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IT Health Checkup:

7 Essential Security Protections

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Bad news: Cybercrime is at an all time high.

Good news: It's easily preventable! Every so often, check up on your IT Security by going over these seven steps.

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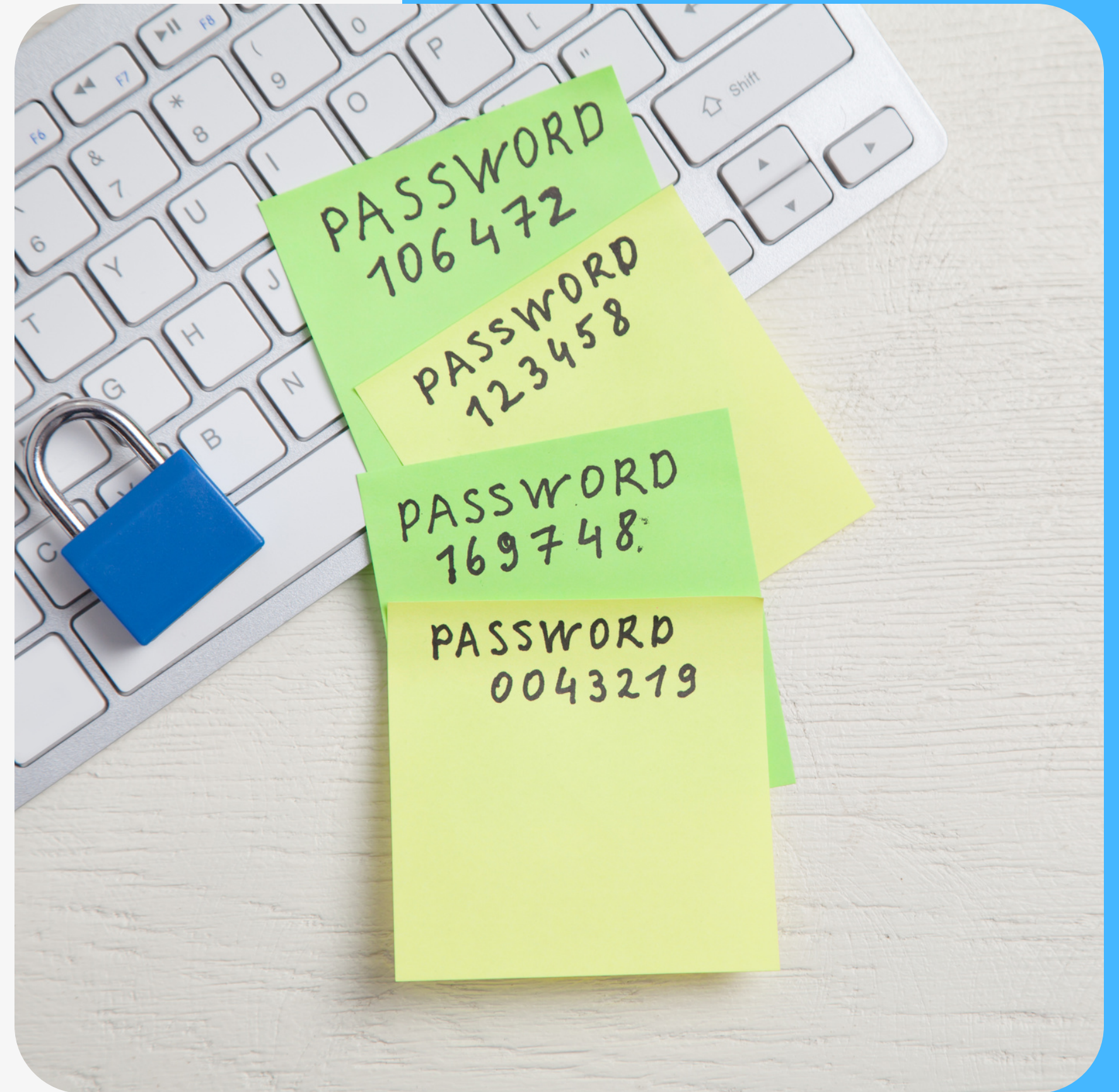# Educate your employees (and yourself) on what not to do.

Be mindful when it comes to your browsing. We strongly recommend putting a policy in place that limits the web sites employees can access with work devices. Not to be jerks, but to protect against pesky malware.

Make those passwords STRONG.

Passwords should be at least 8 characters and contain lowercase and uppercase letters, symbols and at least one number. On a cell phone, requiring a passcode to be entered will go a long way toward preventing a stolen device from being compromised.

Keep your network and all devices patched and up to date.

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Back it up! Beep, beep, beep.

There's a relatively common ransomware where someone steals and locks up your files to hold them ransom until you pay a fee. If your files are backed up, no problemo. Enjoy your thousands of spreadsheets, Mr. Robot!

Keep personal devices personal.

The use of personal devices on professional networks drastically increases the complexity of keeping those networks clean. In fact, infected personal devices are the biggest threat to network security, so keep 'em separated if you can.

Shell out money for a good firewall.

A firewall is the frontline defense against ill-doers, blocking everything you haven't specifically allowed to enter (or leave) your computer network. But they need to be maintained by an IT professional to make sure everything is smooooooth.

Protect Your $$$.

Company bank accounts have different protections than personal ones. So make sure to:

1 Set up email alerts on your account so you are notified any time money is withdrawn

2 Dedicate ONE work computer specifically to banking and never access social media sites, free email accounts (like Hotmail) and other online games, news sites, etc.

3 Contact your bank about removing the ability for wire transfers out of your account and shut down any debit cards associated with that account.

Great Job!

Need tech help? We make **IT** look easy.
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