



CyberSecure  
MISSISSIPPI

# Cybersecurity Awareness Fundamentals



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# CyberSecure

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## Outline

- Introduction to Cybersecurity
- Foundations of Cybersecurity
- Threats to Cybersecurity
- Protecting Your Company Information
- Cybersecurity & Social Media

# Cybersecurity

The protection of networks, devices, and data from unauthorized access or criminal use and the practice of ensuring confidentiality, integrity, and availability of information.



# What is the weakest link in your organization?





# Everything is online and connected



- Email
- File storage
- Pictures
- Video conferencing
- Shopping/Ordering
- Shipping
- Banking/Payroll
- Point-of-Sale

# What is at risk?

Loss of Access

Loss of Personal Information

Loss of Money

Loss of Business Information

Loss of Reputation/Business

Loss of Critical Services





# Did you know?

*"50% of small to medium-sized businesses (SMB) have been the victims of cyber attack and over 60% of those attacked go out of business."*

Dr. Jane LeClair, Chief Operating Officer  
National Cybersecurity Institute



# Local Government Attacks

Atlanta: Ransomware

Demand: \$51,000 in Bitcoin

Cost: \$2.7 Million

Baltimore: Ransomware

Demand: \$80,000 in Bitcoin

Cost: \$6 Million

Pensacola

Demand: \$1 Million

Cost: \$140,000



# Small Business Cybersecurity Stats

## Incidence Rates:

43% of cyber attacks target small businesses.

60% of small businesses go out of business within six months of a cyber attack.

## Cost of Cyber Attacks:

The average cost of a cyber attack on a small business is \$200,000.

52% of small businesses experienced a cyber attack in the last year.

## Common Types of Cyber Attacks:

Phishing attacks: 76%

Malware: 60%

Ransomware: 34%

## Security Measures:

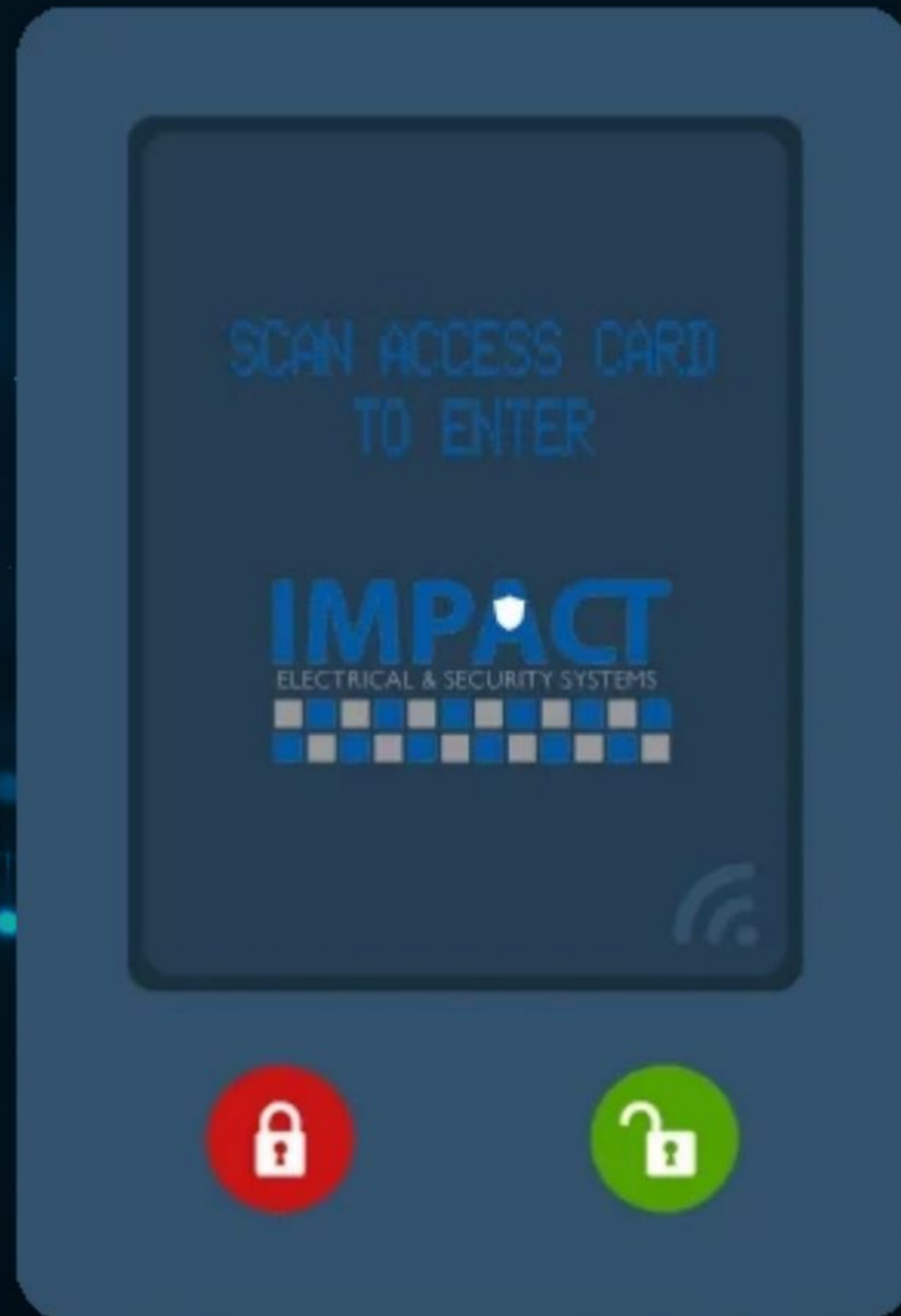
30% of small businesses have an active cybersecurity policy.

