# Is Your Business Fully Prepared to Defend Against Cyber Threats?

## **IT Cyberscurity Checklist**

Protecting your business from cyber threats is more important than ever. Use this comprehensive checklist to ensure your systems, data, and networks are safeguarded against potential risks and vulnerabilities

#### 1. Passwords & Authentication

- Ensure strong password policies (minimum length, complexity requirements).
- ✓ Implement multi-factor authentication (MFA) for all users.
- Encourage the use of password managers for users.
- ✓ Set up account lockout policies after failed login attempts.
- Conduct regular password audits.

## 2. Security Updates

- Ensure all systems and software are patched regularly.
- Set up automatic updates for critical security patches.
- ✓ Test patches in a controlled environment before deployment.
- ✓ Monitor for zero-day vulnerabilities.
- ✓ Document and track patch deployments.

# 3. Encryption

- Encrypt sensitive data both in transit and at rest.
- Ensure full disk encryption on all endpoints.
- ✓ Use encrypted communication channels (e.g., TLS/SSL).
- Encrypt cloud storage.
- Manage encryption keys securely.

## 4. Security Training

- ✓ Conduct regular security awareness training for all staff.
- Provide phishing training with real-world examples.
- ✓ Educate employees about social engineering tactics.
- ✓ Promote secure device usage (BYOD).
- Create a clear process for reporting suspicious activity.

### 5. Firewalls and VPN

- ✓ Configure firewalls with default-deny rules.
- Ensure remote workers are using a secure VPN connection.
- Require VPN for remote access.
- ✓ Enable IDS/IPS alongside firewalls.
- Review firewall rules regularly.

#### 6. Security Audits

- ✓ Schedule quarterly security audits
- ✓ Review security logs regularly for suspicious activity.
- ✓ Perform regular vulnerability scanning.
- ✓ Assess compliance with security standards.
- Engage third-party auditors for penetration testing.

By following these cybersecurity best practices, you can strengthen your defenses and ensure your business remains protected against evolving threats. Reach out today!

