

The Best VPN Routers 2020 - Complete Setup Guide

To hit the nail on the head, VPN routers make your devices secure whether you are at home or at your workplace. This made-for-each-other pair offers all the perks that a VPN client wants. As a spoiler, they protect all the devices that are connected to them. They also offer a fast, secure, and reliable connection for multiple devices. The most beneficial thing about a VPN router is that all the devices that are connected to it can enjoy the benefits of a VPN, without installing a VPN separately on each device.

All the advanced internet users prefer installing a VPN on their router rather than installing it separately on each device. This way, all the devices that are connected to that router, get the benefits of a VPN. Doesn't it sound much smarter? VPN routers keep your digital life secure and provide you complete anonymity. But that's the combo we're talking in general about, Let's talk about the soul mates one by one now.

What Is a Router?

Routers are the gateway to the internet. It is a networking device. It forwards data packets between computer networks. It is connected to at least 2 networks, the most common networks are WANs or LANs, or a LAN and its ISPs network. A router joins networks together. It routes the traffic between those networks.

The basic router simply connects you to the web with no other features. There are a lot of high-fi routers as well. They are feature-heavy and go way beyond the basic functionality. The advanced routers can undoubtedly boost your online experience but you should use a router that supports VPN clients. There are various types of routers. Some of them are;

Core Router

They are used by Internet Service Providers (ISPs). This router forwards data packets to computer hosts within a network. It is designed to operate in the internet backbone or core. It is also called the backbone of a network. It provides multiple fast data communication interfaces.

Edge Router

It is also known as an access router. It is a lower-capacity device. It connects a LAN to the public Internet or a WAN. It is a specialized router that resides at the edge of a network. It

ensures the connectivity of its network with external networks. It uses an external border gateway protocol.

Branch Routers

These routers link an organization's remote office locations to its WAN. They often provide additional features like; wireless LAN management capabilities, time-division multiplexing, and WAN application acceleration.

Logical Router

This router is a software contraction of a physical router device. It helps to create different kinds of functionalities that work on a logical basis rather than a physical basis. It is very important in virtualized networking. It works with many modern protocols for networking like; border gateway protocol and multiprotocol label switching.

Wireless Routers

This router works in the same way as LAN or the router in a hard-wired home. However, it allows greater mobility for portable computers or notebook than LAN or the router in a hard-wired home. It uses the 802.11g specification. It performs the functions of a router. It also includes the functions of a wireless access point.

Why a Company Needs Business-Grade VPN Routers?

Connection to the internet is essential for every workplace. Every business needs to be equipped with a router to connect multiple networks and route traffic between them. Not just any router but a router that is fast, efficient and reliable.

A business router often comes in the form of an integrated service device. It provides network, application, and security services all on a single device. For better security, it should at least be a dual or triple band router.

Another important thing is that a business needs a router that is VPN compatible so that the company's important information does not get into the wrong hands.

Some Top Business VPN Routers

There are various options of Business Routers available in the market. However, it is very important to choose a fast, reliable, and secure business router. This way you'll be able to avoid possible losses.

Some of the best business routers are:

- Synology RT2600ac
- Netgear Nighthawk X10
- Linksys Max-Stream AC1900 Wi-Fi Router
- NETGEAR Nighthawk X10 Smart WiFi Router (R9000)
- NETGEAR Orbi Pro AC3000
- and Linksys EA6350 Smart Wi-Fi wireless dual-band + router

Why You Should Install a VPN On Your Router

Every regular internet user should use a VPN. Unless you don't mind people knowing what you do online and have your data open to hackers, you must consider using a VPN. When you buy a VPN, you'll have to download it separately on each one of your devices.

It is fine if you have 1 or 2 devices, but if you have a lot of devices, you'll need a router. You just have to download and pay for a VPN installed on your router. All the devices that will be connected to that router will get the benefits of a VPN. So, if you are really serious about anonymity, security, and online privacy, all you need is a VPN-capable router.

Advantages Of VPN Routers

There are several advantages of VPN routers. One of the most obvious advantages of a VPN router is the ability to protect an uncountable amount of devices. This is a big benefit because VPN providers usually limit the number of devices that can be connected. Another advantage of a VPN router is that it protects every gadget that is connected to it. VPN routers also encrypt all of your traffic, so that you are completely safe from third parties that can cause you harm.

