

# CHECKLIST FOR DATA RISK MITIGATION



Before a data breach can threaten your organization's integrity, it's crucial to establish a robust defense. This pre-data breach checklist infographic outlines critical preventative measures to secure your data and shield your operations from cyber risks.



## 1. Risk Assessment

Regularly conduct and update your risk assessment to understand and prioritize potential vulnerabilities in your systems and processes.



## 2. Employee Training

Implement ongoing cybersecurity training for employees to recognize and avoid phishing attacks, social engineering, and other common threats.



## 3. Access Controls

Enforce strict access controls and the principle of least privilege, ensuring employees have access only to the data and systems necessary for their roles.



## 4. Data Encryption

Encrypt sensitive data both at rest and in transit to protect it from unauthorized access, ensuring you use strong encryption standards.



## 5. Incident Response Plan

Develop and regularly update an incident response plan that clearly defines roles, responsibilities, and procedures for addressing a breach.



## 6. Regular Security Audits

Schedule periodic security audits and penetration tests to identify and remediate security gaps in your IT infrastructure.



## 7. Backup Strategy

Implement a robust data backup strategy with regular backups, and ensure that backups are stored securely and tested frequently for integrity.



## 8. Update and Patch Management

Keep all software and systems up to date with the latest security patches and updates to close off vulnerabilities.



## 9. Third-Party Management

Vet and monitor third-party vendors for security compliance and ensure they adhere to your company's data security standards.



## 10. Cyber Insurance

Obtain cyber insurance to provide a financial safety net that can help cover the costs associated with a data breach, including legal fees, fines, and customer notifications.