



What's the difference between the Internet & Wi-Fi?

Wi-Fi technology is available just about everywhere, but is Wi-Fi the same as the Internet? **No, it's not.**

Home networks are getting more sophisticated all the time, adding more and more connected devices, it's helpful to have a clear understanding of the difference between the two.

What is the Internet?

The Internet is a massive global communications network. In fact, as its name suggests, it's more than just one network-it's a series of thousands of inter-connected networks.

- While no one person or organization owns the Internet itself, each Internet service provider (ISP) like Velocity Broadband, typically owns its own network. It buys and installs the specialized networking equipment that makes it possible for customers to connect to the Internet
- When you connect to Velocity's network from your home or workplace, you have the ability to connect with other networks, companies, services and individuals who are also connected to the Internet. For example, you can stream movies on Netflix by connecting via the Internet to computer servers that Netflix owns or read your email by connecting to one of Gmail's servers.
- Velocity gives you all the physical equipment you need to connect your own devices to the Internet: a physical fiber optic cable, connecting your home to Velocity's network, is then connected to a device called an Optical Network Terminal (ONT), which acts as a gateway or modem/router combo.

How do I connect my devices to the Internet?

With your ONT providing the Internet connection into your home, there are two ways you can connect your devices.

- Connecting with a physical cable
 - The first method, which is not very common anymore, involves physically plugging your device into a port on the ONT using an Ethernet cable.
- Connecting over Wi-Fi
 - The second method, which is the most common, is connecting your devices to the network wirelessly using Wi-Fi technology included in your ONT and mesh units.
 - The ONT uses radio technology to broadcast a unique name (also known as a service set identifier, or SSID), which you choose when the service is first set up. You can see a list of other Wi-Fi routers nearby such as yours and your neighbors'. You can select your SSID from the list and enter the password. And just like that, you're connected to Wi-Fi. You can now access any online service or go to any website using your web browser.