On a more subtle note, you only have to install a VPN once on your router. This way you'll be free from the burden of downloading a VPN separately on each device. This is a huge benefit if you have to work with many gadgets. You can also grant protection to your clients and employees, with a VPN router. Lastly, you do not have to worry if your VPN is on or not, it will always be.

How To Choose a VPN Router

Now you know that installing a VPN on your router is really beneficial. Here comes a real question, "how to choose a VPN router?". The answer to this question is that there are several ways to get a VPN-compatible router. The easiest one is to buy it directly from your VPN provider. A lot of VPN providers are now offering routers. However, there are only certain router

models that are VPN-compatible. This means that it is important to know the kinds of protocols the VPN that you have chosen supports. It is necessary to know if you can install that VPN on your router.

Buying a pre-flashed router is also a great option. When you buy a pre-flashed router, the seller will put DD-WRT on the router for you. This way you know that it has been done successfully. Also, keep in mind that the CPU in your router must be fast because installing a VPN on a router will put a lot of strain on it. So, the faster the CPU of your router, the better.

Another important factor is the speed of your network. It is necessary to choose a router that has the correct level of range and speed that is required for your needs. One more thing is to make sure that your router at least contains a dual-band mode (2 antennae).

5 Best VPN Routers

To make perfect use of your VPN connection, you should use a good VPN router. Buying a good VPN router will let you browse the internet anonymously and securely. These are our 5 best VPN routers that will make it easy for you to connect to the internet through a VPN;

Linksys - WRT AC3200 Dual-Band WiFi 5 Router - Black/Blue

It is one of the best VPN router overall. It has features like; Tri-stream, 512MB RAM, 1.8GHz dual-core, and 256MB flash memory. These are some of the excellent features a VPN router can contain. It is a versatile and powerful router. It is a brilliant choice for VPN use. Its connectivity is 4x gigabit ethernet, 1xUSB 3.0, 1X ESATA/USB 2.0. It comes with 4 antennas and 3 bands for fast network speeds. For VPN compatibility, you can install DD-WRT firmware.

Asus RT-AC5300 Router

It is a high powered router. It is great for a VPN. It comes with a number of advanced features like; link aggregation, traffic analyzer, MU-MIMO support, WPS, 512 MB RAM, and 8 external antennas. It is popularly known as a high-end gaming router. It makes online and network games frustration free for you. It is a great VPN router as well. Its connectivity is 4x gigabit ethernet, 1x WAN, 1x USB 2.0, 1X USB 3.0. This router has an excellent range too.

Asus RT-AC86U Router

It is also a great VPN router. Its performance is as loud as its design. It offers great speed and coverage. It is a fast performer and has some advanced VPN features. The features include; adaptive QoS WTFast Gamers Private Network, MU-MIMO, and Traffic Analyzer. Its connectivity is 5x gigabit LAN, 1x USB 2.0, 1x USB 3.0. It is a high-quality gaming router. It is very easy to set up as well. It is a speedy and efficient router.

TP-Link Archer C7 AC1750 Wireless Dual Band Gigabit Router

This router is best for offices that need fast performance. You can easily share files and media with networked devices through this router. It is easy to set up. It supports 802.11ac standard which is 3 times faster than wireless N speeds. It has an incredible range. This advanced router is designed for high-traffic online activities. It has 4 wired LAN ports. It is compatible with IPv6 as well.

D-Link DIR-885L/R Router

It is a great all-rounder VPN router. It has a good selection of features like; advanced wireless AC beamforming, MU-MIMO, and SmartConnect. Its connectivity is 4x gigabit ethernet, 1x USB 3.0. It is a dependable mid-range VPN router. It also has a great Wi-Fi range. The user interface is nicely designed and is very easy to use as well. It is a powerful and flexible VPN router. It also supports DD-WRT open-source firmware.

3 Best VPN Providers For Routers

Given below are the 3 best VPN providers for routers that you can trust;

NordVPN

NordVPN is a popular and trusted VPN. It has a no-log policy. It has some amazing features like; kill-switch, double encryption, high speed, DNS leak protection, unlimited bandwidth, user-friendly interface, customized VPN Protocols for different purposes, and CyberSec (used for blocking ads), so, you're twice as safe!

