

Checklist: How to build a cyber-secure culture on a budget

Want to protect your business against cyber attacks? Building a cyber-secure culture will give your team the skills, knowledge and confidence they need to recognise potential threats. Follow this checklist to start making your business cyber-secure.

Put strong foundations in place

- Implement cyber security tools on all your company's devices
- Check that software and laptops are up to date, and remind your team to update them when prompted
- Ask your team to set strong, unique passwords for apps. Aim for a minimum of eight characters and a mixture of letters, numbers and symbols
- Install a password manager to ensure passwords are stored and shared securely
- Ensure you have back-up copies of critical business data and information

Share free resources

- Check your government's website to see what cyber security training they provide and/or recommend
- Research free online training programmes and resources for your team to complete
- Build a list of appropriate podcasts, videos and other educational resources
- Compile this information into a document that you can use for onboarding new employees, and as a key source that your team can refer to
- Run phishing tests to see how your employees respond.

Keep your knowledge up to date

- Decide how you'll stay updated on important cyber security trends, whether it's subscribing to a podcast or checking in with your founder network
- Audit and test your company's cyber security accordingly. Doing this at least once a year is a good rule of thumb
- Give your team time to complete any new training – but keep them accountable and verify that it's been completed
- Lead by example. Be vocal about cyber security best practices and be able to communicate new changes or risks to your team