# What to do if you have fiber optic cable but no router



## Overview

Fiber internet doesn''t need a modem but requires an ONT to convert fiber signals for your router. Learn how fiber ONT works and how to set it up properly.

## Key Takeaways

If you have a fiber optic cable but no router, you can still access the internet by using an Optical Network Terminal (ONT), a compatible modem, or wireless alternatives like mobile hotspots or fixed wireless internet. Use an Optical Network Terminal (ONT)Fiber optic internet requires an ONT, which converts the light signals from the fiber cable into data your devices can use. If your home doesn't have an ONT installed, contact your internet service provider (ISP) to schedule installation.

### Once the ON

T is active, you can connect devices directly via Ethernet or through a router if you later acquire one. Connect Directly via EthernetIf you don't have a router, you can often plug your computer directly into the ONT using an Ethernet cable. This provides a stable, high-speed connection, though only one device can use the connection at a time unless you add a network switch.

### Use Wireless Alternatives

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If installing a router isn't possible, consider wireless solutions: Mobile hotspots: Use your smartphone or a dedicated hotspot device to share cellular data as Wi-Fi. This is convenient for temporary or portable setups. Fixed wireless internet: Some ISPs provide internet via radio signals to an antenna on your property, bypassing the need for fiber or cable infrastructure.

Satellite internet: For remote areas, satellite services like Starlink can provide high-speed internet without a physical router connected to fiber. Consider a Temporary or Rental RouterMany ISPs offer rental routers or can provide a compatible device for fiber connections. Even a basic router allows multiple devices to connect via Wi-Fi and can be configured with security settings like WPA2 encryption.

### Summary

Without a router, you can still access fiber internet by: Using the ONT with a direct Ethernet connection. Employing wireless alternatives like mobile hotspots, fixed wireless, or satellite internet. Renting or purchasing a compatible router from your ISP for full home network coverage.

These options ensure you can get online even if a traditional router isn't immediately available, while maintaining speed and reliability.

## Article Content

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