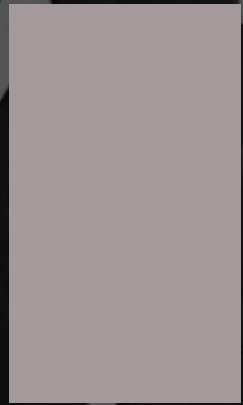


kickict.co.uk



Kick ICT Group



Achieving Cyber Essentials Certification

A GUIDE



**We are experts
and partners.**

We've been delivering
business solutions,
network infrastructure
and support to help our
customers succeed for
almost 40 years.

Introducing Cyber Essentials

Cyber Essentials is a simple but effective, Government backed scheme designed to help protect your organisation against a whole range of the most common cyber-attacks. Cyber-attacks come in many shapes and sizes, but the vast majority are very basic in nature, carried out by relatively unskilled individuals. They're the digital equivalent of a thief trying your front door to see if it's unlocked. Cyber Essentials is an effective and affordable way to reduce your organisation's exposure to these attacks.

As a managed IT services provider with a strong focus on ensuring our customers have modern and secure IT environments, we are strong advocates of Cyber Essentials certification.

Getting started on your journey can be a challenge, at Kick we can help

What controls are contained within Cyber Essentials?

The following controls are contained in Cyber Essentials, together with more information about how to implement them:

- **Boundary firewalls and internet gateways** - establish network perimeter defences, particularly web proxy, web filtering, content checking, and firewall policies to detect and block executable downloads, block access to known malicious domains and prevent users' computers from communicating directly with the Internet
- **Malware protection** - establish and maintain malware defences to detect and respond to known attack code
- **Patch management** - patch known vulnerabilities with the latest version of the software, to prevent attacks which exploit software bugs
- **Whitelisting and execution control** - prevent unknown software from being able to run or install itself, including AutoRun on USB and CD drives

- **Secure configuration** - restrict the functionality of every device, operating system and application to the minimum needed for business to function
- **Password policy** - ensure that an appropriate password policy is in place and followed
- **User access control** - include limiting normal users' execution permissions and enforcing the principle of least privilege

The benefits of certification

Our Cyber Essentials certification process is tried and tested across many of our existing customers, meaning we can quickly get your path towards certification mapped out and delivered. Once achieved, your organisation will benefit from:

- **Peace of mind** that comes from having confidence in your organisation's security measures
- **Improved customer confidence**, assured that you are taking measures to protect them against cyber threats
- **New business opportunities**, again with the assurance that you are protecting customers
- **Cyber Insurance**, included within successful certification
- **Capability to tender for Government contracts**, where certification is a requirement

Ready for Cyber Essentials Plus?

With Cyber Essential Plus you'll have the highest level of certification offered under the Cyber Essentials scheme. Your organisation will need an even stronger, more robust cyber security environment than necessary for Cyber Essentials, with focus in areas such as phishing attacks and hacking. We can take you through the Cyber Essentials Plus process, kicking off with a review of your current set up.

Ready to kick off your Cyber Essentials certification journey?

Having a partner such as Kick will help your organisation to quickly and efficiently navigate the Cyber Essentials certification process.

We deliver a two-day engagement to assess your organisation's levels of protection against a wide variety of the most common cyber-attacks. This is important because vulnerability to simple attacks can mark you out as target for more in-depth unwanted attention from cyber criminals and others. We'll then work through the assessment process, identifying any areas that require improvements before submitting the assessment for formal accreditation.

Useful Links

- We have a dedicated Cyber Essentials section on the [Kick website](#)
- Visit the [Cyber Essentials website](#) at for further information around the initiative, it's origins and the positive impact it's having on UK businesses

Why partner with Kick ICT for your Cyber Essentials Certification?

- We've already achieved our own Cyber Essentials certification
- A number of our managed IT services customers have successfully achieved certification using our support
- Over 300 years combined experience across our managed IT division
- Your certification will be overseen by David Paine, Kick's Technical Services Director with over 35 years' experience delivering cyber security solutions in the SME sector

For more information on Cyber Essentials contact your account manager or, if you are new to Kick, visit [our website](#) or call us on 01698 844 600 to arrange a no-obligation chat.





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