Bring Your Own Device (BYOD)

Risks, Safety, and Best Practices

What organizational leaders need to know.

Personally owned devices, such as cell phones, tablets, or laptops, introduce risk to your organization. However, a BYOD policy balances accessibility with security to protect networks, data, and users. When paired with appropriate governance frameworks and technical safeguards, BYOD can be implemented securely. This overview outlines key considerations to guide your organization in adopting and maintaining a BYOD policy with confidence.

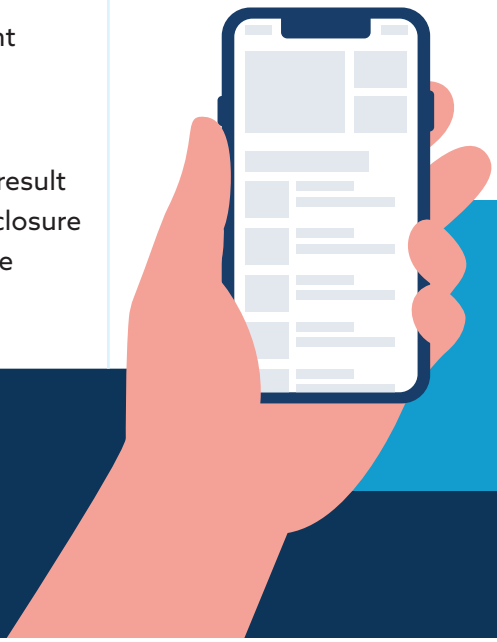
Risks

Lack of control

- IT, Legal Counsel, and Leadership may not have the right to inspect personally owned devices.
- There is a lack of visibility regarding security updates.
- Potential lack of insurance coverage for personally owned devices if they are damaged or suffer data loss during a cyber event ("Shadow-IT").
- The unrestricted use of personal devices could result in the unintentional disclosure of Personally Identifiable Information (PII).

Legal Considerations

- 91A content of a personal device used for work could be subject to a 91A request.
- Your organization may be required to preserve communications, such as text messages from personal devices, if they are permitted to be used for work purposes.



Safety & Best Practices

- If you allow staff to use personal devices for official duties, ensure your BYOD policy that governs their use. Use language in your BYOD policy that clearly articulates your organizational stance.
- Consider segmenting your network in order to isolate personally owned devices from your larger network.
- Check out an example of a policy here.

Consider scheduling a Leadership training where this will be covered here.

THE ATOM GROUP

New Hampshire DoIT

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