47% of small businesses have no understanding of how to protect themselves against cyber attacks.

## Employee Training:

48% of data breaches are caused by acts of malicious intent, human error, or system glitches.

21% of small businesses conduct annual security training.

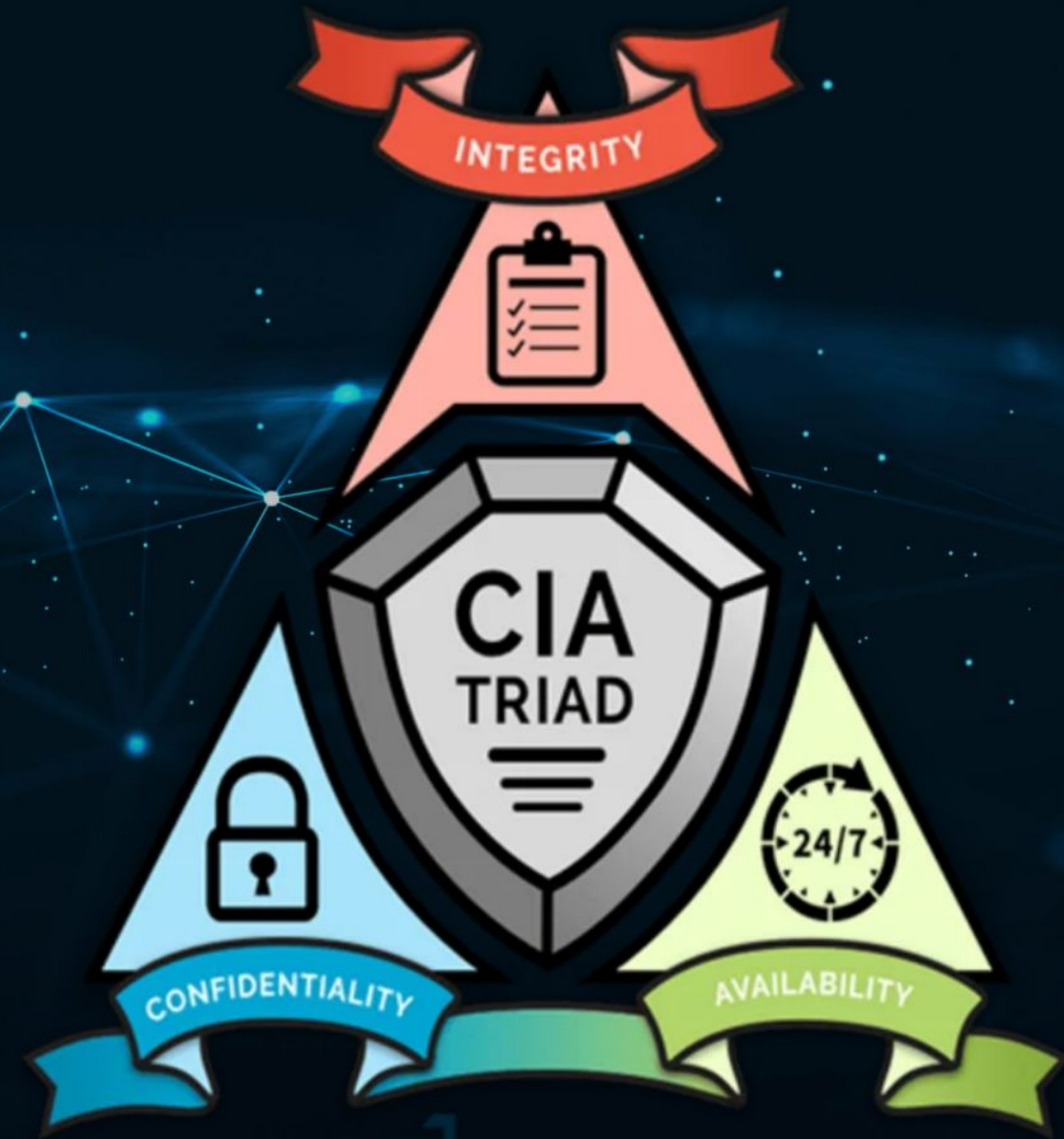


# Foundations of Cybersecurity

# CIA Triad

Three principles make up the foundation for everything associated with cybersecurity.

Everything that needs to be protected will depend on at least one of these principles.





# Threats to CIA Triad

## Confidentiality Threats

- Data Breaches
- Weak Passwords
- Phishing Emails
- Spyware
- Ransomware

## Integrity Threats

- Not Backing Up Data
- Unauthorized Access to Data
- Malware
- Ransomware

## Availability

- System Crashes
- Network Errors
- Power Outages
- DoS Attacks
- Ransomware

# Phishing

Attacks structured to get victims to perform some type of action.

Phishing attempts often play on the emotion of the receiver:

- Fear
- Joy
- Pain
- Urgency



# Identifying Phishing Threats



## Check Email For

- Misspelling
- Close but not the same
- Never respond to requests for credentials from within email

## Check URLs

- Hover over URL to see path
- On a phone, this is a long press
- Verify the URL is accurate

## Check Links & Attachments

- Avoid clicking on links without verifying them
- Do not open attachments without verifying
- If it seems odd or unlikely, it probably isn't valid





# Social Engineering

**Social Engineering is the art of manipulating people into performing tasks.**

- These tasks tend to provide the attacker with valuable data or money.
- Technical background not always required.

# Malware

Malware is any software that has malicious intent.

There are many different types of malware such as:

