

Starlink Is Finally Live in the UAE: Prices, Plans & What to Expect

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What happened

Starlink is now available in the UAE as of March 18, 2026, with residential plans starting at AED 230 per month and a standard residential kit priced at AED 1,545 including shipping.

Starlink is now showing as available in the United Arab Emirates - a real shift for households, remote worksites, and anyone in areas where fixed-line broadband is limited or costly to extend. If you've been waiting to see whether this would actually land in the UAE, the answer as of today is yes. Here's what you need to know before placing an order.

Is Starlink Actually Available in the UAE Right Now?

As of March 18, 2026, Starlink is live in the UAE. The company's availability tools now show the country as part of its service footprint, and a same-day The National report confirms that residential orders can be placed through the Starlink website, with packages starting at Dh230 per month. The most reliable way to check your specific address is the official availability map, since eligibility, plan options, and shipping times can still vary by location.

This matters because Starlink had been discussed in the UAE for years without a proper consumer rollout. The March 18, 2026 update is the clearest signal that the service has moved from "coming soon" to "order now." Don't rely on older information - check live availability against your actual address.

What Is the Regulatory Status of Starlink in the UAE?

Starlink holds a formal licence from the UAE's Telecommunications and Digital Government Regulatory Authority. The TDRA licence document shows the licence was granted to Starlink Satellite Communications Services L.L.C., took effect on June 12, 2024, and runs through June 11, 2034. It covers installing, operating, and managing a public telecommunications network and providing licensed services in the UAE.

This isn't a grey-market situation. Starlink's presence is backed by an authorised legal framework, which gives buyers more confidence in the service's legitimacy and long-term continuity. That said, the licence doesn't make every use case identical - residential, mobile, maritime, and enterprise setups can each involve different terms and hardware.

How Much Does Starlink Cost in the UAE?

Launch-day pricing puts the entry residential plan at Dh230 per month, with standard residential service at Dh300 per month. The standard residential kit is priced at Dh1,545 including shipping, with a delivery estimate of one to two weeks. These figures are accurate as of launch but can change - Starlink adjusts pricing and plan structures by market, so treat them as a starting point rather than a fixed guarantee.

The difference between the two residential tiers is worth understanding before you commit. Starlink's service plan descriptions state that Residential Lite includes unlimited but deprioritised data. In plain terms: you get unlimited usage, but your traffic sits lower in the queue during busy periods. For casual browsing, streaming, and video calls, that's often fine. For a location that needs consistent performance during peak hours, the higher residential tier is the better fit.

How Do You Order and Set Up Starlink in the UAE?

Getting started involves three steps. First, confirm your address on the Starlink order page or availability map - eligibility is tied to your specific location, not just the country. Second, choose the plan that matches how you'll actually use the service: a fixed home connection, a second property, a worksite, and a mobile setup each point toward different options. Third, order the hardware kit and note the shipping estimate at checkout, since that can shift based on demand and inventory.

Once the kit arrives, installation is designed to be self-service. Starlink's help material says the hardware is intended for self-installation and needs power plus a clear, unobstructed view of the sky. The app includes an obstruction-checking tool that should be used before you finalise placement. In the UAE specifically - where apartment balconies, neighbouring towers, roof access rules, and walled compounds are common - line of sight is a real practical concern, not a footnote. The clear view guidance directly affects real-world uptime, so don't skip it.

What Hardware Does the Starlink Kit Include?

The Starlink kit is simpler than older satellite internet systems. Starlink's official hardware specifications describe a phased-array antenna, Wi-Fi router, power supply, cables, and a base. The standard kit includes a 15-metre Starlink cable, and the dish should be mounted as close to vertical as possible after using the obstruction tool to find the best spot. The phased-array design handles alignment automatically, which removes most of the manual tuning that traditional satellite dishes require.

For UAE buyers, the site question is often more pressing than the hardware question. A villa roof is a fairly straightforward install. A city apartment may require landlord approval, building access, or external mounting workarounds. In much of the UAE, the main obstructions are walls, parapets, nearby towers, and roofline edges - not trees. Cable routing, weather exposure, and indoor Wi-Fi distribution also matter; even a solid satellite link can underperform if the router placement inside the property is poor.

What Kind of Performance Should You Expect from Starlink in the UAE?

Starlink's specifications put typical upload speeds between 10 and 30 Mbps, with land latency generally in the 25 to 60 millisecond range. Actual experience varies by location, time of day, and which plan tier you're on. A Lite plan with deprioritised data won't perform the same way as a higher-priority plan during peak hours - that's a meaningful difference if your connection matters for work.

The strongest use cases in the UAE are likely to be remote and desert sites, temporary facilities, backup connectivity, mobile and maritime setups that align with the service terms, and residential addresses where fibre or cable isn't available. In dense urban areas already well-served by fibre, Starlink makes more sense as a resilience backup than a primary replacement. The value depends heavily on whether you need basic connectivity, fast deployment, mobility, or an alternative when wired service simply isn't practical.

What Should You Check Before Ordering Starlink in the UAE?

Starlink isn't immune to the usual limits of satellite internet. The service can be interrupted by obstructions, and the company's guidance notes that moderate to heavy rain, hail, or snow can cause momentary dropouts. The UAE climate skips snow, but rain events, dust, high-heat exposure on rooftops, and exterior hardware wear are all real considerations. Multi-unit buildings and master-planned communities may also have property rules about rooftop or external installations.

Before ordering, verify five things:

- Whether your exact address is currently accepted for service on the Starlink order page.
- Which plan tier is being offered at checkout for your location.
- What the upfront kit and shipping cost is on the day you order, since pricing can change.
- Whether your property has a suitable, unobstructed mounting point for the dish.
- Whether your intended use is fixed residential, portable, in-motion, or marine - each may point to a different plan.

Those checks won't take long, and they'll save you from treating Starlink as a one-size-fits-all solution. For the right address and the right use case, it's now a live option in the UAE.

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