DATABASE SECURITY CHECKS WITH A CLEAR RESULT

GuardVea

Your database works.
Is it securely configured?

Check the settings. Understand the findings.
Decide what needs fixing.



From security recommendations
to practical steps for your team.

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WHAT GuardVea CAN DO FOR YOU

Be clear about your database settings.

The application is running and the users are working. This still does not answer the question of how the database is secured.



The company stores orders, contacts and operational data in the database. The administrator knows the technical side of it, but management needs to decide what to spend time and money on. GuardVea helps verify selected security settings and show which recommendations are met and which require attention.

The control has specific rules

You choose a set of recommendations for your database environment. For each check, you'll find what's being checked, why it's important, and what the result is expected to be. You can base the security conversation on specific settings.

The result will help determine further work

In the report, you will be taken from the database server to a specific check and its result. An administrator can review the details and recommended remedial action. Management will get a clearer basis for agreement on next steps.

> ### When management asks about security
> Instead of general reassurance, you can go through selected inspections, their results, and findings that still need to be addressed.

WHAT YOU WILL PREPARE IN THE SYSTEM

Your servers. Your audit scope.

Start with what you need to verify and on which database environment.

You specify the database servers

You add server addresses to the order and name them as needed. This way, you are clear about which environments the control applies to. When preparing, it is also worth arranging an administrator who will ensure the connection and will be able to explain the operational context.

Your servers

The databases you want to scan.

Your checks

Recommendations and selected profile.

Your results

Findings and basis for correction.

You choose the appropriate recommendations

The CIS benchmark is a set of recommendations for the safe setting of a specific technology. You select an available file, its version and the appropriate profile. The check is then based on a specified range, which you can refer back to when reading the results.

You take into account the method of operation

A database on its own server and a managed cloud service offer different options to the administrator. When choosing a profile, it therefore also depends on which settings you have access to. The scope of validation should correspond to how you use the database.

Work in your web browser

Open the recommendation library, prepare an order and review check results in a shared workspace. Tools open in separate windows above the workspace, with an icon panel giving access to each section.

> ### Clarify the scope before checking
> Which server are you checking, according to which version of recommendations and with which profile? These data give the result the necessary context.

HOW THE CHECK WORKS

From server selection to result.

Individual steps follow each other. You know what to prepare and where to look for findings.



01 Define the audit scope

You specify the database servers, the available benchmark, and the scan profile. In the order, you choose items from the price list and check the data.

02 You prepare the connection

The administrator creates the designated database account and provides the necessary access. Verifying the connection will help determine whether it is possible to communicate with the server.

03 Verification will take place

After payment of the order, the security audit will be started. Automatic checks verify settings; you complete the answers and expression in manual checks.

04 You will review the findings

You will see the status, score and details of each check. On findings, you will review the recommended remediation and agree on next steps with the administrator.

> The result should lead to the next step
> It is important to understand the finding, its significance for your environment, and who will deal with the eventual correction.

LIBRARY OF SECURITY RECOMMENDATIONS

Know which requirements are being checked.

For each recommendation, you can look at its content and the reason to pay attention to it.



Benchmark and version

You select a specific set of recommendations in the library. The version resolution helps to name what documents the check is based on. This way, you can talk about the same scope for the next job.

Check description

With the selected recommendation, you will read what is to be verified. The technical name will be explained and the administrator will find it easier to find out which setting the request refers to.

Justification and impact

Knowing that a setting is recommended is not enough. You also need to understand why, and how changing it might affect your systems. This information helps you assess the recommendation for your environment.

Verification and Remediation Procedure

The detail can include the steps of the audit, the expected result and the remediation procedure. The administrator has documents at hand that will help him verify the findings and prepare a solution.

> ### When a colleague asks why change it
> Open a specific recommendation. Together, you will review its purpose, the result of the inspection, and the impact of the proposed change.

PROFILE SELECTION

Check according to your environment.

Choose an available profile that matches the way you operate and the required rigor.



Basic server profile

The L1_server profile is for a database server with access to the operating system. It provides a starting point for validating basic recommendations in the environment you manage.

Cloud profile

The L1_cloud profile is in the order for SQL Server on AWS RDS. It takes into account the environment of the managed service. Therefore, when choosing, base your decision on the specific database technology and the method of its operation.

Stricter server profile

The L2_server profile expands the requirements for a tighter setup. Some recommendations may affect operation or performance. Before using them, it is necessary to assess how they will affect your applications.

