



# Start Here

## SMB Security Assessment

Sylvan Assurance, LLC

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For an owner who wants to know where the business stands before working through anything.

**When you have worked through this, you will have:** your free result on where you stand, and the five highest-impact fixes in priority order.

Your Free tier holds **1 document** (plus the interactive assessment). A “start here, in this order” guide only earns its place once there are several documents to sequence, so at this tier it is a single entry and a pointer onward.

## The one guide

### 1. Your First 5 High-Impact Security Fixes

*PDF · 20 min to read; about a week to work through · The owner*

The five highest-impact actions (multi-factor authentication, an account clean-up, a password manager, an offboarding checklist and a verified backup), set out in priority order with the reasoning for that order.

**Reach for it when:** First. It is the free starter, and the day-zero reference the whole toolkit is built around.

**You finish with:** Five named actions with an owner and a date against each.

## The interactive assessment

Not a document: a short questionnaire that scores where you stand and points at the gaps.

→ Take the free SMB security assessment.

## When you outgrow the free tier

The Solo toolkit turns these five into worked category toolkits (accounts, backups, off-boarding, and more) with a Start here catalog to sequence them.

→ See the Solo, Team and Pro Consultant editions.

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## About This Document

This document is part of the **SMB Security Risk Assessment**, produced by **Sylvan Assurance, LLC**.

It provides **general guidance and recommended security practices** drawn from widely recognised security standards and frameworks. It is **not** a professional security audit, a penetration test, a certification, or legal advice, and it does not create any advisory or consulting relationship.

Every recommendation in this document is **optional** - a widely accepted way to reduce a common risk. You decide which recommendations to adopt, adapt, or decline. Following this guidance reduces exposure to common attack patterns, but it **does not guarantee security and does not prevent any particular breach, incident, or loss**. Responsibility for the security of your business, systems, and data remains with you as the operator of your business.

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Scan for the companion book to this toolkit.  
**[sylvanassurance.com/go/smb-security-playbook](https://sylvanassurance.com/go/smb-security-playbook)**

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