- Ransomware
- Viruses
- Spyware
- Worms





# Ransomware

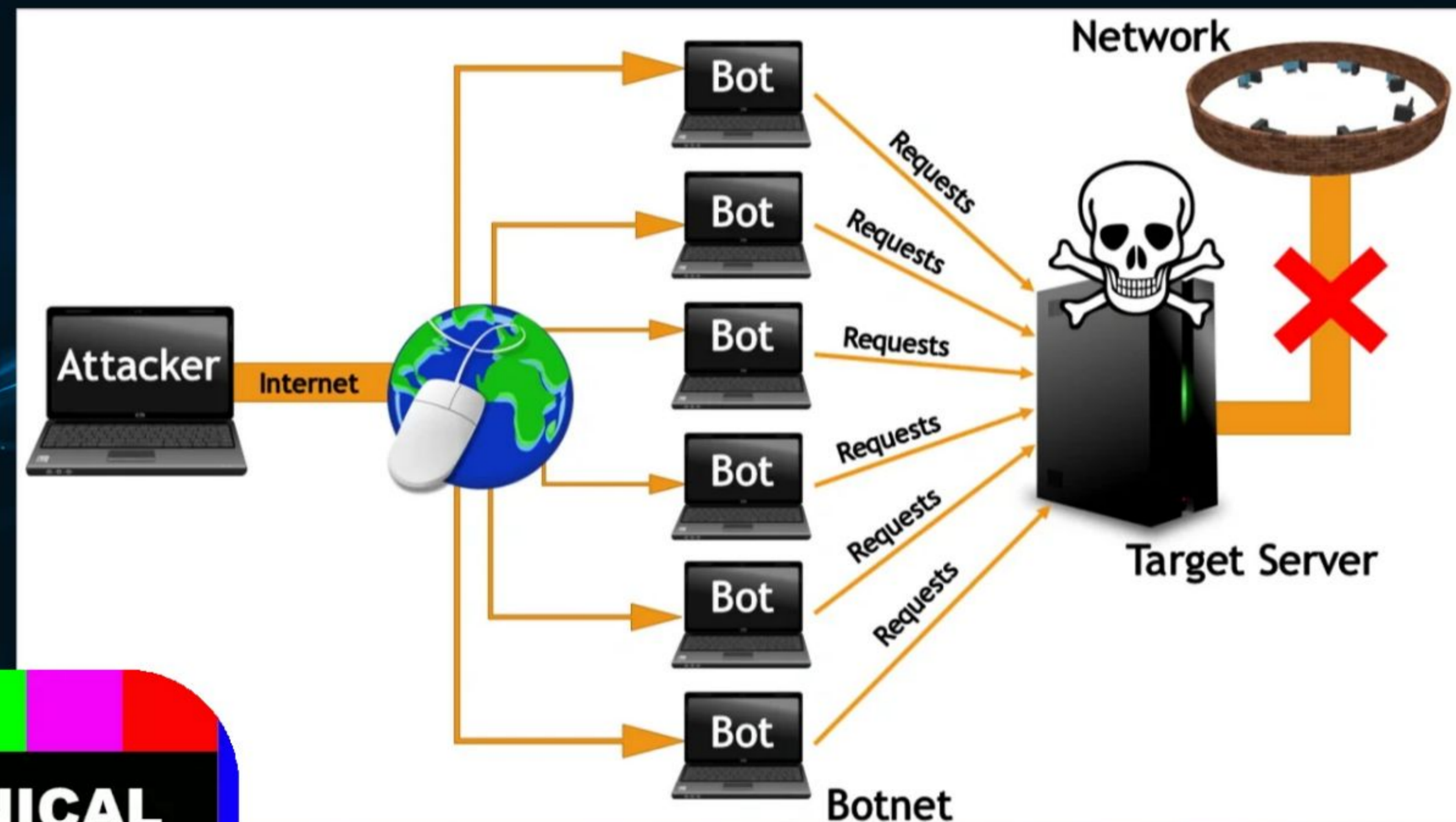
Ransomware is malicious software designed to block access to data until money is paid.

- Can pose as a legitimate software installation
- Can encrypt your whole computer
- Unlocked only with an encryption key
- Attackers usually ask for you to pay a ransom to gain access to your data again

*"Statistics demonstrate that 82% of ransomware attacks are upon small to midsize businesses."*

# Denial Of Service

A Denial of Service or DoS attack is where an attacker attempts to make a computer or network resource unavailable by overwhelming it with a flood of traffic.



