

Unlocking Network
Automation Solutions
for Cyber Resilience:
**10 Key Questions to
Guide Your Journey**



Are you ready to dive into the world of network automation? To ensure you're on the right path, consider these ten crucial questions to help you navigate the landscape of automation solutions confidently and clearly.

1 What types of vendors do you support?

When choosing a network cyber solution, avoid options limited to just a handful of vendors. BackBox is a vendor-agnostic solution that embraces a best-of-breed strategy, enabling you to integrate devices from various manufacturers. This approach ensures flexibility, innovation, and the best network performance.

2 What are the types of automation you support?

Don't limit yourself to solutions that still rely on scripting. Managing scripting code can be a significant hassle, and skilled network engineers are hard to find. Instead, consider BackBox, which offers no-code automation and a pre-populated library of automations, allowing you to achieve quick and effective results.

3 Does the solution have verification steps to confirm an automation has been successful?

Choose a solution provider, like BackBox, that verifies successful automation completion and offers streamlined troubleshooting and reporting features. This will allow you to address any failures quickly and ensure smooth operations.

4 What is the process for adding or customizing automations?

Can you work directly with the vendor to develop new automations or tailor existing ones to your needs? BackBox will support you in crafting automations as part of your support contract. You don't need an expensive professional services agreement. Understanding this can help you make more informed decisions and optimize your investment.

5 What level of customer support do you offer?

Is your vendor knowledgeable about all the different products you might automate? Will they help you create new automations that save you time and effort? Do they offer the flexibility to add new supported devices if needed? BackBox can.

6 What about automated OS Updates?

Does the solution support multi-step updates? Can these updates be automated to eliminate the need for after-hours work? BackBox delivers these and more. Backups can also be integrated into the update process to ensure the integrity of your network and facilitate an easy rollback in the event of a failed update.

7 How simple is your licensing model?

When selecting a vendor, prioritize those who can clearly articulate their licensing model without hidden fees tied to the number or types of devices you need. BackBox can empower you to launch your project without burdensome professional services fees, ensuring a smooth and cost-effective implementation.

8 Which environments and third-party integrations can your solution support?

BackBox doesn't confine you to a limited or closed ecosystem. Your solution should be compatible with multi-cloud environments and on-premises systems, supporting virtual machine platforms such as VMware, Hyper-V, VirtualBox, or others. Additionally, it should provide REST API code examples to facilitate integration with third-party solutions and ticketing systems.

9 Can your system support centralized device management?

Look for solutions that can push configurations to multiple devices, onboard devices to the network, and keep them up to date. Capabilities should include real-time dynamic inventory information and reports for all devices. Look for a solution that avoids polling and has scalable, distributed automation execution across the network for the best possible performance.

10 How does your platform enforce security and compliance policies?

Your network automation solution should help simplify compliance with industry, vendor, or regulatory policies. BackBox delivers out-of-the-box support for common standards like HIPAA, STIGs, or CIS Benchmarks. It also rapidly identifies issues before they impact network and data integrity and generates multiple reports, including user reports, configured schedules, backup jobs, backup status, device inventory, and more.

In Summary

Evaluate network automation solutions to see how well they reduce human involvement in infrastructure management. A solution like BackBox can save time, support growth, and allow engineers to focus on important tasks instead of manual updates.

Good inventory management is essential. BackBox regularly gathers device information and creates custom workflows and reports that automatically update with each backup.

Finally, ensure your solution complies with industry security standards to protect your information and reduce business risks. Following these standards will help maintain the integrity of your data and keep it secure.

To learn more, visit backbox.com

About BackBox

More than 500 enterprises worldwide trust BackBox as their preferred network cyber resilience platform. BackBox supports network devices from over 180 vendors, offering thousands of pre-built automations and a no-code way to create new ones. BackBox empowers teams with the confidence to automate critical network processes, maintain business continuity during disruptions, and recover swiftly. From backups and OS updates to configuration compliance and vulnerability management, BackBox ensures that automations deliver consistent, reliable outcomes.

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