



We are collectively and actively concerned about cybersecurity. We read about it on a national level, hear nightmare personal stories from friend and colleagues, and worry about it constantly.

For your small-business concerns, the U.S. Small Business Administration lists the top [ten cybersecurity tips](#). How many of these are you following? Does your staff create strong passwords? Do they change them frequently? Is your network protected by a firewall? Have you ever held a workshop to train employees on best practices? If your business utilizes laptops, or other portable devices, are they easily accessible by unauthorized individuals? Are they password protected?

If these issues don't seem important, read a [recent study conducted by IBM](#). Amongst their findings was that the average time for companies to identify a data breach is 197 days. Timing is of the utmost importance when it comes to data breaches, yet the fact remains that the best way to deal with data breaches is to avoid them altogether. While this can be a scary and anxiety inducing issue, you can take the steps to safeguard your small business.

As always, never hesitate to contact the Half Hollow Hills Library reference department for assistance!!

