

National Broadband Network

Get ready

When the National Broadband Network (NBN) is rolled out in your area, most other network services will be disconnected after 18 months. To connect to the internet, you will need a new plan with a service provider, e.g. Telstra, Optus, iinet.

- Check to see when the NBN arrives to your area – nbnc0.com.au
- Shop around to compare providers – canstarblue.com.au
- Make sure your plan is right for your needs – accg.gov.au
- Check your equipment such as security devices and phone systems will work with the NBN – accg.gov.au
- Remember, these may be a taxable offset if under \$20,000 under the instant asset write-off until June 2019. Learn more at: smartcompany.com.au and ato.gov.au.

Choose the right plan

There is a difference between upload and download speeds. Do you need good download speeds for large graphics files? Or fast upload and download for videoconferencing?

- Check the upload and download speeds and consider what you need.
- Ask about the bandwidth (capacity) of the network – what is the maximum rate of download?
- Consider your provider's peak usage times – will this impact on the speed of your connection during your peak times?

Avoid slow connections

- Make sure your router can deal with the number of devices you need to connect. More information can be found at sites like canstarblue.com.au.
- Place your router and modem in the centre of your premises with a clear line of sight to your devices. Keep them away from fridges and microwaves as it may slow your connection.
- Update your hardware, such as computer, laptop or storage options, if more than five-years old.
- Make sure to schedule security and program updates. Ideally monthly and, as these take time, try to schedule outside normal business hours.



Firming up the right solution

A local accounting firm was suffering from poor internet and upload speeds. When files needed to be uploaded, the service would slow and often drop out completely. The provider was continually unable to provide the speeds and connectivity that was promised. By better understanding their internet requirements, the firm was able to compare different plans and providers and find a solution that worked better for them.

case study