

VPN Security Checklist for Small Business

A practical guide to securing your team's remote connections in 2026.

1. Essential VPN Requirements

- ☐ **Choose a business-grade VPN** (NordVPN, NordLayer, ProtonVPN) — consumer VPNs lack team management
- ☐ **Verify no-log policy** — confirmed by independent third-party audit within last 12 months
- ☐ **Check jurisdiction** — avoid Five Eyes countries (US, UK, Canada, Australia, NZ)
- ☐ **Confirm kill switch** — automatically blocks traffic if VPN drops
- ☐ **Verify DNS leak protection** — test at ipleak.net or dnsleaktest.com

2. Team Deployment

- ☐ **Set up dedicated business accounts** — not sharing personal subscriptions
- ☐ **Configure team admin dashboard** — central user management
- ☐ **Enable multi-factor authentication** on VPN admin panel
- ☐ **Create user groups** by access level (full, restricted, guest)
- ☐ **Set up automatic updates** for VPN clients on all devices

3. Security Hardening

- ☐ **Enable split tunneling** for non-sensitive traffic (saves bandwidth)
- ☐ **Use WireGuard protocol** (faster, more secure than OpenVPN)
- ☐ **Configure custom DNS** (Cloudflare 1.1.1.1 or Quad9 9.9.9.9)
- ☐ **Block IPv6 traffic** if VPN doesn't support it
- ☐ **Set up automatic reconnect** on network changes

4. Employee Training

- ☐ **Create a VPN usage policy document**
- ☐ **Require VPN on all public Wi-Fi** (coffee shops, airports, hotels)
- ☐ **Train on recognizing VPN disconnect warnings**
- ☐ **Establish incident reporting protocol** for suspected breaches

5. Monitoring & Maintenance

- ☐ **Review VPN logs weekly** for unusual connection patterns

- ☐ **Audit active users monthly** — remove former employees
- ☐ **Update VPN clients quarterly**
- ☐ **Test backup VPN server** monthly
- ☐ **Review security audits** when published

Recommended VPNs for Small Business

VPN	Price (Business)	Team Size	Audit Status	Best For
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NordVPN	\$6.49/user/mo	1-50+	Audited 2025	All-around security
NordLayer	\$8.32/user/mo	1-30	Audited 2025	Dedicated IP + team management
ProtonVPN	\$10/user/mo	1-20	Audited 2025	Privacy-focused

Last updated: May 2026

Generated by VPN Security Blog — Independent VPN & Security Reviews