Home Network Security
Best Practices

We have compiled a comprehensive list of network security best practices below to help you safeguard your home network. Use this printable checklist to ensure you properly secure your home network.

Practice security awareness: Be cautious when clicking links and messages from unknown sources, sharing your personal information with strangers or downloading software from unknown websites.

Use a virtual private network (VPN): If you use public WiFi, connect to a VPN before accessing sensitive data such as financial accounts, emails or passwords.

Implement multi-factor authentication (MFA): Set up an MFA with an authenticator app, such as Google Authenticator or Microsoft Authenticator.

Create complex passwords: Create complex passwords that are difficult to guess, using uppercase and lowercase letters, numbers and special characters. Change them regularly and only use them for one account.

Use a password manager: Most browsers provide password managers or you can use a standalone password manager app.

Content filtering: Use parental controls on your router to restrict access to websites or apps or specify what times of the day your children can access the websites or apps.

Use anti-virus/anti-malware software: Install anti-virus software, keep it up to date and scan your devices regularly.

Update software regularly: Regularly update your device's software and operating systems, as they often include security patches and fixes for known vulnerabilities.

Backup your data: Your strategy should include cloud backups. Consider physical backups like external hard drives.

Monitor irregular activities on devices: Stay attentive to unusual behavior or network traffic patterns on your devices so you can take action before they escalate to more significant threats.

Enable firewalls on devices: A firewall serves as a gatekeeper between your devices and the internet.

Network segmentation: Divide your home network into subnetworks, each with security measures and access configuration.