

# Anatomy of a Small Business Cyberattack

## Security needs to be a priority

Cybercrime is increasing and small business owners know it.

**76%** of small businesses worldwide have reported a cyberattack.<sup>1</sup>

**43%** of all cyberattacks target small businesses.<sup>2</sup>

**87%** of small business executives say security is a high priority.<sup>3</sup>

To defend against ransomware and other cyberattacks, it's important to look at the various points of entry and how malware can spread through your organization at multiple levels. By educating your staff, and employing the right tools, you can stop cybercrime at every stage of the attack.

### 1

## Identification and planning

Hackers look for targets that aren't protected or people who are lax about passwords and sharing information.



### Protect your people, devices, and apps

To defend against ransomware and other cyberattacks, it's important to look at the various points of entry and how malware can spread through your organization at multiple levels. By educating your staff, and employing the right tools, you can stop cybercrime at every stage of the attack.

### 2

## The attack

Based on their reconnaissance, hackers initiate an attack. They keep trying until they find a way in.

### Secure connections, no matter where they are

You need to detect and block malware and viruses across employee devices with endpoint protection because people may be connecting from an office, a home laptop, or a mobile device.



### 3

## Takeover and spread

Once hackers find a way in, malware spreads across your network and encrypts your files or takes down critical systems.



### Lock down the network

Cloud-delivered security blocks requests to sites that host malware, which keeps it from spreading.

## Protection at every stage

With Cisco® security products, your business can benefit from the same security intelligence technology and machine learning that powers the world's largest, most complex enterprises. User verification and email security blocks entry to your network, and Cisco communication and network security keeps malware from spreading. Let us help you secure your business, so you can focus on what matters most—growing your business.

1. <https://www.zdnet.com/article/76-percent-of-us-businesses-have-experienced-a-cyberattack-in-the-past-year/>  
 2. <https://enterprise.verizon.com/resources/reports/dbir/>  
 3. <https://www.cisco.com/c/en/us/products/security/ciso-benchmark-report-2020.html>

... today while also preparing for a new way forward. Our informational resource

