

Securing your competitive edge: cloud security advice for business leaders

Driving success while staying secure

As a business leader, pursuing digital transformation can help you gain deeper knowledge of customers, access to new markets, fresh ways for employees to work in collaborative teams, increased efficiency and dramatically faster innovation.

Cloud technology is central to achieving these benefits. The cloud computing revolution is driven by the realisation among enterprise leaders – from Fortune 500 giants to agile startups – that they can create more value through their core activities if they can delegate IT infrastructure and broad business software functions to trusted partners.

As digital information becomes increasingly central to business success, however, so does your responsibility to keep it secure. A more diverse ecosystem of devices and applications, the growing

tendency toward remote work and proliferating cyberthreats combine to create a uniquely challenging environment. The choices you make today can have a long-lasting impact on your organisation's ability to create value and thrive in an ever-more-competitive global market.

Taking advantage of the investment and experience of cloud providers in security, compliance and privacy can help you realise the many productivity-enhancing benefits of the cloud while protecting your company and reducing risk. It reduces the burden on your IT and legal departments while enabling you to benefit from global scale, intelligent threat detection and deep compliance expertise.

Improve protection with a unified solution

Leverage the full power of cloud technology while getting advanced security capabilities with Microsoft 365, which includes Enterprise Mobility + Security and Windows 10, as well as Office 365 ProPlus. With Microsoft 365, you can enable more secure collaboration by giving the right people access to information they need using an identity-based approach to security and compliance – all in one intelligent solution that is designed to work across your entire enterprise.

5 ways

Here are five ways that Microsoft 365 can help you further realise the possibilities of the cloud while achieving a strong foundation in security and compliance.

- 01 Give workers more flexibility while maintaining control over data usage with a single, unified identity solution
- 02 Gain the power of intelligent security
- 03 Get control over mobile, SaaS and line-of-business applications
- 04 Minimise privileged access
- 05 Enable single sign-on for maximum security and user convenience

01

Give workers more flexibility while maintaining control over data usage with a single, unified identity solution



You want your employees to be able to work anywhere, on any device, without an overly cumbersome IT process. And employees are not the only users you want to be able to connect to your systems – customers, suppliers and other outside partners may have to do so as well. Today, the 'outside' of your corporate network is no longer defined by your firewall, but by the credentials your employees, suppliers and customers use to log on to your network, often from remote locations. In this environment, identity is the new difference-maker, enabling you to provide broad access while staying in control of data and identifying user activity across your entire infrastructure.

Organisations with Microsoft 365 can use Azure Active Directory (Azure AD) to centralise identity and access management and enable deep compliance management, governance and productivity across devices, data, apps and infrastructure. Azure AD simplifies compliance and security, and it is built to work for apps in the cloud, on mobile devices or on premises.

[Learn more about Azure AD](#)

02

Gain the power of intelligent security



Cyberthreats continue to evolve at a rapid pace, making it difficult for traditional signature-based malware identification tools to keep up. Your business needs intelligent security that can identify emerging threats before they cause problems.

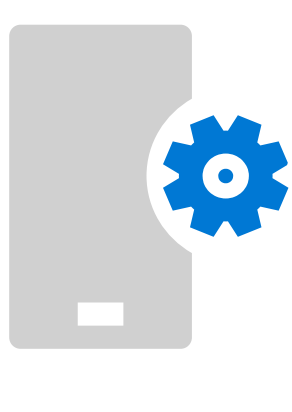
Microsoft 365 can help. Using vast computational analytics resources, Microsoft analyses data from more than a billion Windows devices and more than 400 million monthly email messages to detect new cyberattacks in their earliest stages. The result is the Microsoft Intelligent Security Graph. With Windows Defender Advanced Threat Protection in Microsoft 365, this intelligence is applied to your business to detect anomalies within your IT ecosystem and protect against zero-day threats automatically.

By connecting the insights gained from the Intelligent Security Graph with the data gathered about threats on your specific network, Microsoft 365 provides a two-way street of improvement driven by machine learning and big data.

[Learn more about intelligent security with Microsoft 365](#)

03

Get control over mobile, SaaS and line-of-business applications



Your employees are probably relying on an ever-growing number of internal and third-party tools to get their jobs done, including cloud-based software as a service (SaaS) apps, such as Citrix and Dropbox. Maintaining visibility and control over mobile applications used to require fully enrolling devices in a mobile device management solution.

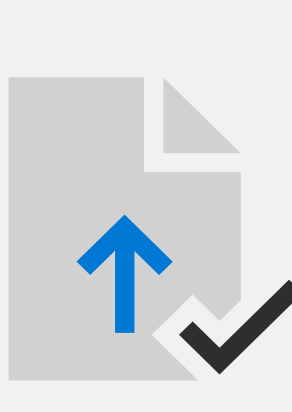
Now, with Microsoft 365, you can use Mobile Application Management (MAM) in Intune to manage internal and external applications from a single cloud-based solution.

With MAM, your employees can stay productive and securely access corporate information using the Office mobile and line-of-business apps they already know. MAM ensures data security by helping to restrict certain actions, like copy, cut, paste and save as, to only those apps managed by Intune.

[Learn more about MAM in Intune](#)

04

Minimise privileged access



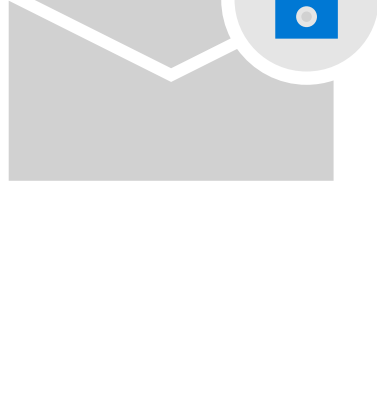
A key principle of modern security is ensuring least-privilege access, meaning that users are provided with the minimum administrative permissions for the shortest period necessary to do their jobs. This reduces the chance of a malicious user having high-level access or an authorised user inadvertently impacting a sensitive resource.

Using Azure AD Privileged Identity Management (PIM), you have granular control over access privileges to your IT resources. You can easily see which users are assigned and enable on-demand, 'just in time' administrative access to Microsoft Online Services such as Office 365, as well as see a history of Administrator activation, including what changes administrators made to Azure resources.

[Learn more about Azure AD PIM](#)

05

Enable single sign-on for maximum security and user convenience



Many organisations rely on software as a service (SaaS) applications such as Office 365, Box and Salesforce for end-user productivity. Historically, IT staff needed to create and update user accounts in each SaaS application individually and users had to remember a different password for each SaaS application. The alternative is for users to create their own, potentially insecure credentials for each service. The more identities they have, the more likely they are to forget or lose one of them, creating a potential security risk.

By providing users with the convenience of single sign-on across all types of application, you can help reduce the risks and headaches associated with having multiple identities.

Azure AD extends on-premises AD into the cloud, enabling users to use their primary organisational account not only to log in to their domain-jointed devices and company resources, but also all of the web and SaaS applications needed for their job. Application access can be automatically provisioned or de-provisioned based on group membership and employee status. Plus, Azure AD integrates out of the box with many of today's popular SaaS applications.

[Learn more about single sign-on with Azure AD](#)



As your organisation pursues the power of digital technology to transform its business, adopting the latest cloud solutions can help you enable better collaboration and greater creativity while making it easier to keep users, data and systems protected.

Enhancing your security and compliance capabilities by getting Office 365 as part of Microsoft 365 gives you powerful new tools for providing highly secure yet seamless workplace experiences, while minimising complexity and reliance on third-party applications.



Discover Office 365



Test drive Office 365 today