

# THE ANATOMY OF A SUCCESSFUL IAM STRATEGY

Identity and Access Management (IAM) is a set of processes, tools, and policies used to manage and define user access to systems, networks, devices, and applications. It helps ensure that only the intended people within an organization have access to sensitive or protected information.

IAM is not a destination, but a journey with unique stages along the way – all critical to achieving a comprehensive, future-proof IAM strategy.

## HERE'S HOW A SUCCESSFUL, FUTURE PROOF IAM STRATEGY IS BUILT:

### 1 Map Your Architecture

This is the starting point of your Identity and Access Management journey. Before you can begin implementing something new, you first must understand the existing landscape.

**Key point:** Do not forget to assess how users share, collect, and access systems and data – this information is critical to advance through the following stages.

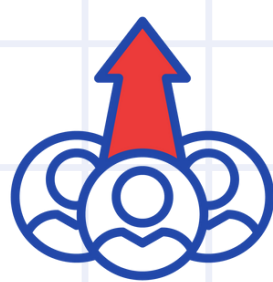


**Identity misconfiguration** can be an unfortunate outcome if your IAM architecture is not mapped accurately.

### 2 Evaluate Access Levels

Start with building an assessment of the specific access levels needed for each individual. Adhere to the principle of least privileged access – one of the core pillars of Zero Trust – to ensure no user has access that exceeds minimum requirement.

**Key point:** Privileged users are prime targets for cyberattacks. It is best practice to build a distinct list of these users so you're always aware of who has the most wide-ranging access.



Did you know? **Improper privileged access** is a major risk of incorrectly implementing your IAM strategy.

### 3 Prioritize High-Value Assets

Your IAM strategy should aim to minimize significant risk for your most protected data. Once you carry out a full risk assessment and evaluation, you can understand where that confidential information resides and who has access to it.

**Key point:** One of the main objectives of IAM is to achieve a balance between usability and security, so consider which applications do not require the most stringent security.



**Fact: improved security and user experience** is one of the greatest benefits of having IAM in place.

### 4 Choose The Right IAM Platform

There are countless options when it comes to choosing an IAM platform, and most of them provide sufficient security. Where some stand out, however, is flexibility and usability. You want to be sure your solution provides the core components of an IAM framework: user management, authentication, authorization, central user repository, and monitoring and auditing capabilities.

**Key point:** BIO-key's unified IAM platform, [PortalGuard®](#), makes it easy to stay secure with a modern experience fortified by [Passwordless authentication](#) that does not require the use of phones or hardware tokens.



When following best practices, the right IAM solution will **enhance account security and prevent both external and internal risk factors.**

**PUT YOUR IAM KNOWLEDGE AND READINESS TO THE TEST BY VISITING OUR WEBSITE TO TAKE OUR IAM MATURITY ASSESSMENT.**

