

Ultimate Windows Checklist:

User Auditing Section:

- ☐ **Press the start button, type “Computer Management”, open it. Do the following steps:**
- ☐ **Create group if needed:**
 - ☐ 1. Open Local Users and Groups category.
 - ☐ 2. Right click on Groups, and add a group.
- ☐ **Adding users to a group if needed:**
 - ☐ 1. Go to the list of groups.
 - ☐ 2. Select the group you want to add the user to, right click and press add to group.
- ☐ **Creating user accounts if needed:**
 - ☐ 1. Right click on the users folder.
 - ☐ 2. Press New User.

-TIP- See all users by pressing WIN + R and typing “netplwiz”

- ☐ **Remove terminated employees/unauthorized user accounts if needed:**
 - ☐ 1. Select Start > Settings > Accounts > Family & other users.
 - ☐ 2. Select the person's name or email address, then select Remove.
- ☐ **Add/Remove Admins if needed:**
 - ☐ 1. Select Start > Settings > Accounts .
 - ☐ 2. Under Family & other users, select the account owner name (you should see "Local account" below the name), then select Change account type.

- ☐ 3. Under Account type, select Administrator, and then select OK.

☐ **Change users passwords:**

- ☐ 1. Open the Control Panel, and click on the User Accounts icon.
- ☐ 2. Click on the Manage another account link.
- ☐ 3. If prompted by User Account Control, click on Yes.
- ☐ 4. Click on a local account that you want to change or remove the password of.
- ☐ 5. Click on Change the password.
- ☐ 6. Type in a new password and password hint, and click on Change password.

☐ **Enable/Disable user accounts if needed:**

- ☐ In the search bar or in the menu to execute (execute is called with the Win + r keys) type lusrmgr.msc and press Enter.
- ☐ Go to “Users” ⇨ right-click on the user whom you want to disable (enable) and select “Properties.”
- ☐ In the “General” tab, check the “Disable account” field and click “OK.” If you need to enable an account — uncheck the box “Disable account” and click “OK”.

☐ **Disable admin account:**

- ☐ Go to the Start menu (or press Windows key + X) and select Computer Management.
- ☐ Then expand to Local Users and Groups, then Users.
- ☐ Select the Administrator and then right-click and select Properties.
- ☐ Uncheck Account is disabled to enable it, or check it to disable it.

☐ **Lockout/Un-Lockout User Account if needed:**

- ☐ 1. Press the Win+R keys to open Run, type lusrmgr.msc into Run, and click/tap on OK to open Local Users and Groups.
- ☐ 2. Click/tap on Users in the left pane of Local Users and Groups.
- ☐ 3. Right click or press and hold on the name (ex: "Brink2") of the local account you want to unlock, and click/tap on Properties.
- ☐ 4. In the General tab, uncheck the Account is locked out box, and click/tap on OK.

☐ **Allow/Disallow users to change passwords if needed:**

- ☐ 1. Press the Win+R keys to open Run, type lusrmgr.msc into Run, and click/tap on OK to open Local Users and Groups.
- ☐ 2. Click/tap on Users in the left pane of Local Users and Groups.
- ☐ 3. Right click or press and hold on the name (ex: "Brink2") of the user account you want, and click/tap on Properties.
- ☐ 4. Check or uncheck (default) the User cannot change password box for what you want to do, and click/tap on OK. (see screenshot below)

☐ **Disabling password never expires on all users:**

- ☐ 1. Press the Win+R keys to open Run, type lusrmgr.msc into Run, and click/tap on OK to open Local Users and Groups.
- ☐ 2. Click/tap on Users in the left pane of Local Users and Groups.
- ☐ 3. Right click on every user account seen and go to properties.
- ☐ 4. Make sure password never expires is unchecked for ALL USERS.

