

## Choosing the right internet package

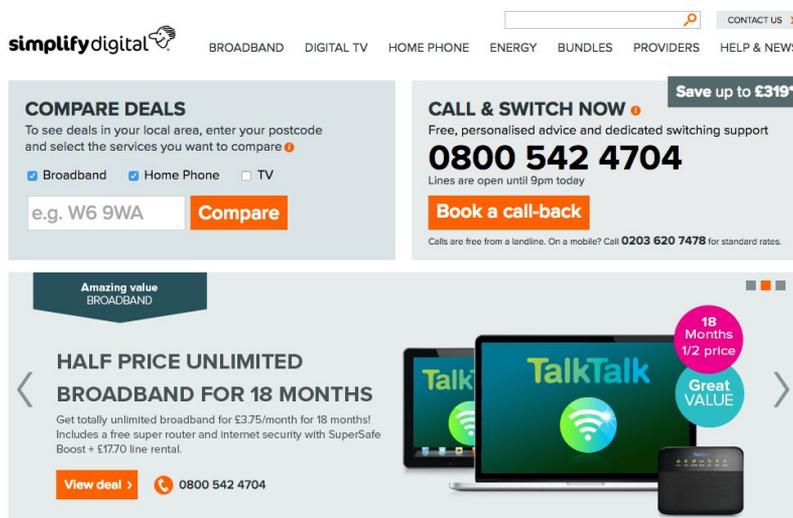
Most telephone companies have special rates for phone and internet deals so checking if you can get those deals is a good start.

Even if you don't have a phone at the moment, check for a phone line coming into your home as you could still get those deals.

### Do you have a phoneline?

It can be expensive to get a phone line connected so it's worth shopping around.

Signing up for a long term deal for telephone and broadband can save money on the installation, but weigh this up against how much the deal costs overall.



The screenshot shows the Simplify Digital website interface. At the top, there is a navigation menu with links for BROADBAND, DIGITAL TV, HOME PHONE, ENERGY, BUNDLES, PROVIDERS, and HELP & NEWS. A search bar and a 'CONTACT US' link are also visible. The main content area is divided into two sections. The left section is titled 'COMPARE DEALS' and includes a form to enter a postcode (e.g., W6 9WA) and checkboxes for Broadband, Home Phone, and TV. A 'Compare' button is present. The right section is titled 'CALL & SWITCH NOW' and features a 'Save up to £319\*' badge, a phone number '0800 542 4704', and a 'Book a call-back' button. Below this, there is a promotional banner for 'Amazing value BROADBAND' with the headline 'HALF PRICE UNLIMITED BROADBAND FOR 18 MONTHS'. The banner includes a 'View deal' button and the phone number '0800 542 4704'. The background of the banner shows a laptop and a smartphone displaying the TalkTalk logo.

If you have a phone line available, you can check what internet services are available using a comparison site on the internet like <http://www.simplifydigital.co.uk/>

You might not get exactly the speed that is shown in the comparison but it's a good guide to the speeds offered.

### Comparisons

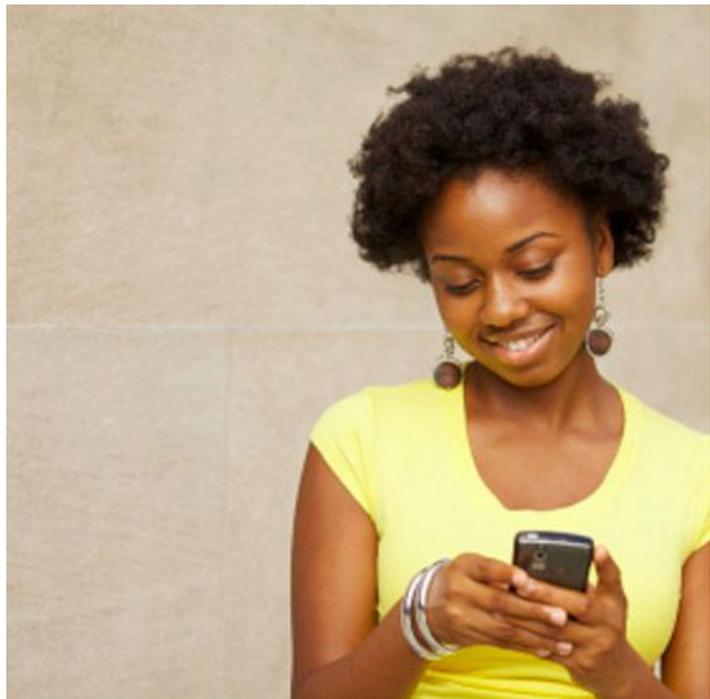
As well as comparing the speeds available, there are other factors to consider when checking comparisons, such as:

1. **Download limits** - going for a cheap deal that only includes a small download allowance can end up costing more if you go over the limit. Check if your service will stop or how much it will cost if you use too much.
2. **Support** - if you're new to the internet, it's likely you'll need a little help at some point. You'll want a help service you can call or stores you can visit if you can't get online. Check if this is free and also look online to see how the service you're looking at rates for customer satisfaction.
3. **Set up** - once you've decided on the best deal for you, you might need a little help getting set up. Look for a service that includes this help, or include the cost in your budget while you're making your comparisons.
4. **Total cost** - when you're looking at deals some include introductory prices, or they might be cheaper if you sign up for longer. Always double check that you're comparing the total price.

## Mobile broadband

If you really don't want to commit to a long period or your home doesn't have a phone line, it might be worth looking at mobile internet connection options. These are normally called 'Dongles' or 'Mi Fi' or 'Personal Hotspot' devices.

You need to check mobile broadband works where you want to use the internet, especially if you're using it at home. There are monthly options or you can pay as you go.



One added benefit is you can use these devices when you're out and about too, taking your connection with you.

## Common terms

Most internet connections are now provided with modem, router and wifi unit all built into one - so don't worry too much about what those terms mean! However, there are a few things to keep in mind when comparing deals.



**1. Internet speed** - is measured in megabytes per second, the higher the speed, the faster websites will load.

Internet speed will be affected by how many people in your area use the same supplier and how far your home is from the nearest cabinet. So use this internet speed figure as a guide.

**2. Unlimited downloads** - These often aren't really unlimited. However, it's

unlikely that you will go over your download limit if you are just browsing the internet.

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## Not what you were looking for?

If you're not at the stage of wanting to know about **choosing the right internet package**, try taking a look at the [What device is right for me?](#) resource for more guidance.

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## Still unsure?

If you are still unsure about devices or any of the information in these documents, try visiting the [Glossary](#) to find out more about any of the terms you are unsure of.