SYSTEMAGIC
DOING IT DIFFERENTLY

SHORT VERSION

A GUIDE TO CYBER ESSENTIALS

What is Cyber Essentials?

Cyber Essentials is a UK Government-operated scheme that was introduced in 2014 by the National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC) to offer small-medium sized businesses a straightforward and affordable way to tackle the growing cyber threat and achieve a good standard of cyber security.

By aligning with the five critical technical controls of the standard, businesses can protect themselves from up to 80% of common internet-based attacks as well as demonstrate to clients and prospects that they take cyber security and data protection seriously.

The government requires all suppliers bidding for contracts involving the handling of certain sensitive and personal information to hold an up to date Cyber Essentials certificate.

What is Cyber Essentials Plus?

Once you've achieved the Basic certification, you can move up to Cyber Essentials Plus, the highest level of the Cyber Essentials scheme.

This involves an independent audit of your systems to verify that your business is meeting all the important security controls that you identified during the Basic self-assessment questionnaire; giving you the official stamp of approval you need to win tenders and build credibility as a company committed to its security.

What Does Cyber Essentials Assess?

Patch Management

User Access & Control

Firewall Protection

Secure Configuration

Malware Protection

How is Cyber Essentials Assessed?

Technically, there are actually two assessments you need to complete to be fully certified for Cyber Essentials. The 'Basic' certification must be achieved first (you must complete the assessment within 6 months of receiving it).

This is then followed by the more comprehensive 'Plus' assessment. The processes for both are slightly different.

Cyber Essentials 'Basic' is a DIY-like certification that comes in the form of a self-assessment questionnaire (SAQ).

Cyber Essentials Plus goes a step further and actually requires the certification body to check your infrastructure for vulnerabilities and ensure that all of the answers provided in your SAQ are reflected there.

It's important to note that your 'Plus' certification MUST be achieved within 90 days of completing Cyber Essentials Basic.

What About Support?

When you complete your Cyber Essentials certification with Systemagic, you will be guided through the questionnaire by our super friendly and helpful team.

With our 'guided pass' service, your assessment will be checked before submission with amendments made to guarantee a pass - saving you time and money.

"The certification process was quick and easy and as always, Systemagic provided a great service - thank you!"

Catherine - CHC Global

"The team at Systemagic guide you through every step of the certification process, removing the hassle."

Jolene - Heywood House

Cyber Essentials Benefits

There are so many benefits in becoming a Cyber Essentials-certified business, including:

Protection
Once accredited, your business will be better protected against the most common cyber threats.
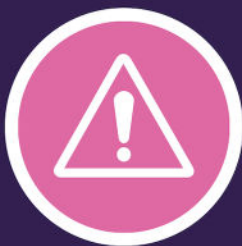
Opportunities
An increasing number of public sector projects require suppliers to be Cyber Essentials certified.

Trust
Cyber Essentials shows your commitment to cybersecurity and helps build trust with customers.

Risk Mitigation
Cyber Essentials helps identify and mitigate security vulnerabilities in your organisation's systems and processes.
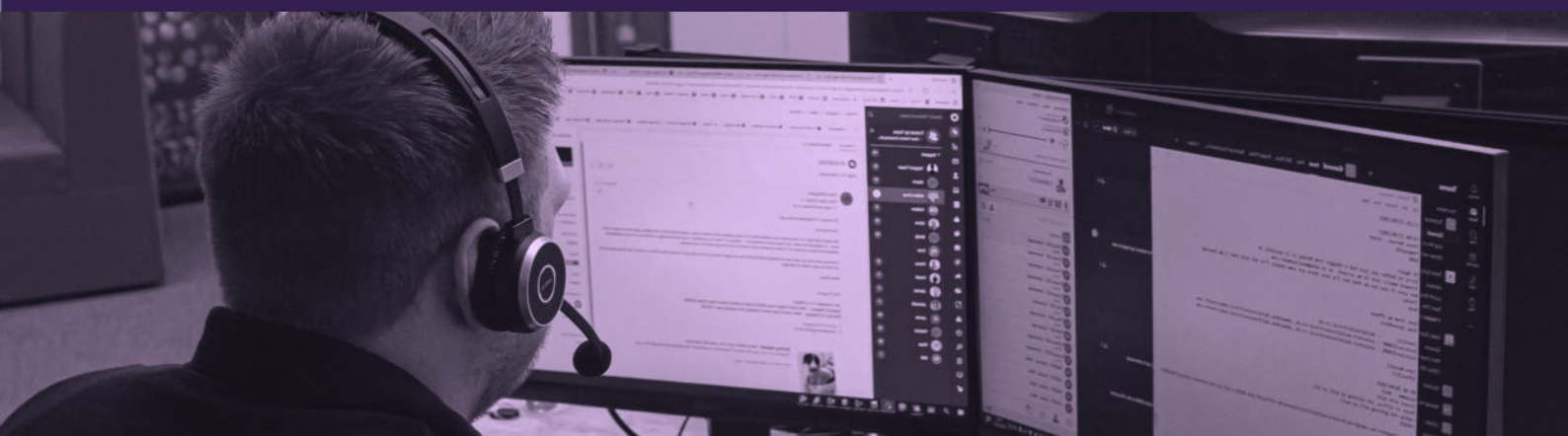
Cyber Awareness
The process of obtaining CE requires users to become more aware of risks and best practices.

Insurance
Many insurance providers offer discount and special rates to organisations with Cyber Essentials.

How Much Does Cyber Essentials Cost?

Basic from
£485

- ✓ Valid for 12 months
- ✓ Assured pass
- ✓ Email support
- ✓ Free resources
- ✓ Digital badge

Plus from
£2,375

- ✓ Everything in Basic
- ✓ Pre-assessment
- ✓ Independent audit

Size	Basic	Plus
Micro (0-9 users)	£485	£2,375
Small (10-49 users)	£595	£2,484
Medium (50-249 users)	£650	£2,540
Large (250+ users)	£745	£2,849
Cyber Essentials Basic Administration Fee: £380		

Want to Learn More About Cyber Essentials?

If you're considering Cyber Essentials for your business, our Systemagicians are here to support you! Contact our team below for help and guidance:

📞 01225 426800

✉ info@systemagic.co.uk

🌐 www.systemagic.co.uk