WIRED for the FUTURE TECHNOLOGY INSIDER

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Your monthly newsletter, written for humans not geeks

How to use AI **responsibly in your business**

Have you ever stopped to think about how much your business relies on AI already?

Maybe it's without you even noticing?

AI is quietly becoming part of everyday work life. From the smart tools that help with emails or customer support, to apps that analyze trends or boost productivity.

But with great power comes great responsibility.

Using AI isn't just about getting tasks done faster. It's about making smart, ethical choices that protect your people, your customers, and your reputation. That means being clear on how AI is being used in your business. And making sure it's being used the right way.

Responsible AI starts with understanding. Not everyone on your team needs to be a tech expert, but they should know the basics. Like how to protect data, share sensitive information, and spot when something doesn't seem right. Good training is key, especially as AI becomes more involved in decision making.

It also means thinking about fairness and accountability. If an AI tool is helping to make decisions – perhaps sorting resumes or recommending products – you need to be confident it's not introducing bias or making errors. Someone in your business should always be responsible for double checking its work. AI can assist, but it shouldn't replace human judgment.

Creating simple, clear guidelines for your team is a great place to start.

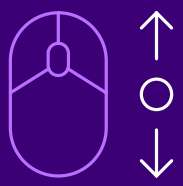
Be open about how you're using AI and why. Make sure people know what's okay and what's not, especially when it comes to data. And regularly review how your AI tools are performing, so you can catch any problems early.

Done well, AI can give your business a real edge. But only if it's used thoughtfully, transparently, and with care.

If you want to explore how AI can help your business (and how to manage it responsibly), we'd love to help. Get in touch.

DID YOU KNOW...

you can change your mouse scrolling settings?



Want to tweak how your mouse scrolls in Windows 11?

It's simple.

Head over to **Settings > Bluetooth & devices > Mouse.**

Here, you can adjust how many lines the wheel scrolls or opt to scroll a full screen at a time. You can also enable scrolling in inactive windows by hovering over them. Perfect for multitasking.

And if the scroll direction feels off, there's an option to reverse it to your preference. Smoother navigation in no time.

Think paying the ransom will fix everything? Think again

Imagine logging into your system one morning and finding everything locked down.

A message demands thousands to get your data back.

The pressure is intense.

The temptation to just pay up and move on is real.

But here's the hard truth: Paying the ransom doesn't guarantee anything. And it often makes things worse.

Ransomware attacks are on the rise, and they're only getting smarter. These days, it's not just about locking up your files. Attackers also steal your data and threaten to leak it unless you pay. They'll even go after your backups, so you can't just restore and carry on.

Many business owners think paying the ransom is the quickest way to get back to normal. But it's rarely that simple.

Studies show that the true cost of recovering from a ransomware attack is ten times higher than the ransom itself.

That's because even after you pay, there's no guarantee you'll get all your data back. Or that it hasn't been tampered with. You could still face weeks of downtime, lose customer trust, or get hit with regulatory fines if sensitive information is leaked.

And then there's the bigger picture. Every ransom paid helps fund the next attack. It's a vicious cycle. The more profitable ransomware becomes, the more motivated cyber criminals are to keep going... and keep improving their techniques.

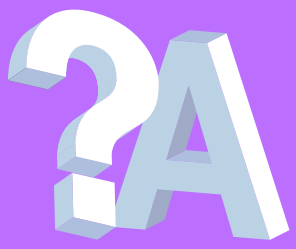
So, is there a better approach?

Yes.

Focus on recovery, not ransom. That means investing in strong, secure backups that can't be touched by ransomware. It means regularly testing your recovery plans. Training your team to respond quickly. And making sure your systems can be restored safely if disaster strikes.

You can't always stop ransomware from getting in. But you can make sure it doesn't stop your business.

My team and I can help your business with that. Get in touch.



Q: Do we need cyber insurance?

A: It's a good safety net, especially if you handle sensitive data. But please remember that it's not a replacement for good security practices.

Q: Is storing files in the cloud safe?

A: Yes, if it's a trusted provider and you use strong security settings like multi-factor authentication. If you want advice on the best cloud solution for your business, get in touch.

Q: How often should we review our IT security?

A: Regular reviews are essential – that's at least once a year. But do it sooner if your business changes or if new threats appear.

NEW TO MICROSOFT

Keep your Windows 11 Start menu tidy

Windows 11 just made it easier to tidy up your Start menu.

Now, when you right click a pinned app, you can move it left or right without dragging it around. It's handy if you're picky about your layout. You can also create folders or move apps between them right from the menu.

It's a small update, but it makes organizing your apps quicker and less fiddly. If you like your Start menu neat, this update's for you.

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