

“How good is your cyber security?”

A 10-point quiz for home and at-home business

It may not be the Russians, but chances are increasing that “somebody” will try to hack into your home or business network. With more people working from home, the FBI reports cyber attacks have increased 300%! And at-home offices are the new target of hackers looking to find entry into corporate networks.

These 10 questions cover basics of security for your small home or business network. Can you answer all of them?

1. Are you backing up essential business data on a regular basis? Storing it in more than one place, including in a secure cloud repository?
2. Do you have comprehensive anti-virus software installed and updated?
3. Have you set a policy regarding passwords for all home devices including cellphones – how to create, when to change? **Alert!** Passwords are phasing out; multi-factor authentication phasing in.
4. Do you and your employees get regular training on how to protect your network from the latest phishing attempts, email scams, automated downloads, fake technical support, unchecked USB files, etc.?
5. Do you distinguish between acceptable and unacceptable internet activity on your business computer? Have you set video conferencing security policies? Are policies spelled out? Do you monitor compliance?
6. What steps have you taken to protect customer data? Is it password protected? Encrypted? Do you have a published privacy policy?
7. In case your network goes down, do you have alternate ways to contact customers, vendors, and employees? Are these alternates already set up?
8. Do you have a written disaster recovery plan that includes data protection? When was the last time you tested it to see if it works?
9. Do you have insurance for cyber disaster and/or business interruption?
10. Are you confident that you understand all legal requirements associated with your industry and business -- licensing, personnel documents, financial records, customer files, contracts, etc.?

Caution: *If you are dealing with a business network, and you have no answer for one or more of these questions, you may be flirting with negligence. Work with professionals to start strengthening your network – today!*

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