





"MY BUSINESS IS TOO SMALL TO BE TARGETED BY CYBERCRIMINALS."

It's a comforting belief: "Why would cybercriminals target my small business? I'm flying under the radar." Many SMBs think they're immune to attacks simply because they're not massive corporations.





Small and medium-sized businesses (SMBs) are actually prime targets for cybercriminals. These digital ghouls know that smaller organizations often have weaker defenses, making them easier to infiltrate. In fact, over 43% of cyber attacks are directed at small businesses, (OSIbeyond) leaving financial devastation and compromised data in their wake. Hackers may not be after your business's size but your vulnerabilities.



HOW TO KEEP THE GHOULS AT BAY:

Invest in solid cybersecurity measures, such as firewalls, multifactor authentication (MFA), and employee training. Even small businesses can build strong defenses that make them less attractive targets for these cyber ghouls.

DEBUNKED #5

"ANTIVIRUS SOFTWARE ALONE IS ENOUGH TO PROTECT ME."

Think of your antivirus software as garlic for vampires—it keeps them away, right? But it may not be enough. Many businesses believe that simply installing antivirus software is all the protection they need to ward off cyber threats.





THE CHILLING TRUTH:

While antivirus software is a good starting point, it's far from enough. Today's cyber threats are far more sophisticated than what an antivirus can protect. Hackers use advanced tools to bypass antivirus systems, and many attacks involve phishing, ransomware, or social engineering—none of which antivirus software can fully protect against. More than half of Americans rely on their devices' built-in antivirus protection (or use none at all), but around 121 million adults still turn to third-party antivirus software. (Security.org) To be truly protected, businesses need a layered defense that includes firewalls, encryption, multi-factor authentication, and employee training.



HOW TO FORTIFY YOUR DEFENSES:

Treat your cybersecurity like fortifying a haunted house—use multiple layers of protection. In addition to antivirus software, consider endpoint protection, regular system updates, and continuous monitoring of your network to keep cyber ghouls at bay.



"IF MY DATA IS STORED IN THE CLOUD, IT'S AUTOMATICALLY SAFE."

The cloud is often seen as a shining beacon of safety, floating far above the murky depths of cyber attacks. Many businesses believe that by moving their data to the cloud, they're immune to digital ghouls and goblins.







THE CHILLING TRUTH:

The cloud may be convenient, but it's not invulnerable to attacks. While cloud providers do offer security measures, it's still up to the business to ensure their cloud storage is properly protected. Without data encryption, access controls, and regular security audits, your data could be floating in a haunted cloud, just waiting for a cyber ghoul to snatch it. Only about 45% of cloud data is encrypted, and only 14% of businesses say they control all the keys to their encrypted data. (Thales)



HOW TO EXORCISE CLOUD FEARS:

Encrypt your data before it heads to the cloud and set up strong access controls. Regularly audit your cloud service provider's security measures and make sure they're up to date. The cloud can be a safe haven—but only if you're proactive in its defense.



"CYBERSECURITY IS IT'S RESPONSIBILITY; I DON'T NEED TO WORRY ABOUT IT."

Picture this: You sit back, confident that your in-house IT expert(s) are standing guard, keeping the cyber ghosts and goblins at bay. Many businesses believe that cybersecurity is solely the responsibility of their IT department.





THE CHILLING TRUTH:

Cybersecurity is everyone's responsibility, not just IT's! Just like a haunted mansion requires every guest to avoid the cursed artifacts, every employee in your company plays a role in maintaining security. According to recent data, a significant portion of cyber attacks target small and medium businesses, with statistics showing that 46% of all cyber breaches affect companies with less than 1,000 employees. (Strongdm) Human error, like clicking on a phishing link or using weak passwords, is often the weakest link in the security chain. By not engaging employees in the process, businesses leave themselves wide open to attack.



HOW TO FORTIFY YOUR DEFENSES:

Make cybersecurity training a priority for everyone—from the boardroom to the breakroom. Create a culture where everyone is aware of phishing, password security, and other best practices. Your IT experts can't fight the cyber apocalypse alone—they need everyone's help. Partnering with a managed service provider that specializes in cybersecurity would be an invaluable layer of protection that can amplify the security of your organization, give back-up to your in-house team (if applicable) as well as infuse that necessary culture of awareness on every level.



"CYBER LIABILITY INSURANCE IS ALL I NEED TO COVER CYBER ATTACKS."

Some businesses believe that as long as they have cyber liability insurance, they're protected from any cyber attack—like carrying a lucky charm to ward off evil spirits.



THE CHILLING TRUTH:



Cyber liability insurance is crucial, but it's not a magic spell. While insurance helps cover financial damage after an attack (such as legal fees, notification costs, or data recovery), it won't prevent the attack from happening in the first place. Without proactive cybersecurity measures, your business could still face major losses that insurance can't fully cover. Plus, some policies exclude certain types of attacks or don't cover negligence. It's estimated that over 43% of SMBs do not have a cybersecurity plan in place and could have preventative measures at the ready even before adding cyber liability insurance coverage. (Forbes)



HOW TO ENSURE YOU'RE TRULY PROTECTED:

Cyber liability insurance is only one part of a robust defense. Invest in proactive security measures like vulnerability assessments and real-time threat detection to protect your business from ever needing to rely on that insurance.



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