Security Policy Section:

- ☐ **Block user from creating global objects if needed:**
 - ☐ 1. Open secpol.msc
 - ☐ 2. Open local policies, click on User Rights Assignment
 - ☐ 3. Double click on “Create global objects” and remove users if needed

Services Section:

☐ Services:

Service Auditing:

- 96. DNS Server service has been stopped and disabled
- 97. FTP service has been stopped and disabled
- 98. Microsoft FTP service has stopped and disabled
- 99. Microsoft ISNS service has stopped and disabled
- 100. MultiPoint Service has been stopped and disabled
- 101. LPD service has been stopped and disabled
- 102. Net. TCP Port Sharing service has been stopped and disabled
- 103. RIP Listener service has been stopped and disabled
- 104. RPC Locator service has been stopped and disabled
- 105. Remote Access Connection Manager service has been stopped and disabled
- 106. Remote Registry service has been stopped and disabled
- 107. Simple Mail Transfer Protocol (SMTP) service has been stopped and disabled
- 108. SNMP service has been stopped and disabled
- 109. SNMP Trap service has been stopped and disabled
- 110. SSDP Discovery service has been stopped and disabled
- 111. Simple TCP/IP service has been stopped and disabled
- 112. Telephony service has been stopped and disabled
- 113. Telnet service has been stopped and disabled
- 114. UPnP Device Host service has been stopped and disabled
- 115. WebClient service has been stopped and disabled
- 116. World Wide Web Publishing Service has been stopped and disabled
- 117. Xbox Live Auth Manager has been stopped and disabled
- 118. Xbox Live Game Save service has been stopped and disabled
- 119. Windows Update service is enabled
- 120. Event Log service is enabled
- 121. Adobe Acrobat Update service is enabled
- 122. Windows Firewall service is enabled

5.1 (L2) Ensure 'Bluetooth Audio Gateway Service (BTAGService)' is set to 'Disabled' (Automated)	300
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Enable defensive countermeasures:

☐ **Enable windows defender antivirus:**

- ☐ 1. Press start button, search “Windows Security” press enter
- ☐ 2. Click “Virus and Threat Protection”, then “manage settings” under “Virus & threat protection settings”
- ☐ 3. Enable Real-time protection, Cloud-delivered protection, and Automatic sample submission, (maybe tamper protection at the end if there is nothing left on this checklist)

☐ **Enable Bitlocker:**

- ☐ 1. Press start button, search edit group policy, click computer configuration, click administrative templates, click windows components, click bitlocker drive encryption, and finally click operation system drives.
- ☐ 2. Enable “Require additional authentication at startup”
- ☐ 3. After that, in the same pop up window, choose “Do not allow TPM” under Configure TPM startup.
- ☐ 4. Enable “Disallow standard users from changing the PIN or password”
- ☐ 5. Close those tabs, press the start button, search “Bitlocker” and click manage bitlocker
- ☐ 6. Click “Turn on BitLocker”
- ☐ 7. Enter a complex password ****YOU WILL REMEMBER**** (You’ll be locked out if you don’t)
- ☐ 8. Print recovery key to Microsoft pdf, call it “bitlocker_key”
- ☐ 9. Choose encrypt entire drive
- ☐ 10. Choose new encryption mode
- ☐ 11. Click continue, run system check

- ☐ 12. Finally, restart the computer

Uncategorized OS Settings Section:

☐ **Turn off Remote Desktop Sharing:**

- ☐ 1. Search “Remote Desktop Settings” in the start menu
- ☐ 2. Make sure “Enable Remote Desktop” is switched off
- ☐ 3. Click “Select users that can remotely access this PC” make sure there is nothing/nobody there

☐ **Disable remote assistance connections:**

- ☐ Launch Windows Start Search. You can also launch Control Panel > System and Security > System.
- ☐ Now click Advanced System Settings.
- ☐ Click the Remote tab under System Properties.
- ☐ To disable, uncheck Allow Remote Assistance connections to this computer. Click OK

☐ **Disable sharing:**

- ☐ 1. Press WINDOWS + R and type services.msc
- ☐ 2. Scroll down to Server and double click on it
- ☐ 3. Change the “Startup type:” from Automatic to disabled.
- ☐ 4. Press stop under “Service status”
- ☐ 5. Press OK and close it

☐ **Disable C:/Hidden drive sharing:**

- ☐ 1. First, see all drives being shared including hidden ones.
- ☐ 2. To do this, open command prompt (start button, type “cmd”)
- ☐ 3. Type “net share”
- ☐ 4. That will print out a list of all currently shared drives.
- ☐ 5. Next, type net share {SHARE} /delete to delete a share (works for hidden shares too)

☐ **Enable DEP (Data Execution Protection) for all programs and services:**

- ☐ 1. Search “Control Panel” in the start button search box.
- ☐ 2. Next, click System and Security > System > Advanced System Settings.
- ☐ 3. On the Advanced tab, next to the Performance heading, click Settings.
- ☐ 4. Click the Data Execution Prevention tab.
- ☐ 5. Click “Turn on DEP for all programs and services except those I select.”
- ☐ 6. Click Apply, OK, and exit the window.

