

What is WiFi?

This is a wireless networking technology for PCs and PDAs that allows multiple devices to share a single high-speed Internet connection over a distance of about 300 feet. It can also be used to network a group of PCs without wires. Wi-Fi is spreading like wildfire in homes, offices and public places such as coffee shops, hotels and airports.

Setting Up a Hotspot in Your Home

It is very easy to set up a WiFi hotspot in your own home. You can do it in one of two ways:

- If you already have several computers hooked together on an Ethernet network and want to add a wireless hotspot to the mix, you can purchase a **Wireless Access Point** and plug it into the Ethernet network.
- If you are setting up a network in your home for the first time, or if you are upgrading, you can buy a Wireless Access Point Router. This is a single box that contains: 1) a port to connect to your cable modem or DSL modem, 2) a router, 3) an Ethernet hub, 4) a firewall and 5) a wireless access point. You can connect the computers in your home to this box either with traditional Ethernet cables or with wireless cards.

Either way, once you turn your Wireless Access Point on, you will have a WiFi hotspot in your house. In a typical home, your new hotspot will provide coverage for about 100 feet (30.5 meters) in all directions, although walls and floors do cut down on the range. Even so, you should get good coverage throughout a typical home. For a large home, you can buy inexpensive signal boosters to increase the range of the Hotspot.

Wireless Phone Vs. Wireless Network

Wireless phones refer to cell phones technology and wireless network aka WiFi technology refers to computer networks utilizing radio waves instead of wires.