

Here's a quick to-do list to secure your cloud and enjoy the holidays without any worries!

Christmas is just around the corner, and everyone's gearing up to enjoy the season! And when we say "everyone," we mean everyone – even the bad guys waiting eagerly to catch information security professionals off guard.

Holiday distractions and reduced staff create prime opportunities for cybercriminals to exploit cloud vulnerabilities. Use our checklist to secure your cloud and enjoy a worry-free holiday.

WHY YOU SHOULDN'T LET YOUR GUARD DOWN



82% of data breaches included cloud-based data, with ransomware as the main cause¹



250 ransomware incidents were reported in the U.S. in the first three quarters of 2024²



51% of organizations reported phishing as a preferred means by cybercriminals to steal cloud security credentials³

¹ 101 Cybersecurity Statistics and Trends for 2024, NU, San Diego, <https://www.nu.edu/blog/cybersecurity-statistics/>

² As holiday season begins, US braces for looming risk of cyberattacks, David Jones, 2024, Cybersecurity Dive, <https://www.cybersecuritydive.com/news/thanksgiving-us-risk-cyberattack/734049/>

³ New report reveals that 94% of global organizations have experienced email security incidents last year, 2024, Egress Software Technologies Ltd., <https://www.globenewswire.com/news-release/2024/01/16/2809606/0/en/New-report-reveals-that-94-of-global-organizations-have-experienced-email-security-incidents-last-year.html>

Don't let cyber grinch ruin Christmas this holiday season!

PHISHING DEFENSE

- ✓ Verify all email sources before clicking on links
- ✓ Train staff to help them identify suspicious emails
- ✓ Deploy email filters and anti-phishing tools



RANSOMWARE READINESS

- ✓ Conduct a full backup of critical data
- ✓ Test recovery plans to ensure functionality
- ✓ Update all software and patch vulnerabilities



SUPPLY CHAIN SAFETY

- ✓ Review third-party access permissions
- ✓ Validate your third-party vendors' security posture
- ✓ Monitor updates to supply chain systems



QUICK CLOUD SECURITY ASSESSMENT TIPS



Define the Scope

- ✔ Prioritize protecting key assets and data
- ✔ Identify critical systems and high-risk areas to include in the assessment

Strengthen Access Controls

- ✔ Restrict permissions to need-only access
- ✔ Enforce multifactor authentication (MFA)

Test and Monitor Regularly

- ✔ Perform vulnerability scans
- ✔ Activate real-time monitoring for unusual activities

Develop a Response Plan

- ✔ Be ready with a clear plan to tackle incidents
- ✔ Conduct mock incident response drills to refine your approach

Check twice for certainty, log off nice and easy

Stay ahead of holiday risks by double-checking your cloud environment and keeping attackers on the naughty list.

While you're at it, take our **Discovering Your Cloud Security Survey** to help shape the future of cloud security – and make your voice part of the solution!