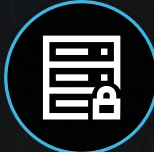


Gartner®

IT Roadmap for Cybersecurity

Excerpt



How do successful organizations develop risk-based security programs to support business agility and resilience?

Digital business transformation and emerging cyber-physical systems create unprecedented security risk. By 2027, 75% of employees will acquire, modify or create technology outside IT's visibility — up from 41% in 2022.* In response, many organizations adopt new cybersecurity approaches.

But organizations struggle to balance cybersecurity with the need to run the business. Chief information security officers (CISOs) can help by developing processes that enable risk-based decisions while protecting against security threats and preventing data breaches and other cybersecurity events.

From our expert research and interactions with thousands of companies across industries, we have compiled cybersecurity best practices into a customizable roadmap. Use this roadmap to understand the key stages, resources and people required to plan and execute an effective cybersecurity initiative.

67%

of CEOs and senior business executives want more technology work done directly within business functions/departments and less in IT.

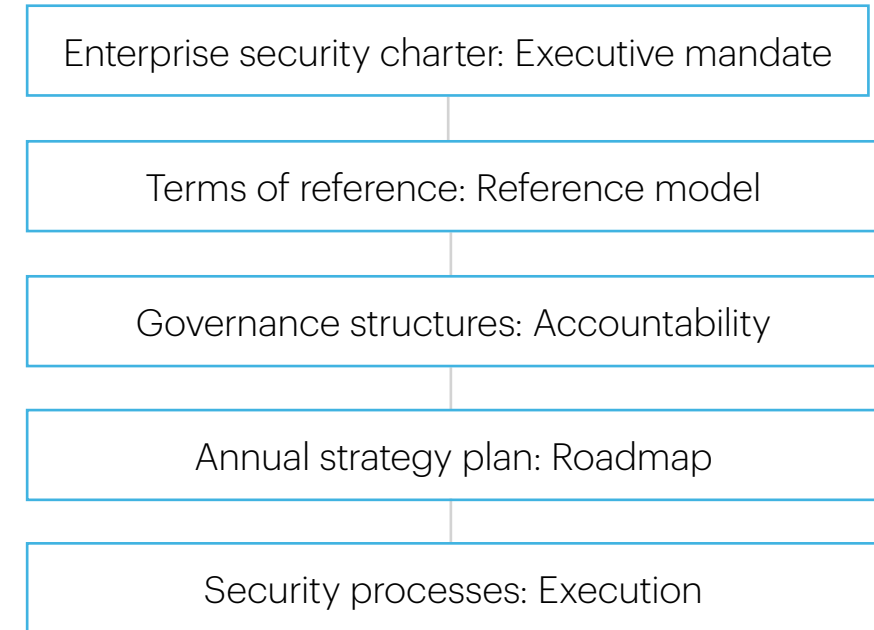
Source: 2022 Gartner CEO and Senior Business Executive Survey

By developing and implementing a robust and defensible cybersecurity program

The only way to deal effectively with the evolving risks of digitalization and increasing cyberthreats is to institute a continuous security program. Unfortunately, too many organizations just “tick the boxes” when they aim to establish a security capability — that is, they typically produce a lot of documentation and invest aggressively in technology. But they spend little or no time on establishing effective governance or the ability to assess and interpret risk effectively.

A defensible security program substantiates the answer to the important question from stakeholders: “Is the organization doing enough to reasonably protect its information resources?”

Components of a Cybersecurity Program



Source: Gartner

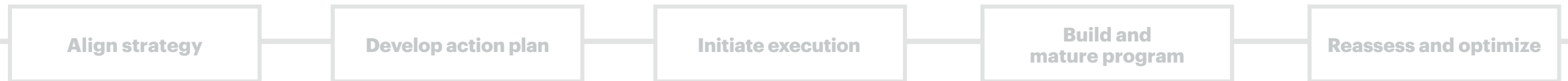
Some of the top questions of the cybersecurity initiative are:

- 1 How will this support business resilience and growth goals while reducing risk?
- 2 How can we use an outcome-driven approach to establish cybersecurity priorities and investments?
- 3 Which leaders and teams need to be involved?

