



Wi-Fi 6: The Best Networking Solution for Your Home?

Is it the speed, the reliability or the efficiency of Wi-Fi 6 that makes this new wireless networking system a must-have for your home?

We've come to expect great things from home technology. We want the devices we buy today to be smarter, faster, and simpler than those of earlier generations. It makes sense, then, that the performance of the Wi-Fi network that supports these devices also advances. The good news: Wi-Fi is undergoing a fairly significant update. Wi-Fi 6, the new iteration of Wi-Fi improves upon the old, providing a host of benefits that make wireless communications in and around your home even smoother.

Better Support of Your Home's Busy Network

Wi-Fi 6 is faster than the Wi-Fi you have in your home today; "It's fast, yes, says Nathan Holmes, Director of Training & Development at Access Networks, but what's more noteworthy, he continues, is how well Wi-Fi 6 handles the bandwidth requirements of multiple devices on the network at the same time. Wi-Fi 6 was developed specifically to enable the network to function at full capacity even when numerous devices are connected to it.

This is important, given that every time you bring a new Wi-Fi device home—smartphone, laptop computer, media streamer, surveillance camera, etc.—your home's current Wi-Fi network takes a toll. Connections get increasingly slower and spottier. Wi-Fi 6 eliminates these issues by enabling each client to only use as much bandwidth as they need at that moment, thereby avoiding bandwidth limitations. To put this into perspective: Today, when someone jumps onto the Internet while you're downloading a high-def video, the whole process slows down. With Wi-Fi 6, this won't happen. You'll be able to download and stream content, control smart devices, and utilize the Internet without any interference or hiccups.

Some other upgrades included in Wi-Fi 6 will help extend battery life in mobile devices, along with built-in functionality to help your devices avoid interference from other nearby Wi-Fi networks. This capability is particularly useful for families that live in apartments and condominiums where the proximity of many individual Wi-Fi networks often impedes performance.

"As more and more Wi-Fi 6 devices hit the market, updating your Wi-Fi network to support them is a logical next step. We likely won't see another Wi-Fi update for another five years, so the time to upgrade is now."

—Nathan Holmes
Access Networks Director of Training & Development

How to Get Wi-Fi 6

A good first step toward enabling Wi-Fi 6 is installing a Wi-Fi 6 wireless access point. As more Wi-Fi 6 products become available, they can be added to the network. The Access Networks A750 is the first Wi-Fi 6 access point certified by the Wi-Fi Alliance that is tailored to home systems integrators and their customers.

"You can start by upgrading your wireless access points in the most popular areas of your home, like the kitchen and family room, then add more Wi-Fi 6 access points and devices later on." With the right networking solutions in place, the Wi-Fi 6 network is established, and you can add Wi-Fi 6 compliant light switches, surveillance cameras, door locks, AV equipment, and of course the newest and most popular handheld devices anytime you want.