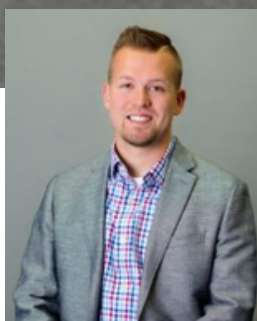


TECH BYTES

May 2025

Your Monthly Guide to the Latest in
Technology and Cybersecurity



Stay informed on the latest tech trends and innovations to make smart decisions and adapt quickly to industry changes.

Matthew DeWees
-President

Have you noticed how cyber threats are evolving faster than ever? In 2025, Gmail users are facing a new wave of sophisticated attacks that exploit cutting-edge AI to bypass traditional defenses.

From AI-crafted phishing emails to malicious links disguised as trusted sources, these threats are more deceptive and harder to detect than ever before. Whether you're an individual or a business owner, the stakes couldn't be higher. Your inbox isn't just a communication tool; it's the gateway to your digital life.

Staying ahead of these dangers requires more than just awareness. You'll need proactive measures and smarter tools. Whether you're securing sensitive data or protecting your team from potential breaches, understanding these emerging threats is the first step toward safety.

Curious about how you can safeguard your Gmail account in this rapidly changing landscape? Contact us at everythingit@virtualdataworks.com to learn how to stay one step ahead of cybercriminals.

Until then, stay safe,



President


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DID YOU KNOW?

Teaching your mom about safe online shopping practices can be a great way to enhance her cybersecurity. Show her how to identify secure websites, recognize suspicious links, and use secure payment methods.

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6 REASONS WHY COMPANIES NEED CLOUD STORAGE

Cloud storage offers unparalleled scalability, allowing businesses to easily adjust their storage capacity based on their needs. Whether a company is experiencing rapid growth or seasonal fluctuations, cloud storage can accommodate these requirements without the need for significant infrastructure investments. This flexibility ensures that the storage solution can grow alongside the business, providing a seamless experience as data needs evolve.



In the rapidly evolving digital landscape of today, cloud storage has emerged as a crucial asset for businesses of all sizes. The shift towards cloud-based solutions is not just a trend but a strategic move that offers numerous advantages. Here are six compelling reasons why companies should embrace cloud storage:

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COST EFFICIENCY

Traditional storage solutions often require substantial upfront costs for hardware and ongoing maintenance. Cloud storage eliminates these expenses, offering a pay-as-you-go model that reduces capital expenditure and operational costs. This financial flexibility is particularly beneficial for small and medium-sized enterprises, enabling them to allocate resources more effectively and invest in other areas of growth. Additionally, cloud storage providers often offer tiered pricing plans, allowing businesses to choose the most cost-effective option based on their usage.

ACCESSIBILITY

With cloud storage, data can be accessed from anywhere, at any time, using any device with an internet connection. This level of accessibility enhances collaboration among team members, regardless of their physical location, and supports remote work initiatives. Employees can easily share files, collaborate on projects, and access important documents without being tied to a specific location. This not only improves productivity but also fosters a more flexible and dynamic work environment.

SECURITY

Leading cloud storage providers implement robust security measures, including encryption, multi-factor authentication, and regular security audits. These features ensure that your data is protected against unauthorized access and cyber threats, providing peace of mind for your business. Additionally, cloud storage providers often have dedicated security teams that monitor and respond to potential threats, ensuring that your data remains secure. This level of security is often more advanced than what many businesses can achieve with on-premises solutions.

DISASTER RECOVERY

Cloud storage solutions often include built-in disaster recovery capabilities, allowing businesses to quickly restore data in the event of a hardware failure, natural disaster, or cyberattack. This ensures business continuity and minimizes downtime, which is critical for maintaining operations and customer trust. By storing data in the cloud, businesses can avoid the risks associated with physical storage devices, such as damage or theft. Cloud providers typically offer redundant storage across multiple locations, further enhancing the reliability and availability of your data.

