PREVENTING CYBER CRIME:
A CHECKLIST

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Are you confident in your ability as a CEO or business executive to deal with the latest cyber crimes and online attacks? When a cyber security failure occurs within your organization, you must act quickly and decisively. The longer you wait to plan ahead, the more you put yourself, your employees, and your data at risk.

Do you have the necessary systems and software in place to keep attacks from disrupting important company activity? To

> ## "...there were 9,576 phishing incidents last year (916 of which reported a breach of data) and 1,429 incidents of credential theft"
>
> **- 2016 Verizon Data Breach**

protect against financial and reputational damage, you need a cyber security plan that covers all your bases.

At Netrix IT, we believe that knowledge is power. We want to keep you informed on the

actionable steps you can take to prevent cyber crime from affecting your people and your bottom line.

HOW DATA BREACHES OCCUR

Did you know that data breaches are among the most common and costly security problems for organizations, regardless of size? According to a 2016 Verizon Data Breach Investigations **Report**, there were 9,576 phishing incidents last year (916 of which reported a breach of data) and 1,429 incidents of credential theft.
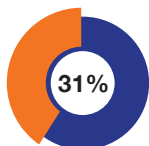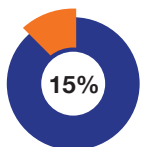
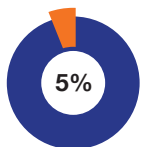According to an **IBM study**, the main causes are as follows:
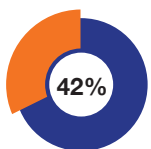
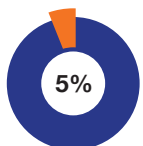**42%** Misconfigured System or Malfunction
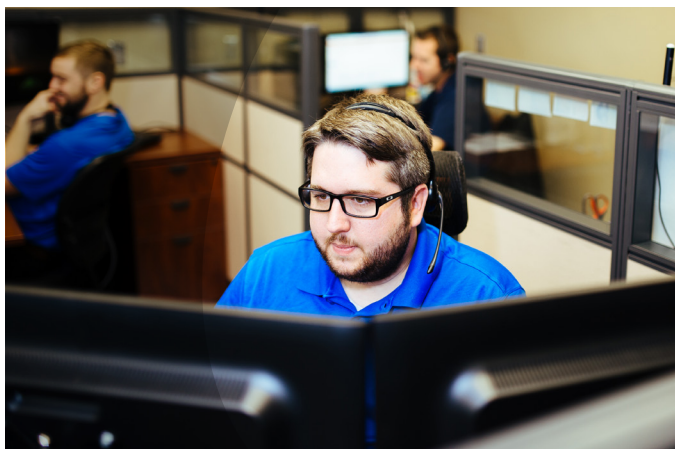
31% End-User Error

15% Undetermined

5% Vulnerable Code

5% Targeted Attack, Exploited

The study proves that both IT and human errors could end up costing your organization more than what it could if you had invested in building the right defenses.

We've put together a cyber security checklist to help you re-evaluate your existing security plan, or (in the event you don't have a plan in place), to create one from scratch.

YOUR CHECKLIST ON PREVENTING CYBER CRIME

1 Determine Potential Areas of Concern

There are many priorities that fill up your day to day activities, and sometimes, cyber security doesn't rank among business owners' top concerns. Make sure your organization is up to date with the challenges you face regarding cyber security. Meet with your IT management team to determine and address security holes and other areas of concern.

2 Perform an Inventory of Critical Digital Assets

Your organization probably deals with a tremendous amount of data every day. Digital information flows through multiple channels, but the question of whether or not you have the necessary defenses in place to protect that information comes into play. It's important for key people within your organization to be able to identify these assets and know how they are protected. Make sure you keep an inventory of all your digital assets to keep them easily traceable and accounted for.

38%
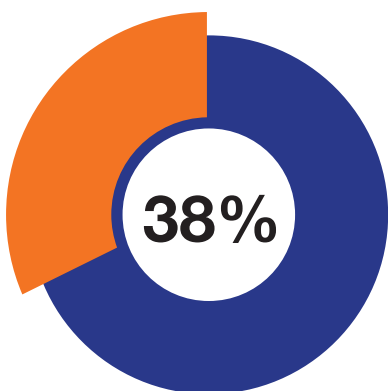
Malicious code is the primary mode of attack.

3 Do Thorough Research on All Your Company's IT Systems

Software and hardware can get outdated real quick. Every week, we get blasted with updates that we ignore or hold off until the last minute. However these updates are pertinent to your organization's overall security plan. Your computer's software is a huge security risk if left outdated.

According to the 2016 Internet Security Threat Report (ISTR), there were over one million web attacks against people each day last year.

- **38% Malicious code is the primary mode of attack**
- **20% Followed by sustained probes/scans**
- **19% Unauthorized access**

4 Does Your Company have Backup Protocols in Place to Prevent Data Loss

Not a single piece of important information should be uploaded into your server before being backed up. Ensure your backups are easily recoverable in the event of a data breach. Lastly, have a comprehensive backup strategy in place that consistently and automatically creates backups so that your progress is always saved.

## 5 Do You Have a Cyber Security Training Program for All Employees?

Having a training program dedicated to applying your organization's cyber security policies is a fundamental part of your company's protection against cyber crimes. Consider building a centralized information hub for both current and new employees to be able to turn to, which could result in early risk detection in the case of a data breach. Keep this information up to date as threats evolve.

ALLEVIATE YOUR CHALLENGES WITH NETRIX IT'S HELP

Keeping your company protected from rising cyber security crimes is no easy feat, and you need a dependable IT partner to keep things up to date and performing smoothly. As a busy CEO, you simply don't have the time to dedicate to handling this challenge on your own.

At Netrix IT, we want to help you understand why cyber security is a necessity that affects your company's overall stability and success. By partnering with us, you no longer have to manage cyber security on your own. Leave it to our security specialists who have your back 24/7. **Give us a call to learn more today**.
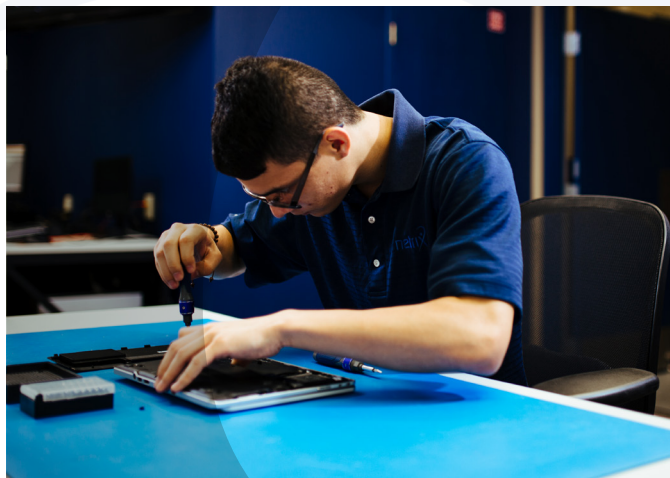
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