

The Tax Season Survival Guide

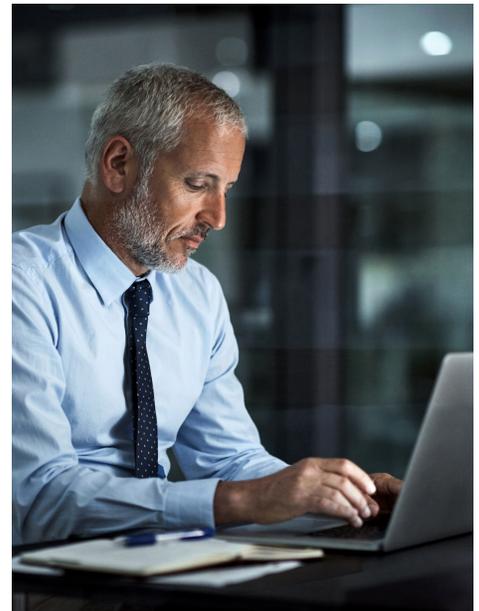
Optimize Your QuickBooks Workflow & Fortify Cybersecurity

Surviving Tax Season Without the Chaos

Let's be honest—tax season is brutal. Deadlines loom, clients demand faster turnarounds, and compliance requirements shift like quicksand. The last thing you need is technology slowing you down and holding you back.

But here's the kicker: tax season isn't just a stressful time for accountants—it's prime hunting season for cybercriminals. Cyberattacks spike when accounting firms are stretched thin, making them more vulnerable to data breaches, phishing scams, and ransomware attacks.

That's why this guide is different. We're not just talking about making QuickBooks work better—we're talking about tackling workflow efficiency AND cybersecurity in one comprehensive powerhouse strategy. Keep reading to learn how Summit's next-level cloud solutions can help you eliminate downtime, work faster, and secure your business.



How to Supercharge Your QuickBooks Workflow

Recognize When QuickBooks Desktop Is Holding You Back

QuickBooks Desktop is the gold standard for accounting firms; but when managed poorly, it can waste time, slow down productivity, and lead to costly delays. Watch out for these common bottlenecks:



Slow Performance

Are your local machines lagging or crashing?



Multi-User Conflicts

Tired of waiting for access to a file? Losing work?



Backup & Recovery Risks

Up at night thinking about a single missed backup that can spell catastrophic data loss?



Did You Know?

- 60% of accounting firms experience operational slowdowns during peak periods.
- Cybersecurity breaches increase by over 30% during tax season.
- A mid-sized accounting firm reduced system downtime by 40% after migrating to a cloud-hosted QuickBooks solution, leading to improved turnaround times and client satisfaction.

Implement the Fix: Cloud Hosting Built Exclusively for Accounting Firms

QuickBooks Desktop is the gold standard for accounting firms; but when managed poorly, it can waste time, slow down productivity, and lead to costly delays. Watch out for these common bottlenecks:



Lightning-Fast Performance

Access QuickBooks from anywhere with speed that feels like a local install.



Effortless Collaboration

Work in the same file simultaneously with other users without data conflicts.



Automated Backups

Never worry about losing critical data again—we handle it all.



Dedicated IT Support

Summit's managed QuickBooks cloud hosting includes 24/7 support from real humans. No bots—no waiting.

This isn't just another cloud solution. Summit's private cloud is built exclusively for accounting firms.

Seamless Integration with Your Accounting Tools

Your firm relies on payroll tools, tax software, and reporting platforms—so why settle for a technology that doesn't effectively support them? Summit's managed QuickBooks hosting seamlessly integrates with 200+ essential third-party applications, ensuring zero compatibility issues and a smooth, uninterrupted workflow.

How to Avoid Tax Season Cybersecurity Disasters

The Ugly Truth: Cybercriminal Are Targeting You

Cybercrime skyrockets during tax season. Why? Because cybercriminals know accounting firms are juggling high workloads and sensitive data while working at breakneck speed. The most common threats accounting firms face include:



Phishing Scams

Beware of fake IRS emails, fraudulent client requests, and login theft.



Ransomware Attacks

Enterprising cybercriminals lock your files and demand a ransom right before your tax deadline.



Data Breaches

Enterprising hackers spot unsecured systems and expose confidential client financials.

Your Best Defense? A Proactive, Security-First Approach

Summit Secure Workspace delivers built-in, accounting-specific protection designed specifically for accounting firms.



24/7 Real-Time Threat Monitoring

Safeguard your business with advanced cybersecurity for QuickBooks access, including endpoint protection, secure access controls, and real-time threat monitoring.



Robust Security & Compliance

Summit Secure Workspace adheres to enterprise-grade security standards, including SOC 2 and HIPAA, ensuring maximum data protection and regulatory compliance.



Ransomware Protection

Automated nightly backups, disaster recovery options, and enterprise-level encryption safeguard your financial data.

Avoid These 4 Common Cybersecurity Pitfalls

Educate yourself and your staff with these important reminders:

- **Weak Passwords:** Are you protecting sensitive data with your birthdate or the name of your dog? These passwords are a hacker's dream scenario. Don't be the low-hanging fruit.
- **Missing MFA:** Without multi-factor authentication (MFA), unauthorized access is far too easy. MFA takes that extra step to ensure the right people get access to the right data.
- **Unsecured Public Wi-Fi:** Don't handle any kind of sensitive information over public Wi-Fi. Your firm's data should NEVER touch an unsecured connection.
- **Outdated Software & Patches:** New software updates and patches hold fixes to newly discovered security gaps. Outdated systems are easy targets for cyberattackers.

Your Smarter, Safer Tax Season Starts Here

You've got enough to deal with during tax season. Your tech should be working for you, not against you. By optimizing QuickBooks Desktop in the cloud and locking down security threats with Summit Secure Workspace, your firm can:

- ✓ Eliminate Downtime
- ✓ Boost Productivity
- ✓ Work Securely Anywhere
- ✓ Avoid Cyber Disasters



Ready for the Smoothest, Most Secure Tax Season Yet?

Contact us about how to get started with Summit's cloud hosting solutions today.