

Types of Internet Connections: Speed, Providers, and Accessibility

TechRounder PDF Edition

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<https://www.techrounder.com/technology/types-of-internet-connections-speed-providers-and-accessibility/>

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In brief

The time has changed and with the evolution of technology, the internet has become an integral part of big and small households, offices and public places. In this era, everything is dependent on the internet, whether it be for streaming movies, playing online games, research work or managing day to day tasks.

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Without a reliable and steady internet connection, you would be stuck in the infinite loop of contacting your Internet Service Provider or restarting your modem. As most of the households have several devices connected simultaneously to the network, one needs to make sure that the speed is optimal, the data cap is enough and the bandwidth is high.

In this post, we are going to discuss the different types of internet connections you can opt for. Let's dive in and stay tuned until the end of the article.

Dial-Up (Analog 56K)

Millennials would be well aware of dial-up internet connection that was used in the early 90s and 2000s. With time, dial-up internet connection became obsolete. This type of connection is quite affordable but the speed it offers is quite slow. You might not be able to browse even simple websites.

In this type of internet connection, a modem is connected to the internet after the computer dials a phone number. The analog signals are transformed into digital signals through the modem and sent over a landline offered by a public telephone network. Telephone lines differ in quality and connection can be as slow as a sloth. Moreover, the lines also face disruptions, which affects speed. You can only expect a speed ranging from 28k to 56K. Moreover, when the internet is connected, you can't use the telephone to call your loved ones.

Digital Subscriber Line (DSL)

Digital Subscriber Line or simply DSL is another option when looking for an internet connection. This type of internet connection is always powered on and uses two lines, unlike the Dial-Up internet. This means that you can use your phone while your DSL is working and carry on with your activities. DSL uses a router to transfer data and normal speed ranges from anywhere between 128K to 8Mbps. Windstream, MegaPath, and AT&T are few of the providers offering DSL connection for internet users.

Cable

Cable offers an internet connection through a cable modem and works over cable lines. There are several speed plans offered by Internet Service Providers. Cable internet usually provides a connection through coax cable, which offers a bigger bandwidth as compared to dial-up or digital subscriber line. To mention some of the top providers, you can check Xfinity, Cox, Mediacom or Spectrum internet plans that meet your household and personal requirements. Cable speeds can range from 30Mbps to 1000Mbps. Make sure to select the plan after a thorough evaluation and never pay more for what's not required.

Wireless

Wireless internet or Wi-Fi is another popular choice for most internet users, especially those who are looking for mobility and flexibility. The best thing about wireless internet is that it does not require cables or telephone lines to connect to the internet. Rather it uses radiofrequency to transfer the internet signals. With Wi-Fi internet, you can access the internet from anywhere, provided that you are within the range of the wireless router. Wireless networks are gaining popularity with each passing day due to smart devices and people's demand. Most of the reputable and trusted internet service providers like Verizon offer free Wi-Fi in some areas. Moreover, some public places like shopping malls, subways and cafes also give free access to the wireless internet for convenience.

Satellite

Satellite is another popular internet connection type mostly popular in rural areas. This type of connection connects to the internet through satellite. However, compared to cable and DSL, satellite TV provides a slow internet often due to signals traveling from earth to satellite and back again. Some of the popular Satellite internet providers include HughesNet and Viasat.

Summing Up

If you are looking for a reliable internet connection, the first step is to look for providers in your area and type of internet connection they offer. Once you have the list, compare the plans and opt for the best connection that suits your needs.

You may also read

- 3 Best VPN Services With Faster Internet in 2019
- Why Broadband Internet is Vital for Rural Communities
- How to Choose a Best Internet Connection for Home or Office

References

1. localcabledeals.com - Spectrum / Internet - <https://www.localcabledeals.com/Spectrum/Internet>