Report a cybercrime, cyber security incident or vulnerability.

Report

Menu

Search

< Previous level

Essential Eight Explained

Content complexity

Moderate

Content written for

- Small & medium business
- Large organisations & infrastructure
- Government

Attachments

PROTECT - Essential Eight Explained (May 2023)

867KB .pdf

Back to top

Report a cybercrime, cyber security incident or vulnerability.

Report

The Australian Cyber Security Centre (ACSC) has developed prioritised mitigation strategies, in the form of the *Strategies to Mitigate Cyber Security Incidents*, to help organisations protect themselves against various cyber threats. The most effective of these mitigation strategies are the Essential Eight.

The Essential Eight has been designed to protect Microsoft Windows-based internet-connected networks. While the principles behind the Essential Eight may be applied to cloud services and enterprise mobility, or other operating systems, it was not primarily designed for such purposes and alternative mitigation strategies may be more appropriate to mitigate unique cyber threats to these environments.

The Essential Eight

The mitigation strategies that constitute the Essential Eight are:

- application control
- patch applications
- configure Microsoft Office macro settings
- user application hardening
- restrict administrative privileges
- patch operating systems
- multi-factor authentication
- regular backups.

Implementing the Essential Eight

The *Essential Eight Maturity Model* articulates requirements for the implementation of the Essential Eight.

Report a cybercrime, cyber security incident or vulnerability.

Report

Assessments against the Essential Eight should be conducted using the *Essential Eight Assessment Process Guide*.

Further information

Further information on the *Essential Eight Maturity Model* and its implementation is available in the *Essential Eight Maturity Model FAQ* publication.

Contact details

If you have any questions regarding this guidance you can write to us or call us on 1300 CYBER1 (1300 292 371).

Was this information helpful?

Report a cyber security incident for critical infrastructure

Get alerts on new threats
Alert Service

Become an
ACSC Partner

Report a cybercrime, cyber security incident or vulnerability.

Report

Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the Traditional Owners and Custodians of Country throughout Australia and their continuing connections to land, sea and communities. We pay our respects to them, their cultures and their Elders; past, present and emerging. We also recognise Australia's First Peoples' enduring contribution to Australia's national security.

About the ACSC

Alerts and advisories

News and media

View all content

Contact us

Careers

Accessibility

Copyright

Disclaimer

Privacy

Social media terms of use

Australian Cyber Security Hotline

1300 CYBER1 (1300 292 371)

Authorised by the Australian Government, Canberra