The Ultimate Cybersecurity Posture Checklist

This checklist was developed to help you understand your current cybersecurity posture and provide a high-level overview of what you may need to address to improve your cybersecurity posture. Note that this checklist is not meant to be exhaustive and serves as initial guidance only. For a more detailed evaluation of your cybersecurity posture, we recommend conducting a comprehensive cybersecurity posture assessment.

► **Please check all items that apply to your specific situation.**

OVERALL SECURITY POSTURE

☐ I have a clear picture of my overall security posture and how it relates to my critical assets.

☐ I am aware of the security gaps that my organization is facing.

☐ I have a clearly-defined plan to address my security gaps going forward.

☐ I have never faced a security incident in my organization.

☐ I am confident in my ability to demonstrate compliance with the regulatory frameworks that apply to my organization.

☐ I am aware of what my mission-critical assets and applications are.

☐ I know how many mission-critical assets and applications are exposed on the internet.

☐ I know about the main information security risks from a business perspective.

☐ My information security risks have been identified and assessed for each mission-critical asset and application.

BEST PRACTICES & PROCESSES

☐ I have appropriate cybersecurity policies in place and review them regularly (at least annually).

☐ I have an appropriate cybersecurity organization with clearly-defined roles and responsibilities.

☐ I have a Cybersecurity Risk Treatment Plan.

☐ I have a Business Continuity Plan with a related Disaster Recovery Plan.

☐ I have a Crisis Management Plan.

☐ I have an Information Security/ Cybersecurity Plan.

☐ I have an Incident Response Plan.

☐ I have an Information Security Awareness Program.

PREVIOUS TESTING

☐ I have already conducted an independent security assessment or audit in the past.

☐ I have already performed an internal or external penetration test.

☐ I have already performed a phishing campaign.

► **Once completed, count your answers and go to page 2 to review the evaluation.**

The Ultimate Cybersecurity Posture Checklist – Results

► Now that you've calculated your score, have a look at your rating.

Disclaimer: Please keep in mind that your cybersecurity posture is unique to your organization and heavily depends on your business objectives, needs and risk appetite. Therefore, scoring a certain cybersecurity posture rating should be taken with a grain of salt as it can mean different things to different organizations. We recommend a comprehensive cybersecurity posture assessment to get a holistic, contextual view on your cybersecurity posture that is adapted to your specific business context.

Score	Rating	Definition
18-20 points	Very Good	Congratulations, your overall cybersecurity posture is very good! It looks like your organization has implemented the necessary strategies, processes and procedures to optimize your cybersecurity posture and strengthen your defenses. You are aware of your critical assets and can face security incidents with confidence and preparedness. While your cybersecurity posture is exemplary, remember to be vigilant and continue reviewing your cybersecurity strategy on a regular basis for continued success.
15-17 points	Good	Well done, your overall cybersecurity posture is good! You have made considerable efforts to strengthen your cybersecurity posture and protect your mission-critical assets and applications. You have followed almost all recommended cybersecurity best practices and increased your cybersecurity posture to a satisfactory level. However, there is still room for improvement to help your organization achieve an optimal cybersecurity posture.
11-14 points	Average	Your cybersecurity posture is average. You have made several steps towards securing your mission-critical assets and applications, but there is still considerable room for improvement. Make sure to review your cybersecurity strategy to identify where you have been effective, what you should continue doing and what you will need to do to strengthen your cybersecurity defenses going forward.
6-10 points	Poor	Unfortunately, your cybersecurity posture is below acceptable levels and puts your organization at risk. While you have made first steps towards improving your cybersecurity posture, your mission-critical assets and applications are not yet adequately protected against breaches and intrusions. You will need to evaluate your cybersecurity strategy carefully and develop an action plan with clearly-defined strategies and tactics to address your shortcomings quickly and effectively.
0-5 points	Very Poor	Be careful, your cybersecurity posture is far below acceptable levels and puts your organization at high risk. Significant improvement is needed in several ways to strengthen your cybersecurity posture and protect your mission-critical assets and applications against breaches and intrusions. To provide at least a minimal level of cybersecurity protection, you will most probably need to review your entire cybersecurity posture strategy to get a better understanding of what you need to protect, why you need to protect it and what needs to be done to improve your cybersecurity posture.