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Vectura - October 3, 2025, 5:47 am

Privacy & Data Protection for Small Businesses (Practical)

Intro:

Small businesses must protect customer data. This practical guide walks through mapping, minimization, encryption basics and creating a simple breach notification plan.

Prerequisites: Spreadsheet (for data inventory)

Access to storage systems (DBs, buckets)

Steps:

Data mapping — list what you collect, why, where stored, who accesses it

Minimization & retention — define what you keep and for how long

Encryption basics — at rest (disk encryption, database encryption), in transit (TLS)

Access control — RBAC, least privilege

Breach notification & plan — templates for internal + customer communication

Practical templates to create

- Data inventory spreadsheet
- Retention schedule
- Simple breach notification draft

Exercises: Create a data inventory for your business with fields collected and retention period

Enable disk encryption (LUKS or BitLocker) on a test machine

Privacy is not just compliance — it's trust. Make a basic plan and iterate.

SecureOp - October 4, 2025, 3:42 am

How serious is data protection in the US? Is it enforced/audited? There's quite a discussion in Europe on data protection officers.

Interesting to see how the market develops.