It is compatible with iOS, Android, Windows, macOS, Chrome, and Firefox. They also accept payment via Bitcoin. Regarding its pricing, \$11.95/ month indeed sounds expensive. However, these days, you can get 70% off on their 3-Year plan at just \$3.49/ month with a 30-day money-back guarantee, which is honestly a big deal!

Other than that, their 2-year plan costs \$4.99/month these days which is a 58% discount. The 1-Year plan costs \$6.99/ month right now with a 41% discount.

Express VPN

ExpressVPN is also one of the top rankers among VPNs. this VPN needs no praise to claim its place in the VPN industry, everyone is quite well aware of that. It has excellent speed. Its best of all the features is that it is very safe and secure. It is very versatile and supports all devices. You are able to visit any restricted content because Express VPN

can easily bypass geo-restrictions. It offers some amazing features like no logs, unlimited server switches, best-in-class encryption, zero-knowledge DNS, kill switch, split tunneling, and unlimited bandwidth.

It works with Netflix too. It provides 24/7 customer service as well. It is also very user-friendly. Other than that, it is excellent for streaming especially because of its amazing speed. It also gives its users a 30-day money-back guarantee.

Currently, they are offering an amazing deal for their 1-year plan. It costs \$6.67/month along with 3 months of free service.

IPVanish

IPVanish is also a trusted and widely known VPN. It is one of the first VPN services in the market and is still widely used and trusted. It provides high security and is very reliable. They have more than 1000 servers in over 60 countries.

Some of their amazing features include anonymous torrenting, unlimited P2P traffic, multi-platform protection, no logs, unlimited server switching, and unlimited bandwidth.

It's always good to have a decent 7-day money-back guarantee like the one IPVanish offers. You can enjoy the safety of OpenVPN and L2TP/IPsec VPN protocols across 5 devices simultaneously with IPVanish. Express VPNs 1-year plan costs \$4.87/ month currently with an amazing 60% discount.

How To Install a VPN On Your Router

To know how to install a VPN on your router, you need to follow the steps given below;

Step 1

These days there are some VPN routers that are being re-sold by third-party vendors. Some VPN providers are installing their VPN client on the router's firmware themselves. However, the possibility is that you could already be satisfied with your current router and spending some bucks for a whole new router just to get a VPN might not be an attraction for you.

This will leave you to search for an alternate firmware that will support either your chosen VPN provider's client or an OpenVPN. The most popular one is DD-WRT. It works on various routers, no matter old or new. If you are up for some extra effort, you can turn an old x86 PC into a router by adding an extra network port. This is a brilliant way of building a highly customizable, business class router for yourself, without paying any additional cost.

Step 2

Now, you can start upgrading your router. Before upgrading your router, make sure it is a full-fledged router. After performing an upgrade on 3 routers, the two routers that carried the Linksys brands were successfully upgraded, but the LAPAC1200's upgrade failed. It failed because it is not a full-fledged router.

Step 3

All the routers are a bit different from each other, but most of them follow a similar pattern when it comes to login and making changes to the configuration. The first thing to do is to figure out what your IP address is. To know what your IP address is (on a Microsoft Windows 10), click on the "Start menu". Type in "Command prompt" and then click Enter. After that, type in "ipconfig" and click Enter again. The IP address of your router will be listed as the Default gateway.

Step 4

Next, open your browser. Type in your router's IP address as the URL. This will take you to a login prompt. Once you get access to the router's administrator functions, you'll have to find the console that allows a firmware update. You can find it under the "Administration tab".

Step 5

Install DD-WRT. After DD-WRT is installed, enter the default IP address of the new DD-WRT into your PC's web browser as a URL. Then, a screen will open where you can reset the default password and username. After this, move on to the basics of your new router's configuration process.

Step 6

Once the router is fully humming, only then consider installing your VPN client. In order to do that, you will need to navigate to the "VPN tab" under "Services". Then check the Enable Bubble, next to "Start OpenVPN Client". After this point, there are no instructions to make this work. The settings will be completely customized for the VPN provider. Just follow the instructions for your VPN brand, and you'll be on the right track.

Step 7

There is a "Status tab" in DD-WRT with a VPN section. This tab will tell you whether you are connected or not. You can now browse the internet with more anonymity on all of your devices.

Meta Description

Learn how VPN routers make your devices secure at home or workplace. Best VPN Routers are fast, reliable and secure; a dual-band is recommended. Check out more!