

Happy Thanksgiving!

microTECH Times

Covered I.T. 24/7—Never Worry Again!



Fatten Up Your Deductions With Section 179

This is like a fire sale on Black Friday! Don't miss this final opportunity to take advantage of Section 179 in the 2019 tax year. Rumor has it that this benefit will never be available again.

What is Section 179?

It is a tax code that allows businesses to deduct the full purchase price of qualifying equipment and software bought or financed during the tax year.

Meaning, if you're buying or leasing new computers, replacing old network equipment, or even upgrading your software, you may be able to deduct the FULL purchase price from your gross income.

How do I know what qualifies?

That is a great question. Basically, anything you would use as an asset for your business 50% or more of the time and that is put into use in 2019 can be claimed in the 2019 tax year. In some cases, business owners are even finding that they are able to lease equipment and their tax savings actually exceeds their payments.

What about the bonus depreciation?

The TCJA, Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017, pushed the deduction limits up to 1 million



for standard expense deductions and 2.5 million for phase-out limits. This bonus depreciation extended through 2026. What are you waiting for?

Fatten your deductions... don't hesitate.

We are in the final months of the year and our schedule is filling up fast. If you're looking to take full advantage of this great tax break, give us a call today. We can help walk you through a full

network evaluation to determine the most beneficial purchases for your business.

What to look for in a network evaluation?

A network evaluation or network assessment, is a detailed report from a full analysis of your company's existing IT infrastructure, overall performance, processes, security and general management. This type of review brings to light opportunities for improvement so

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Happy Turkey Day!

Above the din, can we hear a thank you?

Does it seem a little noisy? Politics, work, the stock market, and family. The cacophony of modern life sometimes seems overwhelming.

Thanksgiving is a kind of simple refuge from all that.

We can enjoy a great meal, a football game, reminiscing with friends and relatives, and make our own, more pleasant din. That alone should be enough to make us grateful.

Gratitude was almost certainly an element of the Pilgrims' first Thanksgiving in 1621. The event -- now both criticized and beloved, steeped in myth both bad and good -- was a festive break from hardship. They really didn't know their harvest would be disappointing. They didn't yet know they would reject their ideas of holding goods common. There was dissension and strife over food and work. Really, they were just stressed out!

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Stuffed

Q: What do you get when you cross an octopus with a turkey?

A: Finally enough drumsticks for everybody at Thanksgiving.

~

Q: Why did the Police arrest the turkey?

A: They suspected fowl play.

~

Q: What happens when you seriously overstuff yourself with turkey at Thanksgiving?

A: You only have one slice of pumpkin pie.

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On behalf of the **YOUR COMPANY NAME HERE** family, we would like to wish you all a wonderful Thanksgiving.

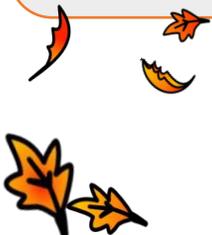
One of the main things we are thankful for is each and every one of you, our loyal customers and friends. Your commitment and support of our business fills our cornucopia with success and strength.

As we pause this holiday season and count our blessings, there is no better time to say...

Thank You

for your continued business, we appreciate it very much and look forward to another bountiful year working and growing together.

Regards,
The **YOUR COMPANY NAME HERE** team



Fatten Up Your Deductions...

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you have a complete picture of your existing network and you can make informed decisions about the next steps to improve your business.

How can I get started? Of course, this is where you would expect to see our sales pitch, right? No! We just want to be sure you have what you need to make the best choices for your business. So, we are offering a Network Security Assessment to give you a jump start. Even if you're not sure what is going on everywhere in your network, some equipment has started failing or software programs are sluggish, this assessment will help.

These assessments identify things like; network performance issues that could be hanging up your software and killing productivity, security vulnerabilities that could leave your company open for an attack, and capacity or storage issues (even if they aren't slowing you down now, they may soon.)