What are the key stages?

This best-practice insight is distilled from interactions with clients who have successfully implemented cybersecurity initiatives. This map shows the sequence of objectives and desired outcomes and is useful for aligning all stakeholders.

A few key milestones and a sample of associated Gartner resources are highlighted below, but the full roadmap will include complete details of all milestones and resources for each stage.





Align strategy

Set objectives and build business case

Selected tasks

Understand key business priorities; define program mission and vision; and identify business, technology and threat drivers

Identify goals, program value, and key stakeholders' roles and responsibilities

Define security controls in line with organizational strategies and map them to a standardized security framework

Get stakeholder feedback, define key objectives and finalize initial summary of security strategy document

+ more

Sample associated Gartner resources

- **Analyst inquiry:** Engage with an analyst to finalize the right metrics that can measure the impact of cybersecurity
- **Analyst inquiry:** Engage with an analyst to discuss the right approach to communicate the business impact of cybersecurity to the stakeholders
- **Research:** [How to Build a Robust, Defensible Security Program That Enables Business Growth and Agility](#)

+ more



Develop action plan

Create risk prioritization framework

Selected tasks

Conduct vulnerability assessment and penetration testing

Establish current maturity baseline, define target state and conduct gap analysis

Get executive or board buy-in and resource backing

Develop security architecture, policy framework and solution layer

+ more

Sample associated Gartner resources

- **Research:** CISO Foundations — Toolkit: Strategic Planning Presentation and Dashboards
- **Tool:** [IT Score for Security and Risk Management](#)
- **Research:** Ignition Guide to Building an Annual Cybersecurity Budget

+ more



Initiate execution

Design and adjust team structure

Selected tasks

- Integrate capabilities, tools and technologies
- Establish security team roles and responsibilities and identify stakeholders to be accountable, consulted and informed
- Develop critical competencies and train for desired or missing skills
- Use metrics and incentives to drive accountability among owners

+ more

Sample associated Gartner resources

- **Consultation by phone:** Engage with an expert to discuss “The CARE Standard for Cybersecurity”
- **Research:** Read about cybersecurity threat and its impact on the business
- **Research:** [How to Design a Practical Security Organization](#)

+ more



Build and mature program

Maintain accountability and assurance through governance

Selected tasks

- Develop critical incident response capability and an action plan in case of breaches
- Develop a program structure to monitor and combat advanced threats
- Instill a culture of secure employee behavior and initiate tailor training and awareness campaigns
- Develop advanced reporting and response and craft a communications plan for cyber breaches

+ more

Sample associated Gartner resources

- **Analyst inquiry:** Engage with an analyst to finalize the right metrics that can measure the impact of cybersecurity
- **Analyst inquiry:** Engage with an analyst to discuss the right approach to communicate the business impact of cybersecurity to the stakeholders
- **Research:** [How to Build a Robust, Defensible Security Program That Enables Business Growth and Agility](#)

+ more

Establish baseline

Identify opportunities

Implementation

Institutionalize

Reassess and optimize



Reassess and optimize

Communicate program value

Selected tasks

- Create a plan to communicate value to the organization and the board
- Track metrics and seek feedback to assess and improve program effectiveness
- Revisit maturity assessment to further optimization

