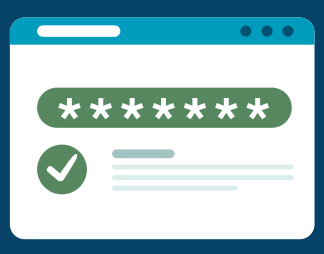
CYBERSECURITY

TIPS TO KEEP YOU & YOUR COMPANY SAFE

PATCH YOUR SYSTEMS

Making sure all your systems are updated frequently is one of the most important things you can do. According to Verizon's 2021 Data Breach Investigations Report, on average, companies have only implemented 42% of patches within 90 days of release. That's an enormous window of opportunity that we give the bad guys!



USE PASSWORD HYGIENE

Use a 12+ character password that contains upper- & lower-case characters, numbers, and special symbols. Change passwords every 90 days and don't reuse passwords on multiple accounts. The easiest way to ensure good password security is to use a password manager or vault, which generates complex unique passwords for your accounts and saves those for you so that all you have to do is remember one master password to get into your manager.

MULTI-FACTOR AUTHENTICATION

MFA requires two or more of the following factors: something you know (like a password), something you have (like an authenticator application), and something you are (like a fingerprint). Having more than one type of authentication greatly reduces your risk from hackers.

ANTI-VIRUS SOFTWARE

While this is almost a given in the current day, many organizations fail to implement this very fundamental security control. However, even those companies that do install Anti-Virus (AV) software on endpoints sometimes fail to ensure that they are constantly updated with the most current virus signatures (how viruses are detected for pattern-based AV products). If you want to go to the next level, all devices should also have a heuristic (learning) based AV solution that scans for non-file (memory) based viruses for layered protection.

STAY ALERT

Never blatantly trust anything that asks you to click on it (particularly pop-ups) without a little critical thinking. Similarly, be wary of any file attachment on emails when you are not expecting them. These are easy ways to bypass your computer's security, so be on guard.

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