

Make sure that you follow the 3-2-1 rule: Have at least *three* backup copies of your data, *two* of which are kept at a different location (off-premises), and *one* of which is not accessible from your network (offline).

For more information about crafting a bulletproof backup plan, refer to Chapter 22.

II. Thou Shalt Protect Thy Network from Infidels

In the classic movie *Independence Day*, aliens from another planet seek to destroy all life on Earth. Unfortunately, their IT Director failed to secure their networks, so Jeff Goldblum was able to hack in and save the world.

In the movie, Jeff Goldblum used his hacking powers for good. In the real world, not everyone is so altruistic. The world is full of bad actors who would love nothing more than to steal your data, hold it for ransom, or destroy it altogether.

To counter these threats, be sure to take precautions such as using a secure firewall to keep intruders out of your network, using antivirus software, and using anti-spam software to keep malicious email out of your users' mailboxes.

For more information about how to secure your network, refer to Chapters 19 and 20.

III. Thou Shalt Train Up Thy Users in the Ways of Safe Computing

All the security protection in the world won't stop users from clicking bad links or opening infected files. In addition to firewalls and security software, it's vital that you train your users in the ways of cybersecurity. Your users are the final and best line of defense against cyberthreats.

Fortunately, many security training opportunities are available on the interwebs. Just use your favorite search engine to look for "cyber security user training" and you'll find tons of possibilities, some free, others paid.