious links.
- Use email authentication.
- Constantly back up data.
- Maintain updated security tools.

NIST CYBERSECURITY FRAMEWORK

- Adopt the NIST framework functions:
- Identify, Protect, Detect, Respond and Recover.
- Implement policies on:
- Access control, Data encryption. Incident response and Employee Training.

BUSINESS EMAIL IMPOSTERS

- Implement SPF, DKIM, and DMARC to authenticate outgoing emails.
- Train staff to recognize impersonation attempts and monitor for spoofed domains.

RANSOMWARE

- Prevent ransomware through employee training, software updates, data backups and a written Incident response plan.
- In case of an attack, isolate affected devices, report to law enforcement, and notify affected individuals.

VENDOR SECURITY

- Vet vendors for cybersecurity readiness.
- Include security requirements in contracts.
- Limit vendor access to sensitive systems and enforce MFA.

CYBER INSURANCE

- Evaluate both first-party (own losses) and third-party (liability) coverage.
- Ensure policies cover data breaches, network attacks, legal defense, and international incidents.

EMAIL AUTHENTICATION

- Use SPF, DKIM, and DMARC to protect your domain.
- Coordinate with web hosting/email providers to ensure correct setup.