



## 5 Things to know before you buy a POS system?

1. Make sure the prospective system does not have any known vulnerabilities. Companies cannot board new merchants using known vulnerable payment applications. If you install a system known to have vulnerabilities it will make your environment non-PCI compliant. If you need help just ask your bank to verify the system is compliant.
2. Confirm that the POS software vendor and version number is listed as a validated payment application. You can find a list of valid applications at [https://www.pcisecuritystandards.org/security\\_standards/vpa/](https://www.pcisecuritystandards.org/security_standards/vpa/)
3. Ask your payment application vendor or reseller for the Implementation guide to show you how to install the application in a secure manner.
4. Encrypt data from the entry points to the back-end systems. Choosing a software solution that has the ability to encrypt this data puts you one step ahead of the hacker. Two points of security needed. 1. When the information enters the computer it may be recorded and when the data is in network transfer it may be intercepted. You may find solutions to both of these issues at <http://networkintercept.com/poswipe.htm>
5. Make sure your POS network (and retail systems) are on a different network than the internet and follow all PCI guidelines to safe guard your system.

