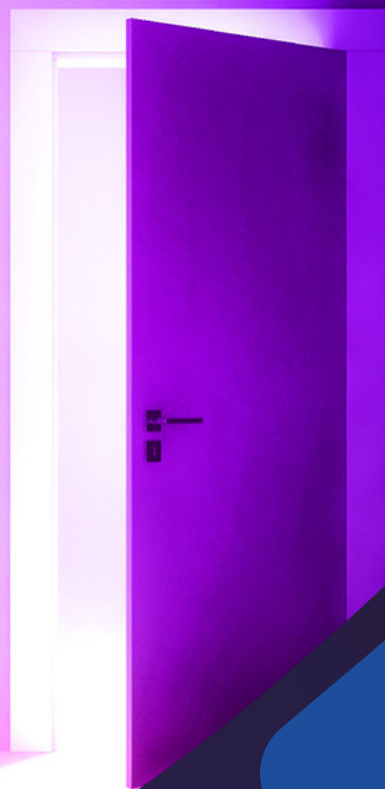


# HOW TO PREVENT RANSOMWARE FROM ENTERING YOUR BUSINESS



Ransomware is a type of malware that encrypts your files and locks them until you pay a ransom. It's a prevalent and growing threat because cheap ransomware kits are available on the dark web, making it easy for cybercriminals to make money. Small businesses are frequently targeted by cybercriminals since they often lack the same level of security as big corporations.

Fortunately, there are steps you can take to help protect your business from ransomware; but, before you take those steps, it's critical to comprehend how ransomware can infiltrate your organization.

## THE 4 MAIN ENTRY POINTS FOR RANSOMWARE

### CREDENTIALS

Cybercriminals can easily exploit weak or stolen credentials to access your system or network. Once inside, the attacker can then deploy ransomware at will.

### PHISHING

Hackers use social engineering to trick you into clicking a malicious link or downloading an attachment. The attack can happen via email, social media or even text message. If successful, the attacker can then install ransomware on your system.

### VULNERABILITIES

Another way ransomware can enter your organization is by exploiting vulnerabilities within your network or systems. Remember, even a delayed security patch deployment could open you up to threats.

### BOTNETS

Botnets are networks of computers that have been infected with malware and controlled by a cybercriminal. These botnets can distribute ransomware to victims' computers.



## 3 WAYS TO START PROTECTING YOUR BUSINESS TODAY

### STRENGTHEN YOUR PASSWORDS

According to a recent report, stolen credentials led to nearly 50% of attacks last year.\*

It's crucial to improve your password hygiene by using single sign-on (SSO), a password manager and multifactor authentication (MFA).

# 1

### AMP UP EMAIL SECURITY

Protect your data against phishing by increasing email security through phishing prevention software and anti-phishing mock tests.

# 2

### PROTECT YOUR NETWORK

Keep your network safe from vulnerabilities and botnets by using a virtual private network (VPN), automating patching/updates and monitoring your network. Dark Web scanning can also help you keep track of potential threats.

# 3

If you want to start defending your business today, we can help. An IT service provider like us can guide you through all the steps necessary to ensure your business's safety, making the process of protecting your business uncomplicated and allowing you to maintain peace of mind.

**Securing your business is essential. Let's get started today.**

Contact our Cybersecurity Specialists today!

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