



Cyber Essentials Made Simple

How to get certified—fast, practical, and with minimal disruption

Presented by

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Agenda

1. Why this matters now
2. What Cyber Essentials & Cyber Essentials Plus are
3. Why Microsoft 365 Business Premium accelerates success
4. Implementation steps (and what we do for you)
5. Costs & next steps
6. Q&A



Cyber Security: A Business Priority

Rising Digital Threats

Small businesses face increasing cyber attacks targeting their vulnerabilities, making proactive security essential for survival and growth.

Data Protection and Trust

Strong cyber security safeguards sensitive data, building customer trust and preventing breaches that can damage reputation and finances.

Cyber Essentials Compliance

Adopting Cyber Essentials demonstrates commitment to security, ensuring compliance and protecting business operations in a digital world.



What is Cyber Essentials?

Understanding Cyber Essentials

UK Government Backed

Cyber Essentials is a UK government-backed certification scheme designed to help organisations protect themselves against common cyber threats

Five Key Security Controls

Cyber Essentials emphasises firewalls, secure configuration, access control, malware protection, and regular patching for strong security.

Annual Certification Renewal

Certification must be renewed each year, ensuring organisations maintain a robust and up-to-date security baseline.

Assurance and Supply Chain Value

Achieving Cyber Essentials offers higher assurance and is frequently a requirement for supply chain partnerships.



What Is Cyber Essentials Plus?

Independent Technical Audit

Cyber Essentials Plus requires an independent technical audit, going beyond the self-assessment of basic certification to ensure accurate security evaluation. Must be completed within 3 months of Cyber Essentials

Vulnerability Scans and Security Checks

The process includes credentialed vulnerability scans and hands-on security checks, verifying that essential controls are effective and in place.

Enhanced Cybersecurity Assurance

This higher assessment level offers strong assurance, often required by organisations wanting robust supply chain security standards.



The 5 Cyber Essentials

Firewalls

Protect your internet connection by using properly configured firewalls or routers to create a secure boundary.

Secure Configuration

Ensure devices and software are configured securely, removing unnecessary functions and changing default settings.

Security Update Management

Keep operating systems, applications, and firmware up to date; apply security patches promptly (high-risk vulnerabilities within 14 days).

User Access Control

Apply the principle of least privilege—limit user accounts and enforce strong authentication (e.g., MFA).

Malware Protection

Use anti-virus or endpoint detection and response (EDR) solutions to prevent, detect, and remove malware.



Scope of Cyber Essentials

Inclusive Device Coverage

All devices accessing company data—including personal and company-owned

Mandatory Security Controls

Every relevant device must comply with established security controls to maintain organisational safety.



Key Cyber Essentials Controls

Multi-Factor Authentication

Requiring Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA) significantly strengthens secure access by adding extra verification steps for users. Applies to all cloud apps

Data Encryption

Enabling encryption protects sensitive data, ensuring information remains confidential even if devices are compromised.

Standardised Security Builds

Using standardised builds ensures all systems have consistent and up-to-date security settings, reducing vulnerabilities. Devices must lock automatically etc.

Approved Software and Protection

Install only approved software and ensure devices have active antimalware and firewalls to defend against cyber threats.



How Microsoft 365 helps with Cyber Essentials

365 Business Standard vs Premium

Core Productivity Features

Business Standard provides essential apps, email hosting, and cloud storage for everyday business productivity and collaboration needs.

Advanced Security and Management

Business Premium includes all Standard features plus advanced security, device management, and cyber threat protection for enhanced business protection.

Choosing the Right Plan

Premium is ideal for businesses prioritising security and compliance, while Standard fits teams needing core collaboration tools.



Microsoft 365 Premium Security

Advanced Device Management

Business Premium includes advanced device management capabilities to protect company computers and mobile devices from threats.

Unified Security Policies

The platform provides a unified setup, ensuring consistent security policies and streamlined protection across all company devices.

Enhanced Threat Management

Upgrades in Premium help businesses effectively manage threats and safeguard sensitive company data.



Implementing Cyber Essentials

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- 1 Review Requirements
- 2 Implement Security Controls
- 3 Complete Assessment
- 4 Submit for Review
- 5 Get Certified



Implementing Cyber Essentials Plus

6

Install Vulnerability Scanner

7

Patch Vulnerabilities

8

Schedule Audit

9

Conduct Audit

10

Get Certified



Ensuring Ongoing Compliance

Continuous Compliance Monitoring

Devices must be regularly monitored to ensure compliance with security standards and detect potential risks before issues arise.

Timely Security Patching

High-risk vulnerabilities should be patched within 14 days to minimise exposure to security threats and protect organisational assets.



Cyber Essentials Cost Breakdown

Core Certification Cost

The Cyber Essentials Audit is a basic certification and costs £675, offering foundational security assurance for organisations.

Cyber Essentials Plus

Cyber Essentials Plus Audit costs £1450 for 1-9 employees and £1650 for 10-49 employees, reflecting service scale.

Additional Services Budgeting

Consultancy and audit support fees are separate, so budgeting for these extra services is essential for organizations.



Next Steps

Steps to Move Forward

A photograph of a stone path made of rectangular slabs, each filled with smooth, rounded river stones. The path is set in a garden with green plants and trees in the background. The path leads from the foreground towards the upper right, creating a sense of direction and progression.

Review the Cyber Essentials Questionnaire

Anyone can access the Questionnaire standards from the IASME website. Review these to see how close you are to meeting the standards already.

Book a call with one of our consultants

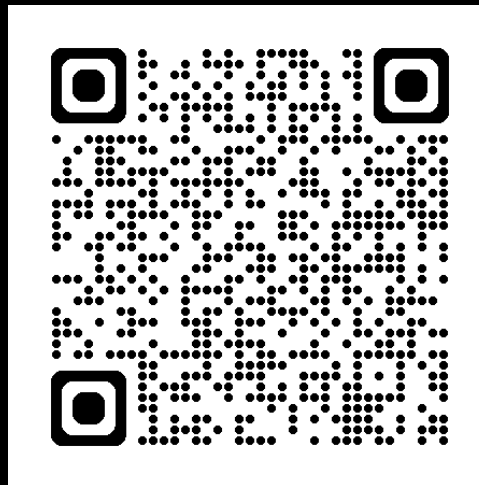
Setup a call with John or Ethan and discuss your specific requirements. Booking link will be included in the follow up email.

Questions

How to learn more

Further webinars

Bespoke Training and Consultancy



[Heliocentrix.co.uk/events](https://heliocentrix.co.uk/events)