



Broadband Internet Glossary

Bandwidth

The maximum amount of data it is possible to transmit over an internet connection in a given amount of time. The more bandwidth you have, the higher the volume of data that can be downloaded at a reasonable pace.

Broadband — Mobile

A high speed internet connection that is connected via a mobile network (e.g, the network used by smartphones and other mobile devices) that establishes a data connection instead of using a fixed network with a physical cable coming into your house.

Broadband — Fixed

A high speed internet connection that is connected via hardwire to a fixed location (such as a residence or business) using a variety of technologies, including cable, DSL, fibre optics, and wireless.

Broadband — Wireless (Wi-Fi)

A high speed internet connection that is connected via a Wi-Fi router using radio signals instead of cables. Wireless broadband comprises both mobile and fixed broadband.

Bundling

A bundle plan is created when you combine two or more types of communications services together on a single comprehensive bill, like internet and television or television and phone service. Bundling is often associated with a short-term deal in price, to get consumers to sign up.

Capping or Data Caps

The practice of an internet service provider (ISP) limiting the amount of data that a particular user is allowed. Capping is usually defined by a limit on data within a set period of time, usually a month.

Latency Time

Latency is a measure of delay. In a network, that means how long it takes for data to move across a network (as opposed to between networks). It is measured in milliseconds.

Mbps

Mbps, Megabits per second, is a calculation of the amount of information that is being transmitted over a given internet connection. The higher the number, the higher your internet speed will be.

Modem

A device that connects your home network to the wider internet. By transmitting or receiving data, a modem can establish a network and internet connections.

Router

A device that forms wireless or WiFi networks and manages the flow of data within and between those networks. A router serves two main functions, to manage traffic between networks by forwarding data packets to their intended IP addresses, and allowing multiple devices to use the same internet connection.

Speed — Download

The amount of data that your device is able to receive from the internet, measured in Megabits per second (Mbps). This includes activities such as downloading files, streaming audio or videos, viewing images or articles, and more.

Speed — Upload

The amount of data that your device is able to send to the internet, measured in Megabits per second (Mbps). This includes activities such as uploading files, sending emails, doing video calls, and more.