



# What Should Be Included in a Veterinary Clinic's Information Security Policy?

**Introduction:** As dedicated members of our clinic, safeguarding our digital integrity is as crucial as our patient care. The below policies should be followed to help create a secure cyber environment.

## **Section 1: Strong Passwords**

Create unique passwords combining upper- and lower-case letters, numbers, and special characters. Fortified passwords deter unauthorized access. The use of multi-factor authentication should be a requirement, not an option.

## **Section 2: Vigilance Against Phishing**

Exercise caution with suspicious emails and links. Verify sources to prevent divulging personal information.

## **Section 3: Device Security**

Lock screens and secure devices to prevent unauthorized access and data breaches.

## **Section 4: Responsible Data Handling**

Dispose of sensitive files securely. Keep the digital environment clutter-free and secure.

## **Section 5: Regular Software Updates**

Routine updates patch vulnerabilities, enhancing overall security.

## **Section 6: Firewall Protection**

Maintain an active firewall to ward off unauthorized access.

## **Section 7: Laptop Security**

Protect laptops from theft or exposure in public settings.

## **Section 8: VPN Usage**

Use a VPN for secure remote work.

## **Section 9: Controlled Admin Access**

Limit admin access to authorized personnel only.

## **Section 10: When an Employee Leaves the Clinic**

Ensure that centralized logging and archiving of all devices for 24 months.

## **Section 11: 3rd Party Providers**

When using a 3rd party service provider, accredited and certified IT providers are required.

## **Section 12: Incident Response**

Report breaches promptly to ensure efficient mitigation.

## **Conclusion:**

*Thank you for upholding our clinic's cybersecurity. Your commitment maintains a safe digital space for our patients and operations.*