

# 12 Days of Tips

## to Help Businesses Reduce Holiday Cyber Risk



It may be the most wonderful time of the year, but it's also the most dangerous for cyber risk. Avoid gifting cybercriminals your data or getting an unwanted gift of malware by following these security tips.



**1** Make sure every employee is aware of the higher chance of a cyberattack that companies face during the holiday season – **80% of organizations** experience increased cyber threats during the holiday season.

**2** Use extra caution when handling email, especially from companies in the retail, gaming or travel industries where phishing risk is higher than normal.

**3** Be wary of unexpected email attachments disguised as holiday messages. That's a ploy used by bad actors in ransomware attacks, which **balloon by 30%** during the holiday season.

**4** Carefully ensure that messages that you receive from shipping companies like DHL are legitimate because shipping scams run rampant during the holiday season.

**5** Watch out for fake branded email messages from retailers like Amazon, Target or Etsy because **25% of all branded emails** that companies receive are spoofed or brand impersonation attempts.



**6** Don't give money or information to charities without making sure that they're really who they say they are – digital fraud **climbs by 60%** during the holiday season.



**7** Stay alert for trouble like unexpected direct messages, romance scams, dodgy special offers, malicious links and malvertisements on social media sites.

**8** Remind everyone not to share, reuse or recycle a password at home that they use at work – **82% of employees reuse passwords.**



**9** Don't give the bad guys an advantage by skipping important routine tasks like patching or risk monitoring like the **79% of companies** that have experienced downtime in the wake of previous holiday-related cyberattacks.



**10** Ensure that IAM is squared away including enabling two-factor authentication (2FA), which prevents **99% of cyberattacks** according to Microsoft, to ensure safe, smooth remote access for employees and administrators.



**11** Take advantage of all of the automation and AI capabilities of security solutions to boost security and decrease stress on the IT team.



**12** Review and test the company's incident response plan just in case – **more than 80% of IT professionals** have missed holiday time with loved ones because of a cybersecurity incident at work.



Gift yourself peace of mind this year. Put the right protection in place now to ensure that a cyberattack doesn't ruin anyone's holiday plans. ID Agent solutions deliver strong security at a price that still leaves room in the budget for holiday cheer.

[LEARN MORE](#)

