CHECKLIST · MARKETING

YouTube will now freeze channels it suspects are hacked

Published 22 October 2026. Read the full story, sources and any updates at digitaladvisors.com.au/journal/youtube-hacked-channel-feature-pause/

- [ ] **Turn on 2-Step Verification.** Do it on the Google account that owns your YouTubechannel, and on every account that manages it.
- [ ] **Use a strong, unique password.** Change the channel owner's Google account password if it's reused anywhere else.
- [ ] **Check the owner email is one you read.** YouTubesends security review updates to the channel owner's email account.
- [ ] **Wait for the review if a pause banner appears.** YouTubesays no immediate action is needed, and the review typically finishes within 24 hours.
- [ ] **Check your recent videos after a review.** YouTubemay set some recent videos to private during a pause. Make sure the right ones are public again.
- [ ] **Follow YouTube's email steps if a hijack is confirmed.** Re-secure the Google account, undo unauthorised changes, then contact YouTubesupport to lift the restrictions.

NOTES

General information only, not legal, tax or financial advice. Check the full story and its sources before acting.