FREE GUIDE

Small Business Cybersecurity Checklist 2026

15 defenses that stop 95% of attacks on small businesses

Brought to you by **CyberShield**
getshieldcheck.com

© 2026 CyberShield | getshieldcheck.com

Small Business Cybersecurity Checklist 2026

Most breaches aren't sophisticated hacks — they're basic hygiene failures. Work through this list; each checked box measurably lowers your risk.

- ■ **1. MFA everywhere**
  Multi-factor on email, banking, and admin accounts. Non-negotiable in 2026.
- ■ **2. Password manager**
  One strong master password; unique 20-char passwords everywhere else.
- ■ **3. Automatic updates**
  Unpatched software is the #1 entry point. Turn on auto-update everywhere.
- ■ **4. Backups: 3-2-1**
  3 copies, 2 media types, 1 offsite. Test restoring once a quarter.
- ■ **5. Phishing training**
  Run a fake phishing test. Clickers get training, not punishment.
- ■ **6. Separate admin accounts**
  Nobody browses the web as domain admin.
- ■ **7. Firewall + DNS filtering**
  Block malicious domains before anyone clicks.
- ■ **8. Laptop encryption**
  BitLocker/FileVault on. A stolen laptop shouldn't mean a breach.
- ■ **9. Wi-Fi segmentation**
  Guests on a separate network. Always.
- ■ **10. Least privilege**
  Employees get access to what they need — nothing more.
- ■ **11. Incident plan on paper**
  Who do you call first? Write it down before you need it.
- ■ **12. Vendor risk**
  Your weakest vendor is your weakest link. Ask about their security.
- ■ **13. Old accounts**
  Remove ex-employee access the same day they leave.
- ■ **14. Public Wi-Fi rule**
  VPN required on any network you don't own.
- ■ **15. Cyber insurance**
  Read the fine print — many policies now require MFA and backups.

© 2026 CyberShield | getshieldcheck.com

Want the full version?

Get a professional $99 written security audit at getshieldcheck.com.

getshieldcheck.com

© 2026 CyberShield | getshieldcheck.com