

STAY SECURE THIS CHRISTMAS



How did we get to the end of 2021... already?

At this time of year, business owners and managers like us look ahead to the start of another year. Who knows what 2022 has in store? But also what threats to be on the lookout for

Did you know Christmas is the worst time of the year to be hit by a cyber attack?

During the Christmas period, many businesses are winding down and focussing on parties and Christmas day.

A major breach means financial costs, a drain in moral but also means long hours over the Christmas period investigating and fixing any issues.

Not to mention the damage if that cyber breach had to reach your customers personal information. Potential fraud and a huge drop in trust.

It doesn't bear thinking about.

You might be thinking, but why is December such a strong target for hackers?

Over the week 2 things will be happening which allows festive hackers to swoop in:

- **Winding down** - Over the next week and days your business is winding down which means relaxed resilience
- **Email overload** - With multiple invitations, greeting and promotional emails coming through it's easy for a sneaky phishing email to be slipped in and clicked ready to spoil your Christmas

Christmas is stressful enough without becoming a victim of a cyberattack and fraud.

BUT DON'T CANCEL YOUR CHRISTMAS JUST YET. WE'VE PROVIDED A FEW TIPS TO MAKE SURE YOU AND YOUR EMPLOYEES ARE PREPARED FOR ANY ATTACK AND TO ENSURE A MERRY AND SAFE CHRISTMAS IN 2021



TIP

1:

Be on the lookout for fraudulent sites



It's time to speed up Christmas shopping, and you might think sneaking some online shopping while on an office device is harmless.

However, be on the lookout for fraudulent sites that make look realistic. These sites could entice you with great deals and quicker payment options. Avoid entering any card details on sites that don't provide authentic bank authorisation or PayPal protection.



TIP

2:

Don't give your password as a present this year

Password protection should be something you pay attention to all year round but over the festive period, it's important to be extra vigilant.

Here's our main tip, treat your password like your toothbrush; Choose it wisely, change it often and don't share it.



TIP

3:

Social media vigilance



On both personal and business social media profiles, it's important to not share any information a hacker could find useful to use against you:

- Personal details relevant to logins
- Information regarding finances
- Promoting your business is out of office for Christmas



TIP

4:

Review your disaster recovery plan

While you and your staff are off enjoying Christmas with friends and family, it's important to make sure you have a plan in place in the event an attack occurs while you are away for Christmas. Do you have:

- Key contact info - Support, authorities, customers
- Clear responsibilities for those to step in
- A communication message ready to deliver to staff and customers



TIP 5:

Phishing for some festive fraud



Christmas is such a busy period, but don't let your guard down when it comes to dodgy links. Credible links will be appearing in your emails and texts over the festive period, but hackers are looking to take advantage of your Christmas cheer. That promotional link sent from a known supplier is exactly a malicious link from a hacker looking to entice you to enter your company's personal information.

Check out our blog posts on phishing for more information here - <https://fixpc.co.uk/?s=phishing>





Enjoying your Christmas and relaxing doesn't mean hackers will be waiting to attack your business as soon as your back is turned, it's just the risk is higher this time of year. By following these steps you can rest easy knowing you've done everything you could to protect your business this Christmas.

IS YOUR BUSINESS PROTECTED THIS CHRISTMAS?

Are you feeling unsure about how protected your business is during the festive period?

December can be a stressful month, so it's worthwhile us having a conversation.

Book a 15-minute no-obligation exploratory video call with our IT strategist at <https://fixpc.co.uk/calendly/>

And from everyone at Fix-PC, we'd like to wish you a merry and safe Christmas



Fix-PC

IT SUPPORT SERVICES

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