AUTOMATIC UPDATES

Cloud storage providers continuously update their infrastructure to incorporate the latest technological advancements and security protocols. This means businesses can benefit from cutting-edge features and improvements without the need for manual updates or additional investments. These automatic updates ensure that your storage solution remains up-to-date and secure, allowing you to focus on your core business activities. Additionally, cloud providers often introduce new features and enhancements that can improve the overall functionality and performance of your storage solution.

Need assistance with your business storage management? Our experts can tailor solutions to meet your organization's specific needs as it grows and evolves.

IT ASSET DISPOSITION (ITAD) SERVICES

Not properly retiring your IT Assets could lead to disaster in the form of fines, data loss, data breaches, and security concerns. Retire your assets right by having a certified partner recycle, destroy, and erase your sensitive data bearing devices.

Take advantage of our IT Asset Disposition, IT Recycling, and E-Waste Management Solutions today!

Even better is we pass along services credits to you in the event that we can get money for your equipment!



NEW GMAIL THREATS TARGETING USERS IN 2025 (AND HOW TO STAY SAFE)

Cybercriminals target Gmail a lot because it's very popular. It also integrates with many other Google services. As AI-powered hacking attacks become more common, it gets harder for people to distinguish between real and fake emails.

What Are the New Threats to Gmail in 2025?

Cyber threats are constantly evolving, and some of the most sophisticated attempts have been aimed at Gmail. One major concern is that Artificial Intelligence (AI) is being used to create scam emails that appear very real. The purpose of these emails is to mimic real ones, making them difficult to spot. AI is also being used to create deepfakes and viruses, which complicates security even further.

Gmail is deeply connected to other Google services. This means if

someone gains access to a user's Gmail account, they might be able to access all of their digital assets. These include Google Drive, Google Pay, and saved passwords, making it even more critical for people to secure their Gmail accounts.

When hackers use AI in phishing attacks, they can analyze how people communicate. This helps them write emails that look almost exactly like real ones. This level of sophistication has made phishing efforts much more likely to succeed. Now, almost half of all phishing attempts use AI technology.

Gmail continually updates its security, so users need to be adaptable to stay safe. Cyber threats are always changing, and Gmail users must stay vigilant to protect themselves.

What Are Some Other Dangers That Gmail Users Should Know About?

AI-powered hacking isn't the only new threat that Gmail users should be aware of. More zero-day exploits are being used to attack users. They exploit previously unknown security vulnerabilities in Gmail. This allows them to bypass traditional security measures. Attackers can access accounts without permission before Google can address the issue.

Quantum computing is also a huge threat to current encryption methods. As quantum computing advances, it may become possible to break complex passwords and encryption keys. This could make it easier for hackers to access Gmail accounts. Users can implement strong passwords, enable two-factor authentication, and regularly check

account settings for suspicious activity.

Keep Your Gmail Account Safe

Users can protect themselves by staying informed, regularly updating their knowledge, and implementing robust security measures.

Staying up-to-date on the latest security practices and best practices is important to keep your Gmail account safe. In today's cyber world, it's crucial for both individuals and businesses to protect their digital assets. Don't hesitate to reach out if you're concerned about keeping your Gmail account safe or need more help avoiding these threats. You can count on our team to help you stay safe online as the world of hacking continues to evolve.

04 WHERE DO DELETED FILES GO?

It may seem like the file is gone for good when you delete it from your computer. However, the truth is more complicated than that. A deleted file doesn't really disappear from your hard drive; it stays there until new data fills up the space it occupied.

What Happens When You Delete a File?

It's not as easy as it seems to delete a file. When you send a file to the Trash or Recycle Bin, it is not erased from your hard drive right away. It is instead taken to a temporary storage place and stays there until you decide to empty the bin. The file's data stays on the hard drive even after the bin is empty; it is marked as free space that can be used by other files.

