## 6 Smart Security Habits for Fast-Growing Startups Build Fast. Stay Secure.



Startups move fast, and security often trails behind until a customer asks how you protect their data or compliance comes calling. The goal isn't to build a full security program before product-market fit. It's to avoid security debt that slows you down later and build habits that scale as you grow.



**Enable MFA and SSO Early:** Turn on MFA for all SaaS tools and move toward SSO using tools such as Google Workspace, Okta, or Azure AD. It prevents account takeovers, a common source of breaches, and simplifies compliance as you grow.

**Keep Production Separate:** Separate credentials, restrict admin access, and never use real production data in test environments without anonymizing or masking. Make access to production explicit and auditable. It limits the blast radius of mistakes.





Adopt Infrastructure as Code: Undocumented configuration is a liability. Use IaC (Terraform, Pulumi, etc.) early to make environments reproducible and auditable. You'll save time, reduce misconfigurations, and speed up onboarding.

**Use Immutable Deployments:** Replace systems instead of editing them in place. Consistent environments reduce drift, simplify hardening, and improve reliability. If you're containerized, immutability is achievable with relatively little overhead.





Add CI/CD Guardrails Early: Preventing issues before they reach production is cheaper than patching later. Integrate secret scanning, dependency and vulnerability scans, and basic static analysis early to avoid future security backlogs.

**Prioritize Security by Context, Not Noise**: Don't chase every alert and vulnerability. Focus on what's exposed, exploitable, and running in production. Modern Al-based security tools fit naturally into dev workflows without demanding security expertise.



## **Looking to Get Started?**

Take a free security assessment and get personalized guidance to secure faster. And get free Averlon credits to help you eliminate exposures quickly.