

CYBER ESSENTIALS CHECKLIST

These 5 basic controls will put you and your organisation on the path to better cyber security and your Cyber Essentials Certification. Check how much progress you've made by completing the handy checklists laid out below.

1. USE A FIREWALL TO SECURE YOUR INTERNET CONNECTION

- Understand what a firewall is.
- Understand the difference between a personal and boundary firewall.
- Locate the firewall which comes with your operating system and turn it on.
- Find out if your router has a boundary firewall function. Turn it on if it does.

2. CHOOSE THE MOST SECURE SETTINGS FOR YOUR DEVICES AND SOFTWARE

- Know what 'configuration' means.
- Find the settings of your device and try to turn off a function that you don't need.
- Find the settings of a piece of software you regularly use and try to turn off a function you don't need.
- Read the NCSC guidelines on passwords.
- Make sure you're still happy with your passwords.
- Read up about Two-Factor Authentication.

3. CONTROL WHO HAS ACCESS TO YOUR DATA AND SERVICES

- Read up on accounts and permission.
- Understand the concept of 'least privilege'.
- Know who has administrative privileges on your machine.
- Know what counts as an administrative task.
- Set up a minimal user account on one of your devices.

4. PROTECT YOURSELF FROM VIRUSES AND OTHER MALWARE

- Know what malware is and how it can get onto devices. Identify 3 ways to protect against malware.
- Read up on anti-virus applications.
- Install an anti-virus application on one of your devices and test for viruses.
- Research secure places to buy apps such as Google Play and Apple App Store.
- Understand what a 'sandbox' is.

5. KEEP YOUR DEVICES AND SOFTWARE UP TO DATE

- Know what 'patching' is.
- Verify the Operating System on all your devices are set to "Automatic Update".
- Try to set a piece of software that you regularly use to Automatic Update.
- List all of the software you have that is no longer supported.