Mend your pain points before it's to late. Not only will your Network Assessment help identify the most efficient way to invest in technology for your business, but this project could save you from a major breach too. Common results of a network assessment include things like insight into unsupported operating systems or expended support that may need more attention. Sometimes we reveal company computers or personal laptops that are access the shared client files without proper antivirus or password protocols in place. Other times, it is a network firewall left wide open for everyone to use.

Fatten up your deductions and save your company some money! Give us a call today for your Network Security Audit and we will carve out some time to dive in and explore your infrastructure.

Micro Enterprises LLC

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National Computer Security Day Is November 30th

Yes of course: computer security should be serious business EVERY day. But we don't want another MyDoom (the worst email virus in history, causing \$38.5 billion in damage), so let's celebrate and spread the word about computer security.

The first case of Malware inspired this observance. An article on BBVA, one of the largest banks in the world, says the observance began in 1988 after the first case of malware, known as the Morris Worm. Although we are much more savvy today, we are also faced with constant threat. Toward that end, here are some suggestions for observing the date:

① **Improve your passwords.** Hopefully you aren't one of the millions who use "123456" or "password," each of which made it to the Top 10 most common passwords in 2019. Use a password manager like LastPass, which stores and encrypts your passwords -- and enables you to

use something ridiculous that you'd never remember.

② **Keep your software up-to-date.**

Yes, your laptop's wallpaper gets wiped out and everything on your phone gets moves around or doesn't work the same ... but if you don't have the latest version, you don't have the latest protection.

③ **Don't click on links that seem a little off** -- even if they come from someone you know. Learn about the various scams and how to protect yourself.

④ **Log out of banking or shopping sites after you've visited them.** Don't give hackers an open portal.

⑤ **Back up your data regularly.** If something happens to your computer, you'll likely have to erase everything and reboot. Don't get caught without backups of your work.

Tech Trends Coming In 2020

It has been a busy year in the tech world (isn't it always?), from the latest gadgets to improved wireless speeds and expanded coverage. So what can we expect heading into 2020? Here are some trends to keep an eye on.

5G. All of the major carriers are promising access to 5G networks in the coming year, though how it plays out remains to be seen. Expect more devices and more access, but continued kinks.

More Artificial Intelligence. Facial recognition and the ability to understand concepts without human aid. A subset of AI, machine learning, continues to evolve.

Blockchain. Cryptocurrency is becoming more and more mainstream, and blockchain, the technology behind it, is widely considered here to stay. As a trusted security technology, its uses extend beyond crypto into areas like medical data and real estate.

Mobile commerce. From Apple Pay and Google Wallet to Venmo or other ways to pay for goods and services, our phones are becoming our debit and credit cards. Expect more cashless transactions in 2020.

Happy Thanksgiving...

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The Pilgrim's story rings with gratitude, but also desperation. In England, they were imprisoned and impoverished because they wished to worship their own way. They went to Holland, where they could worship, but perhaps no longer remain English: It was their identity and pride. So they traveled 66 days to the New World in a leaky ship, over angry waves, stuffed into a ship's hold, seasick, and frightened. They landed in what was the wilderness of Cape Cod in November. Whatever comfort could be found, they would have to make it themselves. Half of the pilgrims died in the winter of 1621, leaving just 52 to carry on.

They suffered all this just to be true to themselves: To worship as they pleased, own their work, speak their own language, and govern themselves. Thanksgiving was a way to give thanks for the opportunity to start a new, the good things in life, family, friends and the harvest.

This Thanksgiving, let us be grateful that we have these freedoms. While we still have struggles today, take time to appreciate the many blessings in your life.

3 Tips To Keep Up On Data Security And Keep Hackers From Parading Around In Your Network

Most headlines about data security feature some big fancy corporation or government entity with a major data breach. Last year 500 million records were compromised in the Marriott breach. But, what about companies like yours? Why is data security so important?

The likelihood of an attack...