**TECHNICAL  
DIFFICULTIES**



# 3 Critical Steps to Protecting Company Data



Insist on strong passwords and train employees.

1



Recognize the threats and vulnerabilities around you.

2



Know what data you have and make sure it is backed up regularly.

3

## Good Password Hygiene

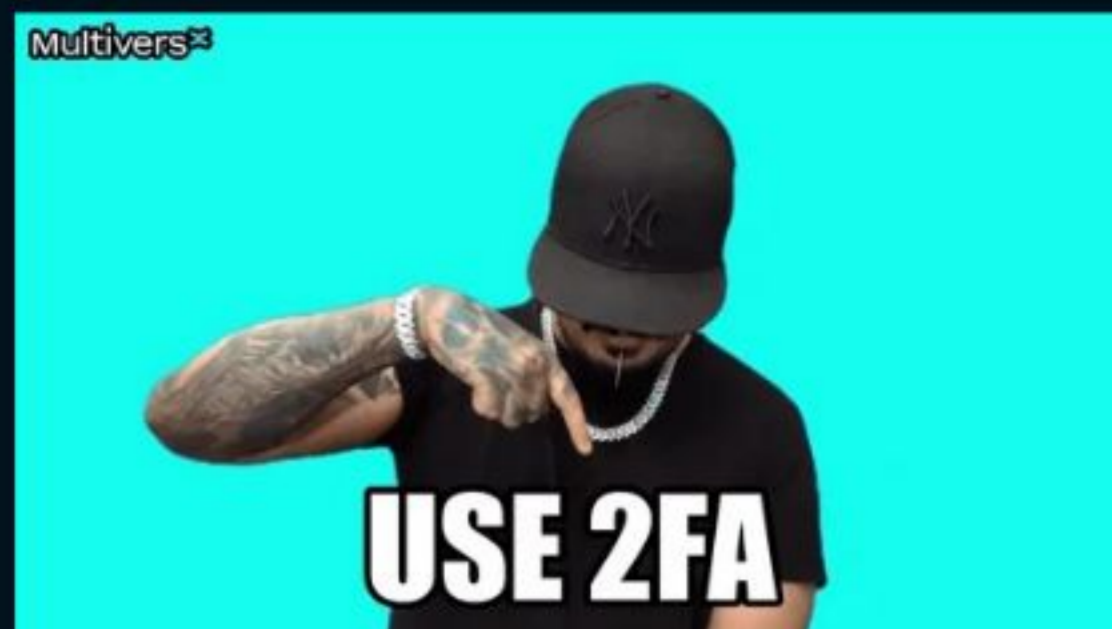
- Never use the same password across multiple accounts.
- Do not use a similar password as one that you have used in the past.
- Change your passwords at least once a year.





