

Network Security Checklist

Many businesses do not have adequate network security. Here's how to make sure you do.

You depend on your network for your most important business operations, such as communication, inventory, billing, sales, and trading with partners. Yet up to now, you may have held off on protecting your network, for several possible reasons:

- Network security might seem too complex, and tackling it might seem like too much work. But you can take a step-by-step approach, then use a consultant to help you complete your security plan.
- You may think network security is an expense that won't help your business grow. Instead of thinking about it as a technical concern, consider it a business continuity issue. Networks have become a basic part of doing business, which makes security planning as important as sales and marketing.
- You may believe that smaller companies are less likely to be a target of attacks. But as large companies beef up their network security, hackers are increasingly focusing on small and medium-sized businesses.

General Planning Tips

The following tips can help you develop and win support for an effective network security plan: