

# UK Cyber Essentials Readiness Checklist

Most applications fail because nobody checked the boxes before submitting

For UK SMBs preparing to apply for Cyber Essentials



## 1. Boundary firewall enabled

Configured on every internet connection, no exceptions



## 2. Default passwords changed

On every device, firewall, router and cloud service



## 3. Patch within 14 days

All operating systems updated within 14 days of release



## 4. Unique user accounts

No shared logins; admin rights limited to those who need them



## 5. Leavers offboarded promptly

Access revoked the day someone leaves, not at renewal



## 6. Anti-malware on every device

Signatures kept current, updated automatically