## Password Managers

- What is a Password Manager?
  - Password managers like LastPass keep up with all your passwords in one secure location.
- A password manager can also provide you with randomized passwords that can not be guessed or easily brute forced.



# What is Two-Factor Authentication



## Authentication

The ability to verify the identity of someone or something before allowing access.



## Checks multiple things to confirm an identity

Something you know

Something you have

Something you are



## Often uses password and mobile devices to confirm an identity





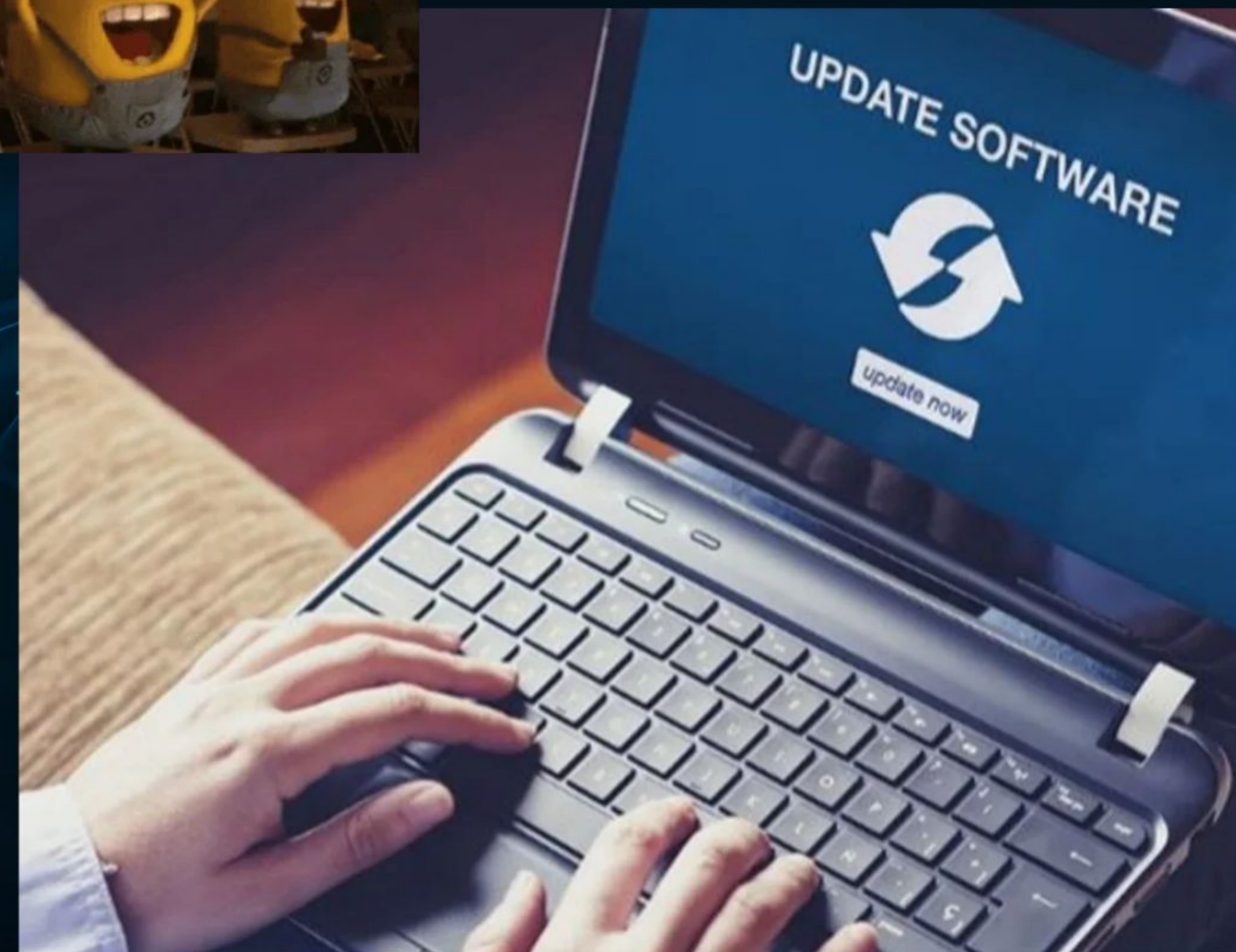
## Antivirus Software

- Antivirus software such as Windows Defender, Avast or Malwarebytes are free products available to protect your computer.
- Updating your antivirus software will help to keep your computer protected from the latest threats.



## Updating Software

- Keeping your applications updated will help prevent your computer and phone from being exploited by software vulnerability
- Malware usually exploits vulnerabilities in outdated software



# Public Wi-Fi: Guide for Users and Providers



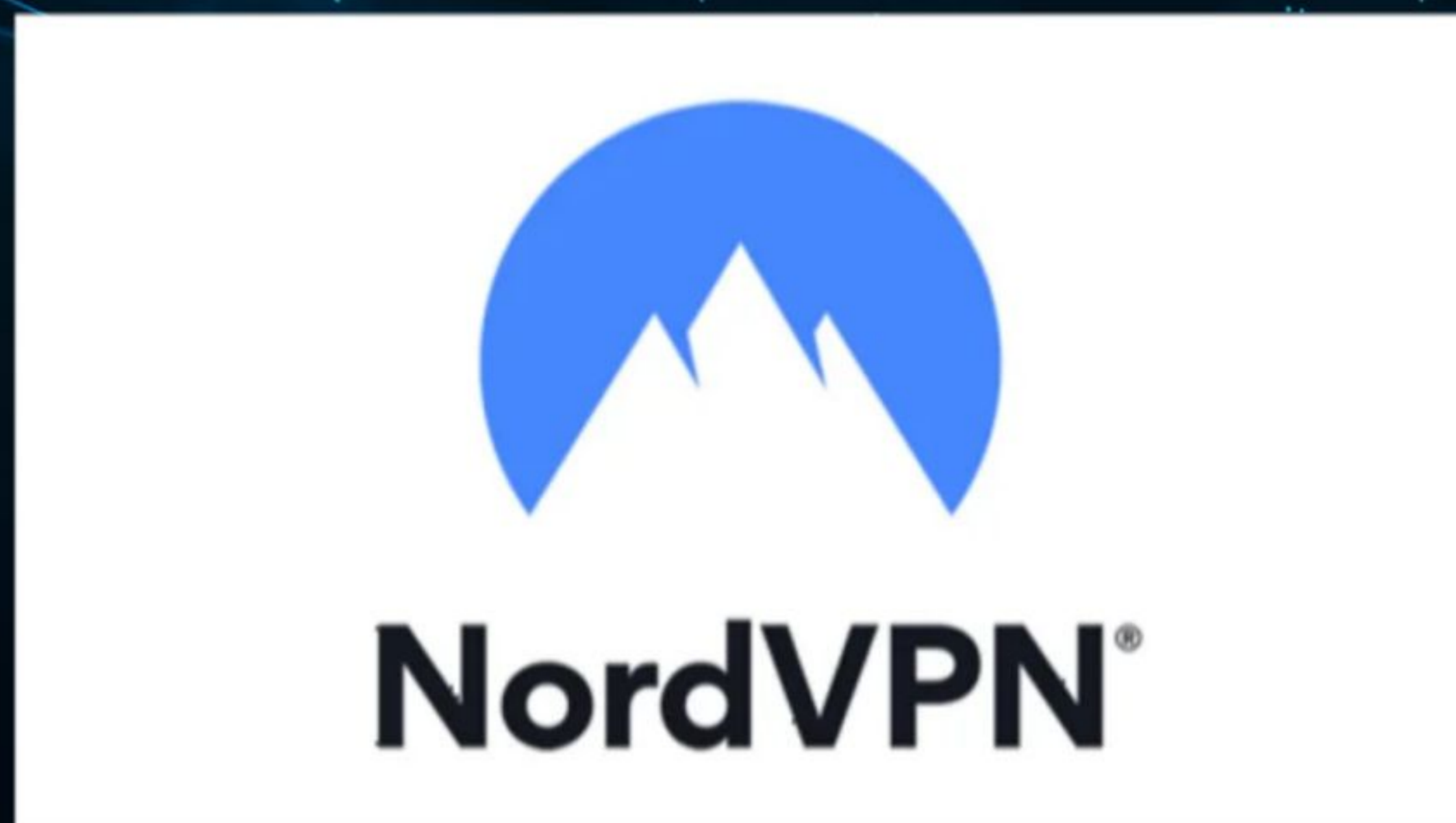
## For Users:

