

# RANSOMWARE PREVENTION CHECKLIST

## First Line of Defense: Software

Ensure you have and are using a firewall.

Implement antispam and/or anti-phishing. This can be done with software or through dedicated hardware such as SonicWALL or Barracuda devices.

Ensure your organization is using the latest-generation endpoint protection, and/or combined with endpoint protection measures like whitelisting and/or real-time executable blocking.

Implement a highly disciplined patch procedure that updates any and all applications and operating system components that have vulnerabilities.

Make sure that everyone who works remotely logs in through a VPN.

## Second Line of Defense: Backups

Implement a backup solution: software-based, hardware-based, or both.

Ensure all possible data you need to access or save is backed up, including mobile/USB storage.

Ensure your data is safe, redundant and easily accessible once backed up.

Regularly test the recovery function of your backup/restore procedure. Test the data integrity of physical backups and ease-of-recovery for online/software based backups for at least 3 or 4 months in the past.

## Third Line of Defense: Data and Credential Theft Prevention

Implement Data Leak Prevention (DLP) tools.

Use least-permissive permissions to protect files, folders, and databases.

Enable system logs to track data movements.

Use network traffic analysis to note any unusual data movements across computers and networks.

Encrypt data at rest to prevent easy unauthorized copying.

## Fourth and Last Line of Defense: Users

Implement sophisticated security awareness training to educate users on what to look for to prevent criminal applications from being downloaded/executed.

Conduct simulated phishing attacks once a month to inoculate your users against current threats because your email filters miss between 5% and 10% of malicious emails.

## Keen to learn more?

If you're unsure of where to begin, consider the advice of our Security experts. When you partner with SoftwareONE, you'll know exactly where your risks are and how to protect your assets. Having said this we invite you to have a look at our additional



[Ransomware Survival Guide](#)