8 Network Security Must-Haves

Based on NCSC Guidance | Curated by Cloud Gateway

1. Define and Defend Your Boundaries

Control what enters and exits your network - segment traffic and apply strict perimeter defences.

Establish clear zones between cloud, data centre, and on-prem environments to limit lateral movement.

2. Get Firewall Rules Right

Set clear allow/deny rules. Always finish with "deny all" for maximum protection.

Review rules regularly to remove redundant entries and adapt to evolving threats.

3. Secure your DNS

Protect DNS infrastructure from tampering or hijack attempts.

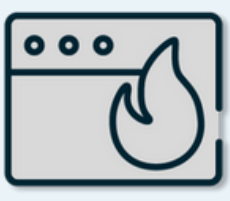
Compromised DNS can redirect users to malicious sites - treat it as a core security asset. Use DNSSEC, access control, and deny lists.

4. Encrypt Data In Transit

Use TLS and VPNs to protect sensitive data moving across internal and external networks.

Ensure encryption is enforced end-to-end, including between cloud-native workloads.

5. Use Secure Protocols



Choose HTTPS, SFTP, and other encrypted protocols by default. Retire insecure options.

Secure protocol choices reduce attack surfaces and improve threat detection.

6. Monitor Everything

Spot threats early. Set logging policies, trigger alerts, and analyse anomalies.

Correlate logs across systems for better context and faster incident response.

7. Lock Down Remote Access

Maintain, patch, and monitor VPNs. Enforce strong authentication and least privilege.

Regularly review access rights to ensure only those who need it have it.

8. Keep Systems Updated

Apply patches regularly. Automate updates where possible - especially for cloud-native environments.

Outdated systems are a common entry point for attackers - make patching a priority.

We make change easy. Contact us to learn how.

Digital transformation is a continuous endeavour, and enacting change is difficult. Whether you want complete control or need a helping hand, Cloud Gateway provides a digital foundation from which you can achieve your technology ambitions.

sales@cloudgateway.co.uk www.cloudgateway.co.uk