Top **5 Ways** to Protect Your Business from **Ransomware**:

1. Protect Your Email

Ensure you are using an advanced, multilayer spam filter (this is an addition to standard Microsoft 365 or Gmail services).

2. Install Virus Software and Use a Business Grade Firewall

A firewall is the first line of defense before a virus enters the system and it is *essential*! (Beware of fake virus detection alerts! Verify any links through the antivirus software directly before clicking).

3. Backup Your Data

Ideally, back up your most important data at least once per day! Regulated industries such as finance, health care, and law, should consider real-time backup. (Remeber the "3-2-1 Backup Rule"- 3 copies of data, on 2 different storage types, with 1 copy online)!

4. Keep Systems and Software Patched and Updated

Malware, viruses, and ransomware are constantly evolving with new variants that can bypass old security features!

5. Security Awareness Training for Employees

Training should include spotting and reporting suspicious emails, instruction on staying safe online, and guidance for securing personal devices and home networks.
(This should be at least once a year, but ideally quarterly!)

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