+ more

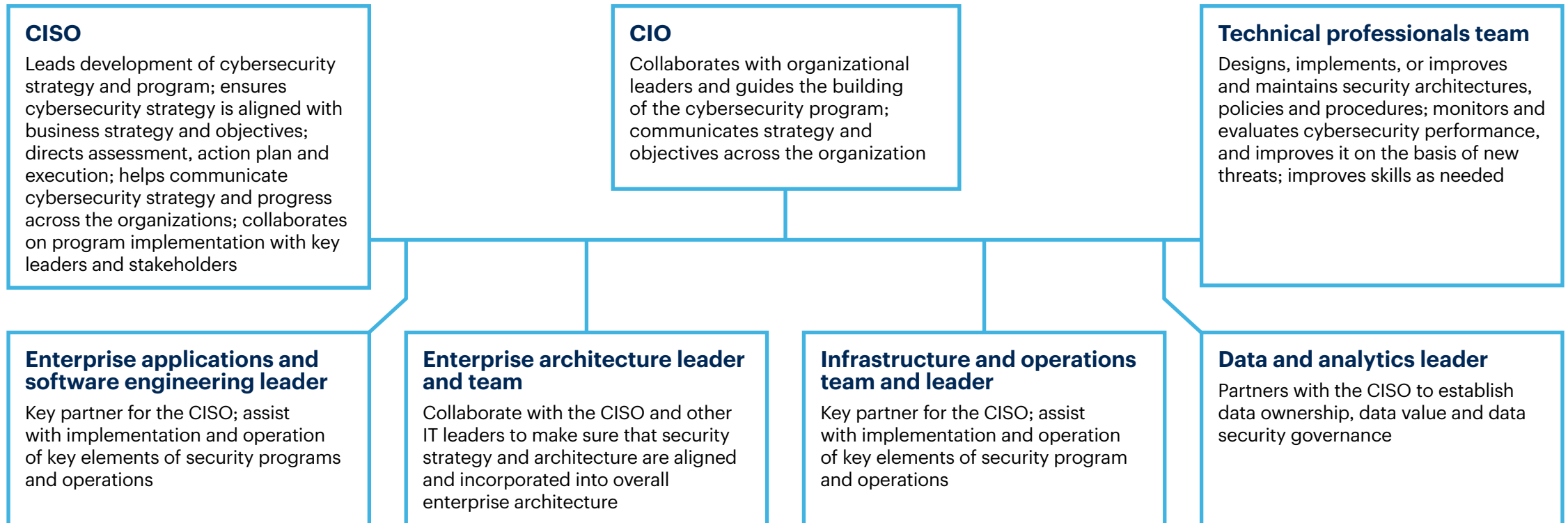
Sample associated Gartner resources

- **Consultation by phone:** Discuss the key points that can help in the further optimization of cybersecurity preparation in the organization
- **Analyst inquiry:** Redo the Gartner IT Score assessment to measure progress and reprioritize
- **Research:** Tool — Board Briefing: How to Communicate the Cyber-Risk Posture of Your Organization

+ more

Who needs to be involved?

The most successful companies establish cross-functional teams for their cybersecurity initiatives. We have outlined the recommended functions to involve and their roles to ensure the best success in hitting the milestones.



Customer success story: Enabling IT Compliance With Cybersecurity Roadmap

Mission-critical priority

With the aim to streamline business processes and develop a digital-business-ready environment, Pacific Textiles wanted to develop a framework that adheres to IT compliance, minimizing cybersecurity risk.



How Gartner helped

With access to Gartner experts, research and tools, Pacific Textiles was able to digitalize information through an ERP system, automate manufacturing processes with new technology and craft a ready-to-execute cybersecurity roadmap.



Mission accomplished

With the help of Gartner, Pacific Textiles was able to:

- Take a holistic approach to governance and risk management procedures
- Build a strong digital business foundation
- Optimize business processes, saving time and energy for the top management

Actionable, objective insight

Explore these additional complimentary resources and tools for cybersecurity leaders:

Research

[The CISO's Guide to Your First 100 Days](#)

Find out the actions you should take in your first 100 days as a CISO.

Webinar

[Treat Cybersecurity as a Business Investment for Better Outcomes](#)

Understand how to communicate outcome-driven metrics to your board of directors.

eBook

[Leadership Vision for Security and Risk Management Leaders](#)

Explore the top 3 strategic priorities for security and risk management leaders.

Conference

[Explore Gartner Cybersecurity Conferences](#)

Advance your cybersecurity and risk management strategy by attending a Gartner conference.

Access other roadmaps in this series

[Protect Your Business Assets With a Roadmap for Maturing Information Security](#)

[Roadmap: Drive Successful Digital Growth With Data and Analytics](#)

[Migrating Data and Analytics Architectures to the Cloud: Roadmap](#)

[Enhance Your Roadmap for Effective Data Governance](#)

[Roadmap: Devising an Effective Cloud Strategy](#)

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