How to upgrade your home s fiber optic router

Overview

Get fiber internet installation done right for your home or business. Enjoy lightning-fast speeds and stable connections with professional setup.

Key Takeaways

Upgrading your home's fiber optic router involves choosing a compatible high-speed router, connecting it to the ONT, and optimizing placement and internal wiring for maximum performance.

Check Router Compatibility

Fiber internet uses an Optical Network Terminal (ONT) instead of a traditional modem.

The ON

T converts the fiber signal into Ethernet, which connects to your router. To upgrade, ensure your router has a Gigabit Ethernet WAN port and supports high-speed connections, ideally Wi-Fi 6 for optimal range and speed. Routers designed for DSL or cable (coaxial) will not work with fiber.

Connecting Your New Router

Confirm that your ONT is installed and active by your ISP. Use an Ethernet cable to connect the ONT to your router's WAN port. Log into the router's admin panel to configure settings such as VLAN, DHCP, or PPPoE, if required by your ISP.

Test your connection to ensure you are achieving the expected fiber speeds.

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Placement and Internal Network

Place the router centrally in your home to reduce Wi-Fi dead zones. Avoid placing it near metal, concrete, or brick structures, which can block signals. Extend antennas upward if your router has external antennas.

For wired devices, use Cat 5e, Cat 6, or Cat 6a Ethernet cables to maintain gigabit or multi-gigabit speeds. Older telephone wiring or Cat 5 may limit performance.

Optional Internal Upgrades

If your home lacks sufficient Ethernet cabling, consider adding or upgrading internal wiring to support high-speed connections for desktops, smart TVs, gaming consoles, or NAS devices. Installing empty conduits during fiber retrofitting can make future upgrades easier and more cost-effective.

Choosing the Right Router

Look for fiber-ready routers with strong processing power and Gigabit WAN ports.

Wi-

Fi 6 routers are recommended to fully utilize fiber speeds and support multiple simultaneous users. If your current router is outdated, upgrading can unlock the full potential of your fiber connection. By following these steps, you can ensure your home network is optimized for high-speed fiber internet, providing reliable coverage and future-proofing your digital infrastructure.

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How Far Can a Fiber Optic Cable Be Run? Distance Guide

Fiber optic cables can run up to 80 km without a repeater. Learn exact limits by cable type, application, and how to extend your network.

Optical networks

An optical transport network is a high-speed communication system that sends light signals over fiber-optic cables to move large amounts of data across long

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