



QUESTION

Do we really need to backup our business data?

ANSWER

Yes!! Imagine the worst-case scenario, where all of your data is deleted or stolen. Your client information, your projects, everything. How long would your business survive without it? No more than a few weeks. A good backup is a business basic.

QUESTION

What is the best thing I can do to protect my business from a cyber-attack?

ANSWER

Typically, it is your people who are your weakest link. Criminals spend a lot of time trying to fool them. Invest in good cyber security training to identify risks and promote best practice.

QUESTION

I know we need to encrypt our data, but what does that actually mean?

ANSWER

When you encrypt data, it goes from a 'plain text' version that anyone can read, to a coded version of the text that you need a special key to unlock. It means if your data falls into the wrong hands, the information can't be read or decoded.

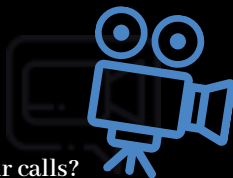
YOUR NEXT STEPS...

Ask yourself these questions:

1. Am I 100% happy with our IT provider's responses to our calls?
2. Am I 100% certain that our current IT provider has us fully protected from any disaster?
3. Am I 100% confident that our IT provider is proactively helping us achieve our business goals?

If you're not 100% sure, let's schedule a 15-minute call. No sales pitch, we promise! We just want to get to know you and ensure that your IT investment is getting you the results that you deserve.

Email us at info@durham-it.ca or book a call at <https://www.durham-it.ca/book-a-call/>.



Durham IT's Tech Tips For The Boss



*Your monthly
newsletter, written for
humans not geeks*

Did You Know?

Did you know... you can hide your email address?

If you use an iPhone, you can get a unique random email address that forwards mail to your real email address. The idea is you can get quotes for things or sign up for mailing lists without fear and delete that email address later.

Go to Settings > Apple ID > iCloud > Hide My Email

Create your new email address > Continue (or make a note first) > Next > Done

Now you have another layer of protection from spam.



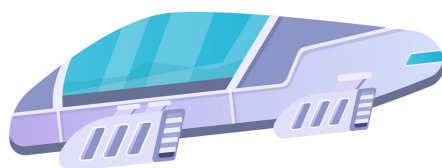
Flying Cars & Robot Servants? Business Tech Predictions for this Year...



Okay, we lied. No flying cars this year. You can get a robot to vacuum your carpet though.

We have been busy reading the business technology predictions for this year. If you had read these 20 years ago, they would have genuinely seemed like science fiction. Now there is nothing being predicted for this year that really surprises us.

Here are a few predictions we believe are most relevant to you.



More Automation

It is now possible to make most software talk to most other software. This makes it much easier to automate repetitive tasks. Any time a human has to repeat a task, you can likely find a way to get software to automate it for you.

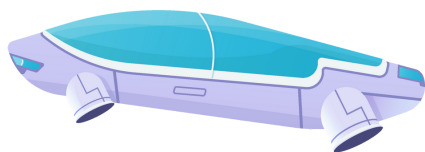
AI Being Used By More Businesses

Artificial Intelligence is no longer just for big businesses. It is being used within software available to businesses of all sizes. You are probably benefitting from AI already without being aware of it.

Work From Home

The “new normal” is not going away. Hybrid working is here to stay in many industries.

Other predictions include better voice search, such as using Alexa to get answers, and big improvements in battery tech.



Do You Really Need a Password Manager?

If you and your team are not already using a password manager for your business software and applications, is it worth the time and expense of setting one up?

In short, yes... yes... YES!

A password manager is a great way to protect your business from fraud and cyber-attacks. As cyber-crime grows and malware attacks increase (which they will continue to do this year), your business should be implementing as much protection as it can to keep your data safe.

Using long randomly generated passwords is one of the fundamentals of good data security. Unfortunately, those passwords are a nightmare to remember and type in.

Your password manager will not only create very strong passwords, it will also store and encrypt them, and even log you into your accounts at the click of a button. They improve security and make your life easy at the same time.

Drop us an email if you'd like a recommendation for a specific password manager.

Business gadget of the month

Now that you are back in the office, does it feel noisier than usual? Probably. Maybe it is time to treat yourself to a pair of noise-cancelling earbuds.

Bose QuietComfort earbuds are a little expensive, but they will block out all the annoying office sounds and the sound quality is great for listening to music or joining your next Zoom meeting.



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www.durham-it.ca

CALL: 905-231-1303 | **EMAIL:** info@durham-it.ca