

How to connect a router to a fiber optic cable from a telecommunications company



Article Overview

You can connect a router to a fiber optic line, but it must go through an Optical Network Terminal (ONT) provided by your ISP.

Key Requirements

- **Optical Network Terminal (ONT):** Fiber optic signals cannot be interpreted directly by standard routers. The ONT, usually supplied and installed by your telecom provider, converts the optical signal into an electrical Ethernet signal that your router can use .
- **Compatible Router:** Your router must have a Gigabit Ethernet WAN port to connect to the ONT. Routers designed for DSL or cable (coaxial) connections will not work. Modern Wi-Fi 6 or 6E routers are recommended to fully utilize fiber speeds, especially if your plan exceeds 1 Gbps .
- **Ethernet Cable:** Use a high-quality Cat6a or higher Ethernet cable to connect the ONT to your router's WAN port, ensuring minimal speed loss .

Connection Steps

- **Install the ONT:** The ISP installs the ONT near the fiber entry point in your home. Connect the fiber optic cable from the wall outlet to the ONT's optical port. Power on the ONT and wait for the status lights to stabilize .
- **Connect Router to ONT:** Use an Ethernet cable to link the ONT's Ethernet port to your router's WAN port. Power on the router and configure it as needed, including V...

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