- Use a VPN.
- Avoid Sensitive Activities like accessing bank.
- Ensure you connect to a legitimate Wi-Fi network.

## For Businesses:

- Implement Strong Encryption: Use WPA3.
- Monitor for Threats: Deploy intrusion detection.
- Change default passwords on wireless access points.

# Virtual Private Networks (VPN)s



- What is a VPN?
  - VPNs encrypt your data crossing the network so that an attacker cannot see it.
- Can use a VPN to prevent attackers from viewing and making changes to the data exchanged over a public network.

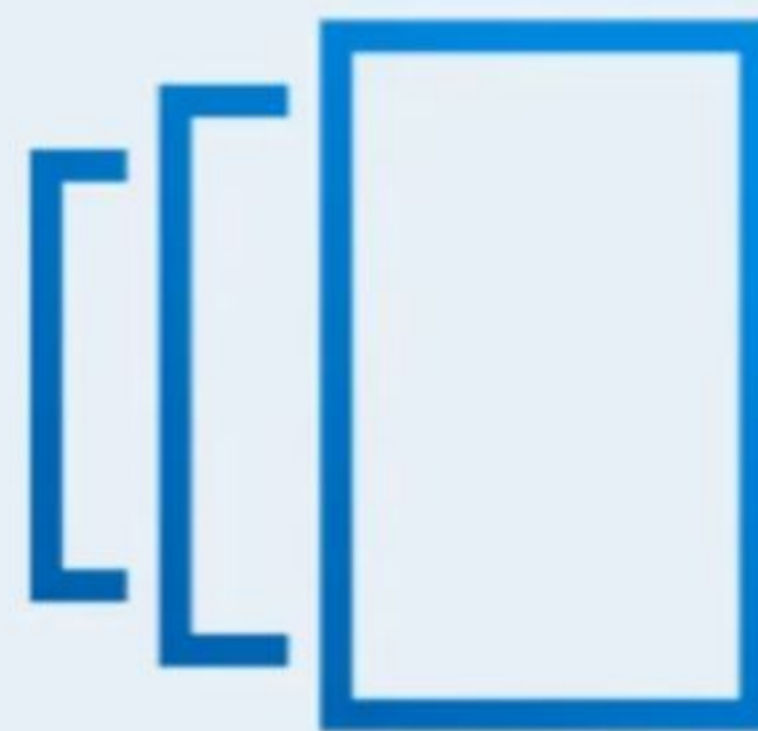
# BACKUP, BACKUP, & BACKUP AGAIN!

- Backup your data regularly and follow the 3-2-1 rule.
- Backups are the best defense against ransomware!

## 3-2-1 Rule

3

Create at least three copies of your data



2

Store the copies on two different storage media



1

Store one copy on an offsite storage



# Cybersecurity and Social Media

According to the Better Business Bureau, *"Small businesses [social media accounts] are three times more likely to be targeted by cybercriminals than larger companies."*

# FOLLOW US



## Cybersecurity & Social Media

If not careful, social media can be leveraged by attackers as a source of information.

Potential attacks include:

- Malicious Adds
- Might Target your Followers
- Might Capture Sensitive Personal or Business Information

C.

# Protecting Information on Social Media



Check for unfamiliar Posts to ensure no one has gained access to your business account



Never repeat password across accounts



Enable two-factor authentication for ALL accounts that are available





# Contact Us!



LET'S  
TALK!

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