



# Network Security Basics for Your Business



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Hackers have the tools to automatically scan for and detect network security holes needed to target any sized business. Many network security threats originate from the Internet, though you shouldn't discount internal sources of network security threats either. The most common threats to businesses include viruses, malware and Ransomware, hackers, denial of service attacks, and data and identity theft.

## The Importance of Understanding Network Security Basics

In order to truly understand and appreciate the importance of sound network security, one must have a firm understanding of what network security basics are. Understanding the basics of network security allows businesses and individuals to grow their knowledge of network security best practices and understand the impact it has for organizations of all sizes. Understanding network security basics means being able to identify existing and potential threats that could harm the organization and its reputation, as well as preventing downtime occurring from a successful attack or intrusion. After all, one time is all it takes.

## How Does Network Security Work?

It's simply not possible to achieve perfect security, but when a network security system is in place and properly configured the risk level to an organization or person goes down significantly. A network security system typically consists of multiple layers of protection and the components required to achieve it. In an ideal world, those components all work together, minimizing maintenance and improving security.

Network Security components often include:

- Anti-virus and anti-spyware
- Firewall
- Intrusion prevention systems
- Virtual Private Networks

## What are the Business Benefits of Network Security?

The largest benefit organizations receive from a sound network security system or process is protection against business disruption. This could be a virus that has taken over a portion of your network or files, denial of service attacks meant to bring your entire network down, or simple spyware and adware that can significantly limit everyone's ability to get their job done. There's really no limit to what could happen without a comprehensive network security plan in place, which at the very least, would bring productivity to a crawl, if not stop it altogether.

Network security helps protect customer data, employee data, proprietary information, and reduces the risk of legal action if that data is lost. Ultimately, network security keeps your organization running smoothly, protecting its reputation.

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