

# 7 Critical Security Measures Every Business Must Put In Place NOW With Mobile Computing

If You Have Given Or  
Plan To Give Your  
Employees The Ability To  
Access Company Data  
And Systems With Mobile  
Devices – **DON'T ...**  
Until You've Read This



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## Mobile And Cloud Computing: Benefit Or Threat?

There's no doubt about it – the Internet and mobile and cloud computing have made our lives easier and our businesses more productive, cost-effective and competitive. But make no mistake about it: the Internet is also a breeding ground for thieves and predators, not to mention an enormous distraction and liability if not used properly. It is causing people to be casual, careless and flat-out stupid about their privacy in an increasingly litigious society where heavy fines and severe reputational damage can occur with one slipup – which is why you cannot be casual or careless about introducing it to your organization. You can't turn on the TV or read a newspaper without learning about the latest online data breach. And mobile devices are easily misplaced and stolen.

Because of all of this, if you are going to allow employees to use mobile devices – particularly personal mobile devices – to access, store and use company data, then it's critical that you have these 7 security measures in place.

1. **Implement a mobile device policy.** This is particularly important if your employees are using their own personal devices to access company e-mail and data. If that employee leaves, are you allowed to erase company data from their phone? If their phone is lost or stolen, are you permitted to remotely wipe the device – which would delete all of that employee's photos, videos, texts, etc. – to ensure YOUR information, or your clients' information, isn't compromised? Further, if the data in your organization is highly sensitive, such as patient records, credit card information, financial information and the like, you may not be legally permitted to allow employees to access it on devices that are not secured, but that doesn't mean an employee might not innocently "take work home." If it's a company-owned device, you need to detail what an employee can and cannot do with that device, including "rooting" or "jailbreaking" the device to circumvent security mechanisms you put in place.
2. **Require STRONG passwords and passcodes to lock mobile devices.** 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 be entered will go a long way in preventing a stolen device from being compromised.
3. **Require all mobile devices be encrypted.** Encryption is the most effective way to achieve data security. To read an encrypted file, you must have access to a secret key or password that unlocks (decrypts) the data.

4. **Implement remote wipe software for lost or stolen devices.** If you find a laptop was taken or a cell phone lost, “kill” or wipe software will allow you to disable the device and erase any and all sensitive data remotely.
5. **Backup remote devices.** If you implement Step 4, you’ll need to have a backup of everything you’re erasing. To that end, make sure you are backing up all MOBILE devices, including laptops, so you can quickly restore the data.
6. **Don’t allow employees to download unauthorized software or files.** One of the fastest ways cybercriminals access networks is by duping unsuspecting users to willfully download malicious software by embedding it within downloadable files, games or other “innocent”-looking apps.
7. **Keep your security software up-to-date.** Thousands of new threats are created daily, so it’s critical that you’re updating your mobile device’s security settings frequently. As an employer, it’s best to remotely monitor and manage your employees’ devices to ensure they are being updated, backed up and secured.

### **Want Help In Implementing These 7 Essentials?**

If you are concerned about employees and the dangers inherent in mobile and cloud computing, then call us about how we can implement a mobile and cloud security and monitoring system for your business.

Our process involves documenting all the mobile devices accessing your network, documenting what cloud applications your organization uses AND determining an appropriate backup for the data stored on third-party platforms. We’ll also help you implement a mobile device policy, educate your employees on how to “stay safe” online and put critical security and backup services in place so you don’t have to worry about data loss or unauthorized access to your company’s network.

**To request a FREE, no-obligation Mobile And Cloud Security Assessment,** call us at 818-805-0909 or go online to [www.itsupportla.com/mobilesecurity](http://www.itsupportla.com/mobilesecurity)

## See What Other Los Angeles Business Owners Are Saying:



“In our line of work, we need to have very good data security and data backup to protect our clients’ data. Now that IT Support LA has set up my backup, I have complete peace of mind that it’s all safe and secure – and it’s great not having to worry about my clients’ data. I feel that it’s much better to have a total backup solution that you just don’t need to worry about.” – *Dr. Ogden Page, President, Ogden Page Accountancy Corp.*

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“WOW! That is all I can say about Igor and the team at IT Support LA! It’s so nice to know that our entire network is handled so I have one less crisis to deal with in my already crazy-busy schedule. I’ve worked with a number of other computer consultants in the past and no one can touch their level of service or expertise.” – *Dianne Pesgado, Office Manager, ABR Inc.*

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“I like being able to call for IT help and get a near-immediate response. Recently I arrived at my office to find that I was unable to access documents on the network server from my workstation. I was under a court deadline and needed immediate access to the documents. I called IT SUPPORT LA for help. Within 60 minutes I had a tech working on the problem. I don’t spend valuable (billable) time solving IT problems. Also, having IT SUPPORT LA do the IT work has provided invaluable continuity of the IT solutions used in my law firm. Thanks!” – *Edward W. Pilot, Edward Pilot Law A Professional Corporation.*

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“Before hiring IT Support LA, our network would go down regularly, run slow, and even run into the occasional virus. Since signing up for their network maintenance plan, we haven’t had one single issue. I’m VERY glad we hired these guys to support our network.” – *Ella V. Realtor*