new business startup checklist

grab yourself a professional domain

We know you've got this, but it's worth mentioning – snag your domain name early! It's a good idea to pick up a few variations too (.com, .co.uk, .uk, .net) so you've got all your bases covered. We'd recommend checking out www.ionos.co.uk to get started.

set up your shiny new domain

You'd be surprised how many new business owners stick with @gmail.com or @yahoo.com addresses! While these are great for personal use, having your own domain email just looks so much more professional.

choose between microsoft 365 or google workspace

These days, it's usually one or the other for most businesses. There are other options out there, but these two tend to tick all the boxes. A little tip: buy directly or through an IT support company. Some web hosts make it look super easy to set up, but this can cause headaches down the line. Go for Business Basic as your starting point – though Business Standard is the most popular and works well for most people.

back up your data at least weekly

Manual backups are fine when you're just getting going, but once you're up and running, look into proper backup tools that run automatically. You'll thank yourself later!

invest in a decent business laptop

Go for something built for business use – think £600+ (ex VAT) as your starting point.
Make sure it has at least a Core i5 / AMD Ryzen 5 processor, 16GB RAM, 512GB storage, and comes with Windows 11 Pro. Steer clear of "Windows Home" for business use.

think about getting a business landline

Not essential right away, but it's handy if you want to keep your mobile number private and actually switch off at the end of the day!

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