

CLICK THINKING

Quick insights for protecting yourself and your company from online threats

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spotlight

REMOVABLE MEDIA

What's lurking behind that USB drive, disk or device? It all depends on where it came from and what you do with it!

Removable media are devices used to transport or store data.

Removable media are extremely convenient; however, using them can introduce risks if you're not careful.

You can protect yourself and your company network by adopting safe and secure practices.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW TO PROTECT YOURSELF

- Removable media can be a USB drive, a disk or even a smartphone.
- While removable media make storing and transferring data easy, they can also introduce risks.
- One such risk is loss, so if you're using removable media, be sure your files are backed up safely.
- If data is lost or compromised, your company may be required to report the breach, leading to consumer mistrust and shareholder concerns.
- Another risk is failure. USB drives can malfunction and disks can break or be damaged. Protect them and use them for short-term data storage only.
- Cyberattackers will leave USB drives infected with malware in parking lots knowing that 50% of employees will plug them into a device out of curiosity.
- An infected piece of removable media can launch a ransomware attack, download viruses or cause a host of other problems for devices and networks.
- If you come across a drive, disk or device you feel is suspicious, DO NOT plug it into your computer. Have your security team inspect it instead.

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