> For example, with a business application database
> The administrator, together with the app owner, selects the profile and reviews the impact of the recommendations. You then evaluate the result within the agreed range.

You can check the specific benchmark and available profiles when preparing the order. The choice should be based on your environment.

AUTOMATIC CHECKS

Verify specific settings.

For supported checks, you'll get a database check result that you can refer back to.



Connecting to the server

A functional connection is required before the actual verification. In the overview, you can see whether the connection was successful. If not, the administrator has reason to check the availability of the server, the account or the necessary permissions.

Verification progress

When you run checks, you monitor their status and progress. Distinguish between waiting, processing in progress, completion and failure. That way, you know whether you already have a result or whether you still need to devote yourself to the run itself.

The result of the recommendation

Assess each check against what it was intended to verify. Its score and detailed results help the administrator review the finding alongside the expected setting.

A basis for an informed discussion

Management and the administrator do not need to start from a general question of whether everything is in order. They select a specific check, look at the result, and determine what else needs to be checked.

> ### When the check is not completed
> First, you check the reason for the processing. An unavailable server or a scan error needs a different next step than a detected non-compliant setting.

MANUAL VERIFICATION

A person has to confirm something.

Where procedures or operational contexts need to be known, you will complete the answers in the questionnaire.



Questions about the recommendation

A manual check will open a questionnaire for the selected recommendation. The responsible person will answer the questions and may add a short statement. The check thus also captures information that cannot be read only from the technical setting.

Statement on the result

You will add a final statement about the overall fulfillment of the recommendation to the answers. A colleague who returns to the result later also has a verbal explanation available.

Automatic and manual steps complement each other

Automatic verification helps with specific settings. The manual questionnaire will use the knowledge of the people who manage the environment. In the overview, these types of checks are distinguished, so you know how the result was arrived at.

> For example, in a corporate procedure
> A technical result may not explain how the team performs in practice. The responsible person's response and note will add the necessary context.

RESULTS AND OVERVIEW

From an overview to a specific finding.

First you look at the server status and checks. Then you open what you need to focus on.



Orders and servers

In the overview, you select the order and its database targets. You have with you the scope of the inspection and information about its progress. With several servers, you can determine which environment the result refers to.

Score and Result Detail

With the selected check, you can see the score, status and report. The score serves for quick orientation. When deciding on the next course of action, you will supplement it by reading the findings and content of the recommendation.

Read the result in context

It depends on the profile, scope of control and how you use the database. The administrator can explain the technical details and the application owner can add the meaning for the operation. Together, they will determine the appropriate next step.

> ### At a work meeting
> You select a server and open a specific check. From the result, you go straight to the question of what needs to be checked, who will take care of it and when you will come back to it.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CORRECTION

The finding is the beginning of further work.

When a review shows a problem, you need to understand the recommended change and its impact.



Find the remediation steps with each recommendation

In the detail you will find the section dedicated to the remedy. The administrator can refer to the described steps and compare them with the current state of the database. It does not have to start only from a brief indication of an unsatisfactory result.

Decide with your operating environment in mind

Consider the recommended change along with which applications use the database and what they need from it. When planning, it will help to know the possible impact, the responsible person and the appropriate date of the intervention.

After the change, you can check the result

After remediation, repeat the relevant check and review the new result. This shows whether the setting now meets the expected state or still needs attention.

> ### When an important setting is to be changed
> The administrator reviews the recommendation with the application owner and agrees on the next steps. The check result provides the basis for that work.

PREPARATION OF ACCESS

Your administrator will prepare the connection.

Before checking, you clarify the necessary account, server availability and responsibility for preparation.



The specified database account

The order works with the guardvea database user. The administrator will create it on the specified servers according to the inspection requirements. You will confirm in the system that the account is ready.

Connection credentials

When preparing the order, you will generate a password for the specified account. The administrator will ensure its setting on servers that belong to the scope. The data must correspond to the prepared connection.

Check availability

Before starting, it is necessary to verify that the server can be reached and logged in. The connection state helps separate the access preparation issue from the security check result itself.

Termination of access

The order also includes confirmation that the guardvea user will be deleted after the audit is completed. Therefore, agree on this final step with the administrator.

> ### Preparation has its man
> Designate an administrator to set up the account, review the connection, and ensure access is revoked once the audit is complete.

WHO GuardVea IS FOR

Everyone needs a different perspective.

The joint result helps connect technical findings with business operational decision-making.