When you delete a file, you remove its record from the file system. The file system is like a directory that keeps track of all the files on your computer. The operating system will no longer know where the file is, but the data inside will still be there. This is why it's often possible to recover deleted files with special software, as long as the space hasn't been filled with something else.

Getting rid of files is a lot like taking the title off of a VHS tape. People who are looking for the movie can still find it on the tape, but without the



name, it's like the movie doesn't exist. Also, when you remove a file, you're removing its label from the file system. The data, on the other hand, stays on the hard drive until it's overwritten.

To manage data successfully and safely, you need to understand this process. For instance, deleting private information might not be enough if you want to be sure it's gone for good. If you want to delete the information on your hard drive safely, you may need to use extra tools.

Take Charge of Your Information

If you want to keep your digital life safe, you need to know where deleted files go and how to recover them. You can keep your information safe from unauthorized access by managing your data and backing it up regularly. If you need help safely deleting sensitive files or have questions about how to handle your data, please contact us.

05 10 TIPS TO GET THE MOST OUT OF YOUR MICROSOFT 365 APPS

With its robust features and cloud-based services, Microsoft 365 provides businesses with a comprehensive solution to streamline their operations and enhance communication. Here are some key components and how they can be utilized:

- Microsoft Teams: Facilitates seamless communication and collaboration among team members, whether they are in the office or working remotely.
- OneDrive: Offers secure cloud storage, allowing employees to access and share files from anywhere, ensuring that important documents are always within reach.
- Power Apps: Enables the creation of custom applications tailored to specific business needs, enhancing productivity and efficiency.

Optimize your experience:

- Use Teams for meetings and project collaboration.
- Customize your environment with SharePoint.
- Automate tasks with Power Automate.
- Stay updated with training.
- Get expert advice from consultants.
- Manage emails and time with Outlook.
- Access tools across various devices.

By implementing these strategies, you can maximize the benefits of Microsoft 365, leading to improved organization, communication, and productivity.

NEW POST

06 7 NEW TYPES OF MALWARE TO WATCH OUT FOR

Malware poses a significant threat in the digital world, causing extensive damage and financial loss. As technology advances, cybercriminals develop more sophisticated tactics. Here are seven types of malware to watch out for:

- Polymorphic Malware: Changes code to evade detection.
- Fileless Malware: Operates in RAM, often via phishing.
- Advanced Ransomware: Encrypts data, targets networks.
- Social Engineering Malware: Tricks users into installing it.
- Rootkit Malware: Provides remote control over systems.

- Spyware: Steals data and affects performance.
- Trojan Malware: Disguises as harmless software.

Protect yourself by staying informed and proactive. If you need expert advice, contact us today.

ONLINE EXCLUSIVE



Your Trusted Cybersecurity Professionals

Our services, including risk assessment, threat detection, and incident response, keep your data secure and operations running smoothly. Whether you're a small business or a large enterprise, we have the expertise to protect your digital assets.

Don't let cyber threats compromise your valuable information. At Virtual DataWorks, we specialize in providing tailored cybersecurity solutions designed to effectively strengthen your defenses.

Our approach takes into account the unique challenges your organization faces, ensuring that you are well-equipped to handle evolving threats.

Why Choose Us



Deep Industry Experience

We are committed to providing innovative solutions that will help create a better tomorrow for everyone.



Consulting Expertise

We are committed to providing innovative solutions that will help create a better tomorrow for everyone.



Managed Detection and Response

Our dedicated team analyzes security events in real time, helping you swiftly identify and mitigate risks so you can focus on your core business while we protect your digital assets.

Our Services

Data Encryption

- Compliance
- Enhanced Privacy
- Data Analysis & Data Visualization
- Technical System Support

Security Compliance

- Regulatory Adherence
- Risk Management
- Audit Readiness
- Trust Building

SaaS Backup

- Data Protection
- Automated Backups
- Easy Restoration
- Compliance Support

Network Security

- Threat Prevention
- Data Encryption
- Access Control
- Continuous Monitoring