☐ **Password protect screen saver: (Do for all users)**

- ☐ 1. Open Settings.
- ☐ 2. Go to Personalization - Lock screen.
- ☐ 3. On the right side, scroll down until you see the link Screen saver settings. Click it to open screen saver options.
- ☐ 4. The screen saver options dialog window will appear on the screen. There, pick a screen saver in the list if you haven't done this before (you can use any screen saver).
- ☐ 5. Turn on the option On resume, display logon screen.
- ☐ 6. Change wait to 10 minutes

☐ **Disable AutoPlay:**

- ☐ 1. Press the start button, search “AutoPlay Settings” press enter
- ☐ 2. Make sure AutoPlay is off, and change “Removable drive” and “Memory card” dropdowns to “Take no action”
- ☐ 3. Do for all users

☐ **Exploit Protection Settings:**

- ☐ 1. Search “Windows Security” in the start search box
- ☐ 2. Click “App & Browser control” then “Exploit Protection Settings”
- ☐ 3. Make sure everything is turned on except for “Force randomization for images (Mandatory ASLR)”
- ☐ 4. Go into the program tab and look for any sus programs with overrides

Windows Updates:

☐ **Update Windows:**

- ☐ 1. Search “Windows Update” in the start menu search box
- ☐ 2. Click install updates and optional updates
- ☐ 3. Restart computer

☐ **Update other microsoft products when updating windows:**

- ☐ 1. Search “Windows Update” in the start menu search box
- ☐ 2. Click “Advanced Options” toggle on the first option, “Receive updates for other Microsoft products when you update Windows”

☐ **Enable automatic updates:**

- ☐ 1. Tap or click on the Start button, followed by Settings. You’ll need to be on the Windows 10 Desktop to do this.
- ☐ 2. From Settings, tap or click on Update & security.
- ☐ 3. Choose Windows Update from the menu on the left, assuming it’s not already selected.

- ☐ 4. Tap or click on the Advanced options link on the right, which will open a window headlined Choose how updates are installed.
- ☐ 5. Select Automatic (recommended) from the drop-down, check “Give me updates for other Microsoft products when I update Windows.” And do not check the Defer upgrades option.

Application Security Settings:

☐ **Enable smart screen settings:**

- ☐ 1. Search “App and browser control” in the start search box
- ☐ 2. Click “Reputation-based protection settings”
- ☐ 3. Make sure everything is turned on

☐ **Internet options:**

- ☐ 1. Search “Internet Properties” in the start button search box
- ☐ 2. Click delete browsing history on exit
- ☐ 3. Click on the security tab
- ☐ 4. Set the slider all the way up
- ☐ 5. Set the slider all the way up for the “Trusted sites” tab too
- ☐ 6. Click the privacy tab
- ☐ 7. Make sure all 3 boxes are checked
- ☐ 8. Click advanced
- ☐ 9. Make sure both cookies are on block and “Always allow session cookies” is unchecked.

☐ **Windows Features Settings:**

- ☐ 1. Search “Turn windows features on and off”
- ☐ 2. Ensure that Internet Information Services, SMB.1.*, and NFS are off/disabled.
- ☐ 3. Ensure that no extra stuff was added there.

☐ **Default apps:**

- ☐ 1. Search “Default apps” in the start search box
- ☐ 2. Click “Choose default apps by file type”
- ☐ 3. Make sure no file formats are being opened by a weird/unusual programs

Firefox Settings:

☐ Firefox Settings:

- ☐ 1. Open Firefox
- ☐ 2. Click the 3 lines in the top right, then help → about firefox
- ☐ 3. Make sure you have the most current version
- ☐ 4. Click options, look at all options and ****USE COMMON SENSE**** when going through these options.
- ☐ 5. Click “Privacy and Security”
 - ☐ a) Enhanced tracking protection - strict
 - ☐ b) Send do not track signal - always
 - ☐ c) Cookies and sites data → manage data, see if anything needs to be removed
 - ☐ d) Delete cookies - check
 - ☐ e) Logins and password: don't save logins, don't autofill
 - ☐ f) History: Never remember
- ☐ 6. Permissions:
 - ☐ a) Make sure no websites can use your camera, microphone, or location
 - ☐ b) Enable pop up blocker ****IMPORTANT****
 - ☐ c) Block dangerous content: Check all 3
 - ☐ d) Query OCSP responder: Check
 - ☐ e) Enable https only mode in all windows: check
- ☐ 7. Other checks in Security tab:
 - ☐ a) Check both Block reported attack sites & Block reported web forgeries then press OK
 - ☐ b) Check all of the following in the Security tab: Warn me when sites try to install add-ons, Block reported attack sites, Block reported web forgeries
- ☐ 8. Addons and themes tab:
 - ☐ a) Extensions
 - ☐ a) Delete any sus extensions
 - ☐ b) Check for updates for extensions (Gear icon near the top of the screen)
 - ☐ b) Themes:

- ☐ a) Delete any weird/crazy themes
- ☐ c) Plug-ins:
 - ☐ a) Delete any sus plug-ins
- ☐ 9. Lastly, enable automatic firefox updates.

Prohibited Files/Malware Section:

☐ Find and delete prohibited files:

- ☐ 1. Install [voidtools](#)
- ☐ 2. Search for music/video file formats, commonly used ones include: .mp3, .mp4, .ogg, .avi, .wav, and any other media types.
- ☐ 3. If you find any, delete them from the system and recycle bin.
- ☐ 4. Search compressed files (.zip) and delete any sus ones
- ☐ 5. Search executables (.exe) and delete any sus ones. (Sort by date modified, usually sus ones are recent)

☐ Malware analysis:

- ☐ 1. Install [Avast One](#)
- ☐ 2. Run a Deep/Full Scan and resolve any threats

☐ OS Forensics:

- ☐ 1. Install [OS Forensics](#) with the free trial
- ☐ 2. Go to the “User Activity” tab, live acquisition of current machine, and scan it
- ☐ 3. Look for programs that have been recently run, especially any sus looking ones under “user assist”
- ☐ 4. Go to “Shellbags” look for any sus folders looked through
- ☐ 5. Go to “Installed Programs” look for malicious files, if you find one chances are other files installed at that time/date are also malicious.
- ☐ 6. Go to browser history and search terms, look for malicious stuff.
- ☐ 7. Go to USB, look to see if any malicious things were added
- ☐ 8. Go to passwords and change all weak passwords to secure

☐ Delete Prohibited Programs:

- ☐ 1. Search “Add or Remove Programs” in the start menu search box, remove any programs that shouldn’t be there or “hacking tools” (Java can stay)
- ☐ **Delete any malicious scheduled tasks:**
 - ☐ 1. Search “Task Scheduler” in the start menu search box
 - ☐ 2. Click into “Task Scheduler Library”
 - ☐ 3. Look for any malicious tasks, usually if it's from system 32 it can be trusted. Previous malicious tasks had names of “Bad_Task”
- ☐ **Look for the following or similar backdoors (If time allows):**
 - ☐ 217. Removed netcat backdoor
 - ☐ 218. Removed tini backdoor
 - ☐ 219. Remove ntbindshell backdoor
 - ☐ 220. Removed TX backdoor
 - ☐ 221. Removed NetBus Pro
 - ☐ 222. Removed Sticky Keys backdoor
 - ☐ 223. Removed Custom backdoor
 - ☐ 224. Removed Actual Keylogger
 - ☐ 225. Removed Keylogger
 - ☐ 226. Removed Spyrix Keylogger
 - ☐ 227. Removed Reveal Keylogger
 - ☐ 228. Removed WindowsRAT
 - ☐ 229. Removed WinUserProfileManager
 - ☐ 230. Removed mimikatz script file
 - ☐ 231. Removed NTDS dump script file
 - ☐ 232. Reverse TCP DLL Removed from DNS Server

Firefox Configuration:

- ☐ **Import firefox settings:**
 - ☐ [First, download both files from this folder:](#)
 - ☐ Next, go to the firefox preferences located at:

C:\Program Files\Mozilla Firefox\defaults\pref

- ☐ Paste the file “local-settings.js” into this folder
- ☐ Then go to the firefox installation directory:

C:\Program Files\Mozilla Firefox\

- ☐ Paste the other file, “mozilla.cfg”
- ☐ Restart firefox, then ensure it says “Some settings managed by your domain”
- ☐ For the settings that you’re still able to set, set them

- ☐ Install [Microsoft Baseline Security Analyzer 2](#) if out of things to score for points

Finish Forensics Questions