Company management

He will get a more concrete basis for the conversation about database security. He can ask about the findings, the necessary work and the next procedure.

Database manager

Goes through recommendations, results, and remediation procedures for a specific environment. It has something to base it on when preparing changes.

Security team

It works with a defined scope of control and its results. In the case of technical findings, he can follow up on the work of the administrator.

Application owner

It adds what the application needs from the database. It helps to assess how the recommended change would affect the day-to-day work.

External IT partner

Can go through the scope of validation and environment preparation with the company. The discussion is based on specific checks for findings.

> ### Common language for the next step
> The administrator explains the finding, the application owner fills in the operational context, and management determines the time and resources for resolution.

BACKGROUND AND EXPLANATION

You also understand the reason for the inspection.

The recommendation has a purpose. When assessing the result, it will also help to know its wider context.



Why is it being verified?

The justification for the recommendation explains why the setting is important. The administrator can better explain why the discovery is being pursued and what needs to be considered when making a decision.

What the change can affect

The impact section helps with remedial planning. So you can read the technical recommendation together with what the applications and operation requirements are.

References and background information

References and links to CIS Controls are also available in the detail, if the documents contain them. If you need a more detailed assessment, you have somewhere to continue.

> ### When you need to explain a recommendation to management
> Start with its purpose, show the result, and fill in the possible impact of the remedy. The basis for the decision will be created from the technical detail.

COMMON SITUATION FROM PRACTICE

New application. New questions.

The company is preparing to deploy the application and wants to check the settings of its database environment.



Before the inspection

The administrator determines the database server and available benchmark. With the application owner, he selects a profile, prepares the necessary account and verifies the connection.

During verification

The team tracks the progress of automated checks. For manual recommendations, the responsible person adds answers and explains how the company handles the requirement.

When reading the results

An administrator will open the findings and review them with the app owner. For unsatisfactory settings, they will assess the recommended remedy and its impact.

When planning further work

The company will determine the responsibility and deadline for any modifications. After the change, it can repeat the relevant checks and verify the new state of the database.

> From question to decision
> Instead of a general discussion, the team has specific findings. He knows what he needs to check and agree on before taking the next step.

WHAT YOU GET FROM THE CHECK

A clearer basis for your team's next steps.

The value of the review is that it helps to understand the status and prepare for further work.



Overview of verified scope

You can identify which servers and recommendations were checked and which profile was selected. That context stays with the results, making the scope of the check clear.

Specific findings

You can see the result and details for each recommendation. The administrator has a basis for checking the setting, and the management can ask about the next course of action for specific findings.

Information to plan the next steps

The description, rationale, impact, and remedial action help prepare the solution. The result refers to selected controls; when making a decision, you evaluate it along with other information about the security of the company.

> ### When the check is over
> Agree on which findings you will review, who will address them, and how you will verify the outcome of the changes. In this way, the inspection can also help with further work.

HOW TO START

Start with one database environment.

Let's choose a specific server and the questions you need answered. We will prepare the range according to your environment.

1. Tell us what you operate

Prepare the type and version of the database, how it operates, and a brief description of the applications that use it. Together we will go through what you need to verify and who takes care of the technical training at your place.

2. Agree on an appropriate audit scope

We will look at available benchmarks, profiles and required controls. The administrator prepares access and connection. Before creating an order, you review its items and price.

3. You review the results and further work

After the review is done, you'll see both the findings and the recommendations. You and the team will determine which settings need to be reviewed and which changes to prepare. Depending on the result, you can continue with other databases.

Your environment

Database type and version · Mode of operation

Scope of control

Database servers · Benchmark · Profile

Next procedure

Results · Assessment of findings · Remedy

Do you have specific requirements?

Describe your database environment and validation goal. We will go over the availability of appropriate controls and the necessary preparation with you. It will be clearer from the beginning what the result should be.

> **A concrete example is enough for the first conversation**
> For example, the database of your main application, its version and how it operates. We will show you a suitable next procedure.

GET IN TOUCH

Let's take a look at your databases.

We'd be happy to walk you through what you need to verify and how GuardVea can help.



Each environment has its own requirements. Someone is preparing a new application, someone else wants to check the existing server or get a basis for security modifications. Let's start with what's important to your business.

Agree on the scope of your first check

Write to us or call us. We'll go over the database type, how it works, and the purpose of validation. Together we will clarify the available options and what will need to be prepared before the inspection.

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