

# EVALUATION CHECKLIST

## FOR USER AUTHENTICATION



Navigating the market for multi-factor authentication can be tricky. To help you we have put together this evaluation checklist that you can use as a blueprint for finding the right solution for your business.

# HOW TO PICK THE RIGHT SOLUTION FOR YOUR BUSINESS

The need for multi-factor authentication is clear, but knowing how to find the right solution for your organization may not be.

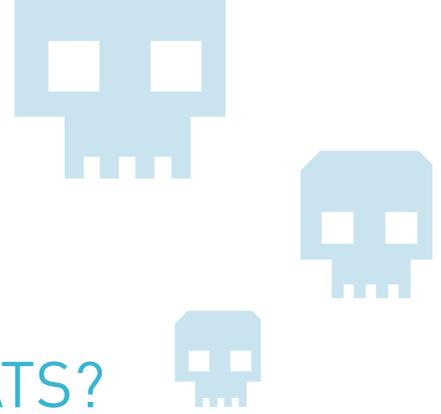
Navigating the market for multi-factor authentication can be tricky. With so many vendors to choose from, and so many different approaches, how do you find the solution that is right for your business? To help you we have put together an evaluation checklist that you can use as a blueprint for finding the right solution for your business.

With this checklist you will have all the right questions to ask a security vendor, so you can spot the best-in-class solutions from the best-left-behind solutions. We have grouped the checklist into these three key categories:

-  Will it protect my business against modern cyber threats?
-  Will it be easy to deploy, manage, and scale?
-  Can I trust and depend on this to work in the real world?



# WILL IT PROTECT MY BUSINESS AGAINST MODERN CYBER THREATS?



You need the best defense possible to keep your data safe. Below questions will help you identify the less secure solutions that no longer provide the level of security needed to safeguard against modern cyber threats.

	YES	NO
1 Does the solution generate one-time-passcodes (OTPs) in real-time?	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2 Does the solution depend on a seed file of any kind?	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
3 Does the solution use pre-issued passcodes?	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
4 Are OTPs sent out-of-band?	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
5 Are OTPs locked to the individual login session-ID?	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
6 Is the solution challenge-based to help block against DoS and Brute Force attacks?	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
7 Does the solution benefit from contextual information like GEO-location, time, and login behavior to determine the level of trust around each login?	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
8 Does the solution enable you to increase security via GEO-fencing?	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
9 Does the solution notify the users automatically if their passwords have been compromised?	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>



## WILL IT BE EASY TO DEPLOY, MANAGE, AND SCALE?



You need a solution that is easy to deploy, manage, and scale, and can support you in the future as your business grows and more systems need to be protected.

	YES	NO
1 Does the solution require you to deploy certificates?	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
2 Does the solution depend on deployment of software to the users mobile phones, laptops or other devices?	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
3 Does the solution depend on manual deployment of any kind, e.g. hardware tokens?	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
4 Does the solution integrate seamlessly with Microsoft ActiveDirectory?	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
5 Does the solution offer a self-service portal for end-users to adjust their preferences?	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
6 Does the solution require any AD schema extensions?	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
7 Can you scale and extend the infrastructure on-the-fly?	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
8 Will you need additional databases to store user information?	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
9 Does the solution allow for a flexible policy-driven administration of your users?	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
10 Does the solution integrate to all your remote access systems?	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
11 Can the solution secure your cloud applications?	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>



## CAN I TRUST AND DEPEND ON THIS TO WORK IN THE REAL WORLD?



You need a solution that users can depend on anytime and anywhere.

	YES	NO
1 What happens if a OTP does not arrive, does the solution have automatic failover mechanisms in place?	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2 Does the solution provide you with analytics that allows you to interpret login data and identify possible threats?	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3 Is the solution intuitive and hassle-free to use for the users?	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
4 Does the solution require training of the end users?	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
5 Are OTPs stored on the users phones?	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
6 Does the solution offer adaptive authentication that adapts the level of security based on trust at the point of login?	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

### FINAL SCORE:

**21-25 correct answers** – This is the type of solution you should be looking at for a strategic solution that will support your security, administration, and convenience requirements now and in the future. If less than 25 correct answers then think carefully on what compromises you are making.

**15-20 correct answers** – This solution is not a good match, and you are adding significant risk to your business if you proceed.

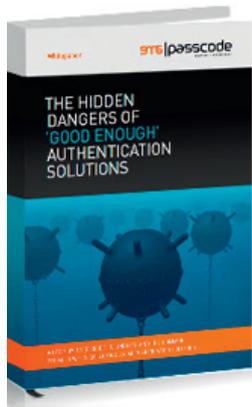
**0-14 correct answers** – Don't go there.

For a more detailed explanation on what makes a strong multi-factor authentication solution, we recommend these guides:



### The Beginner's Guide to Multi-factor Authentication

<http://info.smspasscode.com/beginners-guide>



### The Hidden Dangers of 'Good Enough' Authentication Solutions

<http://info.smspasscode.com/hidden-dangers-of-good-enough-authentication-solutions>



### The Ultimate Guide to Token-free Authentication

<http://info.smspasscode.com/token-free>