It's really not a matter of "if" you will be attacked, it's "when". The truth is, a vast majority of the companies that are being hacked are small to mid-sized businesses just like yours. Think about it, if your customer's information gets leaked or used without their knowledge, can you recover? Can your clients trust you? You could lose valuable customers, an enormous amount of time and a pile of money.

Stolen data will put your clients at risk and, as a consequence, the future of your business. Your brand reputation can take years to gain but it can only take minutes to destroy with one small data breach. Clients will quickly turn to competitors if they feel as though they cannot trust you with their information.

Take a look at these three ways to keep your company data secure.

Staying up-to-date with current technology is truly the root of all these methods. If your technology and systems are behind the times that makes it easier for hackers to get into your systems and take the information that they want. Technology changes all the time so it's important to make sure that your systems are updated and running properly. Here are a few more great tips to secure your company data:

1) Limitations to your data's access is another important feature. You should only allow the people that need access to your most sensitive information and the rest should be password protected at all times. Deploy a password management system as well to ensure everyone is selecting strong passwords and saving them in a safe place too.

2) Teach your employees the company rules and regulations in order to keep your data safe. Make sure they understand how to use the company resources and the consequences of failing to follow even the simplest policies like log out of their systems when they aren't using them.

3) Implement an security plan and 24/7 monitoring on your systems to detect any sort of breach and ensure that your data is always safe. Things like firewall, antivirus, and antispam programs can help you lock down your network.

All set? Are you ready for an attack?

One of the best ways to find vulnerabilities is to hack yourself, or the next best thing, have an IT professional come in and run a full network security check. This type of scan will help you identify vulnerabilities and show you just what to improve to better protect your business, your network and ultimately your clients.



“We make all of your computer problems go away without adding additional full-time I.T. staff!”

Ask about our fixed price service agreements — Computer support at a flat monthly fee you can budget for, just like payroll!

Inquiring Minds...

Why Are Backups So Important? Technology is by far the most important thing in any business today. Almost every business operates on computers and/or the Internet. If systems go down you need to make sure that you are able to restore your systems without losing any data.

Data loss is not an acceptable loss. There are many things that could happen to cause data loss. A computer or server hard drive failure could make data irretrievable. Theft of a computer system could also cause you to lose information. A virus or malware introduced onto your network could erase a hard drive or prevent you from accessing it. Even a physical event such as a fire or a flood could lead to computer damage. There will always be issues that arise threatening your company data, the real questions are how will you, how fast can you, and how completely are you able to recover?

Backup with Cloud storage drives for more reliable and frequent backups. To get started, connect directly to your Cloud provider and perform the backups. Look for automatic options to ensure you have the most recent version of your data when you need it most. Cloud backup involves invisible storage of information such as emails, documents, records, and photos on an Internet server. With cloud data storage, you can access your data from any device and location with an Internet connection. Cloud services offer a variety of different storage limits, but you have conduct regular backups, or set up automatic backups, and test them regularly to be sure they are complete.



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Wi-Fi 6 And What It Means For You. If you keep up with the latest gadgets, you might have noticed that some of this year's releases of laptops and phones boasted of Wi-Fi 6 compatibility. But what does that really mean? It's the latest version of wireless capability, designed to increase speeds, reliability, and range.

Wi-Fi standards are established by the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers approximately every five years, with the last round in 2014. Amusingly enough, the geeky group only recently began giving its standards layman-friendly names like "Wi-Fi 6." Wi-Fi 6, in some circles, is also known as 802.11ax.

So why should you care? Only the devices that have been certified compatible can access Wi-Fi 6, which, says Wired, will allow more devices to simultaneously operate on the same Wi-Fi. The result: your device could experience four times the capacity and four times the throughput, or how much data moves from one spot to another. There's also better security.

When is Wi-Fi 6 rolling out? Most manufacturers aren't expected to fully adopt Wi-Fi 6-compatible equipment until next year, and the ones already out are significantly pricier than current models. But once everyone's on board, get ready -- you'll need new ways to keep your kids off their devices once they figure out everyone in the family can indeed stream at once.



Call today for your Network Audit
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