

# The 7-Point Cybersecurity Risk Checklist



EVERY ORGANISATION SHOULD RUN IN 30 MINUTES

## Introduction

**Is your organisation cyber-secure?** *Run this 7-point risk check before a breach does it for you.* This checklist is designed to provide a rapid assessment of your organisation's cybersecurity posture.

## How to Use This Checklist

- **Designed for:** Business owners, directors, board members, operations managers, and IT/admin staff.
- **Time Required:** 30 minutes.
- **Instructions:** Be honest with your answers. If unsure, treat the item as a risk. Complete each section and note the number of raised concerns to derive a final risk summary.

### 1. Email & Phishing Risk

Email is the number one entry point for cyber attacks.

#### Check all that apply:

- ☐ Staff use strong, unique passwords for email accounts
- ☐ Two-factor authentication (2FA) is enabled on email
- ☐ Staff are trained to recognise phishing and suspicious links
- ☐ No shared email passwords across staff
- ☐ Suspicious emails are reported, not ignored

**Risk Indicator:** If 2 or more boxes are unchecked → **High Risk**

### 2. Data Storage & Access Control

**Sensitive data is valuable—to you and attackers.**

- ☐ Sensitive data (client, staff, financial) is clearly identified
- ☐ Access to sensitive data is limited to authorised staff only
- ☐ Former employees no longer have system access

- ☐ Data is not stored on personal devices without approval
- ☐ Cloud storage access is properly controlled

**Risk Indicator:** Uncontrolled access = **Immediate Risk**

### 3. Website & Online Systems Security

**Your website is a public-facing attack surface.**

- ☐ Website uses HTTPS (secure lock icon)
- ☐ Software, plugins, and CMS are up to date
- ☐ Website admin access is restricted
- ☐ Backups are taken regularly
- ☐ Hosting provider offers security monitoring

**Risk Indicator:** Outdated systems = **High Breach Probability**

### 4. Device & Network Security

**Every laptop, phone, and router matters.**

- ☐ Work devices require passwords or biometric locks
- ☐ Antivirus or endpoint protection is installed
- ☐ Devices are updated regularly
- ☐ Public Wi-Fi usage is restricted or secured
- ☐ Lost or stolen devices can be remotely locked or wiped

**Risk Indicator:** Unprotected devices = **Silent Exposure**

### 5. Backup & Incident Preparedness

**Security is not just prevention—it's recovery.**

- ☐ Critical data is backed up regularly
- ☐ Backups are stored securely and separately
- ☐ Someone knows what to do during a cyber incident
- ☐ Incident response contacts are defined
- ☐ Downtime risks are understood

**Risk Indicator:** No backup plan = **Business disruption risk**

### 6. Staff Awareness & Human Risk

**People are your strongest—and weakest—link.**

- ☐ Staff have received basic cybersecurity awareness training
- ☐ Password sharing is discouraged
- ☐ Clear IT and security policies exist
- ☐ Staff understand data protection responsibilities
- ☐ Cybersecurity is discussed beyond IT teams

**Risk Indicator:** Untrained staff = **High likelihood of breach**

## 7. Governance, Compliance & Oversight

**Cybersecurity is a management responsibility, not just IT.**

- ☐ Leadership understands cybersecurity risks
- ☐ Policies exist and are enforced
- ☐ Regulatory requirements are known
- ☐ Third-party risks are considered
- ☐ Cybersecurity is reviewed periodically

**Risk Indicator:** No oversight = **Strategic exposure**

### Risk Summary

Count how many sections raised concern:

- **0–1 risks:** Low risk (maintain controls)
- **2–3 risks:** Medium risk (action required)
- **4+ risks:** High risk (professional assessment recommended)

This summary provides a high-level indication of your organisation's cybersecurity risk level.

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## What This Checklist Does—and Doesn't—Do

- ✓ Helps you **identify risk areas quickly**
- ✓ Creates awareness and clarity
- ✓ Supports informed decision-making
- ✗ Does not replace a professional cybersecurity assessment
- ✗ Does not fix vulnerabilities automatically

# Next Steps

If your results show **medium to high risk**, the next step is **professional review and remediation**.

A structured cybersecurity assessment will:

- Identify hidden vulnerabilities
  - Prioritise risks
  - Provide clear, actionable recommendations
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## About Retis Systems

Retis Systems provides **cybersecurity consulting, risk assessments, vulnerability testing, secure software development, and capacity building** for organisations that value security, compliance, and resilience.

## Want a Professional Review?

If you'd like a cybersecurity expert to review your checklist results and advise on next steps, you can book a short consultation.

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