Home Internet "The keys to a safe, secure and productive experience"

Home networks have recently become the centerpiece technology of work, teaching and learning, sharing the value of a good home network with entertainment, home security and the convenience of home automation. Streaming tv shows and movies, online gaming, working from home, online courses and class work pull on home internet more now than ever. The right amount of safe internet is key to ensuring your household can all access the devices they need, when they are needed. Know how to secure and strengthen what you have.

These are some of the things that can affect your internet strength:
- How many devices are on at the same time
- What each device needs to do

**Heavy Use**
- Internet phone calls or send live video
- Online gaming (such as xBox, Playstation, and Nintendo)
- Stream live music or video (including radio stations, TV, and movies).

**Medium Use**
- Conduct live meetings or webinars
- Connect multiple computers and other wireless devices (such as printers, home security, gaming systems, and smart home devices).

**Low Use**
- Connect securely to remote office network
- Surf the Internet, send and receive e-mails, blog, and chat online

**Location**
- Place the WiFi Device in the middle of your home in an elevated location away from large metal or heavy concrete surfaces.

**WiFi Strength**
- Strong WiFi signal enhances your students and families internet experience

Quick Tips to Try:
- Turn off incoming video for video calls
- Sit in the same room as your WiFi device
- Only allow one heavy-use activity on the internet at a time

If you have a large home or thick walls, you may need a WiFi extender.
Extra Steps:

• Check your speeds to see your internet strength. Try testing it with different devices running (example: stream a movie from an online streaming service and join a video conference). Did your speeds change when you added more devices?

• If you have an internet plan from a provider, do the speeds match your plan? If you're experiencing issues or there is a big difference contact your provider and have them troubleshoot with you.

Thinking It Through

Think of your internet like electricity to your house when using a generator. You can still run basic needs, but everything can't run all at once and you make some sacrifices to conserve power. You prioritize what is important and make sure it is the only thing running at that time. Your internet works much the same way. There is only a certain amount of internet you have at a time (often referred to as speed), so only certain things can run or at least run at the same time. Just with electricity from a generator, you decide what is important to take up your internet and make sure nothing else is taking away from it.
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Know how to secure and strengthen what you have.

Use unique passwords for every account.

1 in 4 people use the same password or a variation of it for all his/her accounts

Credit CyBint.com

Prevent
Turn off your internet device when on vacation to prevent someone from using it while you are gone.

WiFi Security
Secure wifi protects your students and family from external interruption and threats. Be safe at home with these tips.

There is a hacker attack every 39 seconds affecting 1 in 3 Americans every year.

Credit University of Maryland

Protect
Use strong passwords. Weak Passwords leave you vulnerable.

Be cautious of emails and attachments.

Update
Maintain regular updates on all your WiFi devices.

Use up to date operating systems.

Don’t connect unknown USB devices.

Don’t share passwords or account information.

Remove old and unused applications.

Use parental controls and WiFi privacy settings.

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