



Enabling Anti-Virus & Firewalls

No one likes catching a virus. We become sluggish and congested, our productivity suffers, and sometimes we've got no choice but to give up in the face of our symptoms. Luckily, we have our medicines, vitamins and our comfort remedies to help fight the illness so that we become well again – and it's just the same for our devices!

As humans, we are constantly seeking treatment to avoid deterioration, and our technology needs to be looked after in the same way.

Antivirus is technology's medicine, fighting against the digital bugs (malware) that cause its systems to become sluggish, congested and useless, which is why it is so important to have antivirus installed and working. And the good news is that today's popular Operating Systems have antivirus built in for free!

We will show you where it is through our video guide, to make sure you have it switched on and looking after the welfare of your computer. Or perhaps you want to splash out on some extra security features, packaged into third-party antivirus? Whatever you choose, know that your computer will be much more resilient towards infection, helping build up another block in your business' defences.

Firewalls, on the other hand, monitor your activity and block malicious intruders trying to break in through different entrance points. We will demonstrate how to get this activated for free on your machine and explore the different ways in which a firewall can strengthen your defences.



Top Tips:

- Keep your antivirus and firewall **up-to-date** to detect the latest threats - have updates install automatically.
- Have antivirus continuously scanning your device, to quickly capture malware and prevent it from causing damage.
- Avoid installing two different antivirus apps, as they conflict with each other and cause your device to crash.
- Don't let your guard down, continue to remain vigilant of fraud but if you do fall victim run a full antivirus scan.

REMEMBER to report fraud and cybercrime to [Action Fraud](#).

We are here to help businesses like you, so if there are other ways we can achieve this please feedback to the team at info@londoncrc.co.uk or complete our short [survey](#).

Look out for next month's edition on Out with the Old, In with the New, the next step in our "Getting the Basics Right" journey. The full timetable of the programme can be found in the Community Member's Hub [here](#).

Please raise awareness of the Cyber Resilience Centre for London to your fellow business neighbour. They will be eternally grateful to you when they can sleep at night knowing their business is safe and sound.

Best wishes,

Simon and Hannah



The Cyber Security Breaches Survey 2023

The [Cyber Security Breaches Survey 2023](#) will be released 19th April at 9:30am. Check out the top threats businesses and charities have faced across the year and observations on the general resilience towards cybercrime.

Ransomware attacks are rife!

Ransomware attacks lock devices, filesystems and data from access, and demand a sum of money to be paid for their release. This attack can cause disruption to service, reputational damage, financial loss and data loss. It can take years to fully recover from this attack. Paying the ransom does not guarantee the malware will be removed or that the criminal will leave you be.

The National Crime Agency identified 149 British victims of ransomware strains known as Conti and Ryuk. The ransomware was responsible for extorting at least an estimated £27 million.

To protect against this threat you need simple best practices, including:

- Keep software and operating systems updated.
- Install antivirus that can detect ransomware.
- Remain vigilant of phishing emails.
- Browse the web responsibly.
- Backup your important data and assets to reduce your recovery time- make sure these backups are not contaminated with malware by keeping them off the network.
- Have an Incident Response Plan to feel ready to face this attack when it happens.

For more best practices that will reduce your risk to this threat, follow our Getting the Basics

Right programme.

HMRC scam checklist

HMRC has released information to help the public identify scam emails, texts and phone calls as we approach the end of the financial year. More information can be found [here](#).

Forward any suspicious emails to report@phishing.gov.uk and/or report to [Action Fraud](#)

Announcements & Events

- This month's webinar wrap-up will be on **Wednesday 26th April at 1pm**, summarising this month's theme. Just 30 minutes of your time (with the opportunity to ask questions too). Those who attend the webinar will also be offered a **free [First Step Web Assessment](#)** worth £250 - this is an offer you don't want to miss! Register [here](#).
- Our webinars will continue to run the last Wednesday of every month at 1pm going forward – keep this time free in your diary!
- We are giving away £50 off Cyber Essentials! More information on what Cyber Essentials is can be found below. Contact us at info@londoncrc.co.uk to get your discount!
- For an exclusive Security Awareness Training session for you and your staff, we can offer this for free where you would otherwise pay £300! Tailor made to you, this group activity will have your staff pumped to join the fight against cybercrime and eager to protect your business. More information on this service can be found [here](#).

Cyber Essentials Partners News



Our [Cyber Essentials Partners](#) are a group of organisations who are supporting us in our mission to improve the cyber resilience of SMEs in London, and who we are able to recommend as providers of Cyber Essentials certifications.

Each month, we'll be shining a spotlight on one of our Partners so you find out more about them and about what Cyber Essentials can do for your business.

So far this year, we've partnered with [Baseel](#) and [ProCheckUp](#) – check out our blogs, website resources and socials to find content from these collabs.

We'll also be keeping you up to date with the latest news from this group of innovative organisations – so watch this space!

This month, we're delighted to tell you that one of our Partners, [Forensic Control](#), have some exciting

changes on the cards, including a full rebrand with a fresh logo and a brand new website. Check back with their website and socials at the end of the month for the full details.



Get in Touch



We're here to support you, so please reach out if there's anything we can help with.

You can find all our info through the links below ↓

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