

Patch Management Strategy Checklist

Turn strategy into daily execution with these practical steps

Review Your Current Process

- ☐ Audit how your team tracks and prioritizes vulnerabilities
- ☐ Replace ad-hoc patching with a tiered, risk-based approach
- ☐ Run workshops to define patching criteria and SLAs

Evaluate Tools That Integrate NIST/CVSS

- ☐ Use [tools that pull live CVE data from NVD](#)
- ☐ Enable automatic asset–vulnerability mapping
- ☐ Set up risk dashboards for visibility across systems

Stay Ahead of Headline Threats

- ☐ Monitor high-profile vulnerabilities (e.g., Log4Shell, MOVEit)
- ☐ Subscribe to CISA's Known Exploited Vulnerabilities (KEV) feed
- ☐ Act fast when zero-days or active exploits are flagged

Consider Outside Assessments

- ☐ Run external vulnerability scans or risk assessments
- ☐ Highlight gaps to justify new resources/tools
- ☐ Leverage free trial scans where possible

Bottom Line

- Combine **NVD + CVSS + threat intelligence + business context**
- Prioritize vulnerabilities that matter most to your environment
- Continuously refine processes to stay one step ahead of attackers

Interested to know where your IT team stands on the patch maturity matrix?

Take [EZO AssetSonar's assessment](#).

