

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

HOW DO I CONNECT TO THE INTERNET?

Many alternatives exist for connecting to the Internet depending on who you are and what you want to do.

It is important first to understand that the Internet consists of many networks of computers connected together. Each country typically has one or more national public internet backbones which are connected to each other through a variety of global arrangements. At regional and local levels, there are tens of thousands of organizations of every conceivable kind that have built their own enterprise internets and connect them to the national backbones via a **network access** service.

Most of these second tier networks are operated by organizations that provide Internet access to their internal staff or specialize in providing widespread public access to end-users. There are basically two kinds of Internet end-user access provided:

■ **host access** where end-users connect their computers to become part of the Internet, or

■ **terminal access** where end users connect to a host computer which is directly connected to the Internet. The computer terminal itself is not directly connected.

Lastly, many kinds of Email and on-line services provide **gateway access** for messages to their customers.

► WHAT ARE MY BASIC OPTIONS AND REQUIREMENTS?

1. **Network access** assumes you have a LAN or WAN that support TCP/IP protocols. Such networks are generally owned and maintained by organizations to tie together their information resources and support host and terminal access. The chief option is usually the bandwidth of the access (e.g., from 14.4 to 1500 kbit/s). The customer must also acquire the circuit to the Internet access provider's point of presence. Some providers allow resale of the access service to third parties or the public.

2. **Host access** assumes you have a computer and software that can support TCP/IP protocols and potentially provides the full range and power of Internet services limited

only by the capability of your computer. Although very good, easy to use software has recently become available even for PCs and Macs, host access Internet connection generally presume a modicum of computer literacy. The primary options are generally the method of access (such as attachment to a Local Area Network, local dialup, 800 dialup, ISDN, or CATV data service), protocol supported (e.g., SLIP, CSLIP, or PPP), and POP server services.

3. **Terminal access** assumes only that you have a computer with a modem and simple "asynchronous" communications software that allows operation as a terminal. The primary option is generally the kinds of services provided (e.g., generally primarily Email, and may include FTP, Telnet, or text-based Gopher services to the provider's host computer). Binary files can only be moved to your computer through additional file transfer steps or encoding schemes.

4. **Gateway access** assumes only that you have the ability to use the services of a particular Email or on-line services provider - however it is done.

► HOW DO I GET CONNECTED?

- ✓ Choose the type of access that best meets your capabilities and needs as described above.
- ✓ Find the access providers that serve your area and determine services, costs, and support that meet your requirements. A provider list is available upon request from the Internet Society.
- ✓ Obtain the necessary software for your computer system and your selected access service. Network and host access require TCP/IP software. Terminal or gateway access generally require only common asynchronous communications software. Some gateway access providers may have their own proprietary software. A software list is available upon request from the Internet Society.

► HOW DO I GET MORE INFORMATION?

Many excellent reference and guide books on the Internet, its technologies and applications have become available in book-



stores and libraries. Some also include basic software. Periodicals are also available by subscription. The Internet Society's membership publications and conferences provide current comprehensive information

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and notices about a broad range of worldwide Internet developments.

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Courtesy of the Internet Society, Reston VA, USA

Internet Host and Terminal Access Providers

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Country	Local Area	Provider	Area Codes	Phone Nos.
Australia	Melbourne, Sydney	connect.com.au pty ltd	+61 3, +61 2	+61 3 5282239
Canada	Montreal	Communications Accessibles Montreal	514	514-931-0749
Canada	Ontario, Canada	HookUp Communication Corporation	800, PDN, 416, 519	519-747-4110
Canada	Edmonton	PUCnet Computer Connections	403	403-448-1901
Canada	Toronto	UUnorth	416, 519, 613	416-225-8649
Germany	Germany	Individual Network e.V. (IN)	+49	+49 21 31 64190
Germany	Frankfurt, Offenbach	Individual Network - Rhein-Main	+49 069	+49 69 39 048413
Germany	Ruhr	INS - Inter Networking Systems	+49 23	+49 2305 356505
Germany	Munich	muc.de e.V.	+49 089	
Greece	Athens	Ariadne - Greek Academic and Research Network	+301	+301 65-13-392
UK	London	Demon Internet Systems (DIS)	+44 (0)81	+44 (0)81 349 0063
UK	London	UK PC User Group	+44 (0)81	+44 (0)81 863 6646
UK	London	The Direct Connection	+44 (0)81	+44 (0)81 317 0100
USA	San Francisco	a2i communications	408, 415	408-293-8078
USA	Portland	RainDrop Laboratories	503	n/a
USA	Alaska	University Of Alaska Southeast, Tundra Services	907	907-465-6453
USA	Providence	Anomaly - Rhode Island's Gateway To The Internet	401, 508	401-273-4669
USA	Montana	Big Sky Telegraph	406	406-683-7338, 800-982-6668
USA	Houston	The Black Box	713	(713) 480-2684
USA	Washington DC	CAPCON Library Network	202, 301, 410, 703	202-331-5771
USA	Washington DC	Clark Internet Services, Inc. (ClarkNet)	202, 301, 410, 703	800-735-2258 then 410-730-9764
USA	California-USA	Cooperative Library Agency for Systems and Services	310, 415, 510, 619, 714, 818, 800	
USA	Denver	Community News Service	303, 719, 800	719-592-1240
USA	North Carolina	CONCERT-CONNECT	704, 919	919-248-1999
USA	San Diego	CTS Network Services (CTSNET)	619	
USA	Calif., Arizona, Georgia, USA	CR Laboratories Dialup Internet Access	213, 310, 404, 415, 510, 602, 707, 800	
USA	Denver	Colorado SuperNet, Inc.	303, 719, 800	
USA	San Diego	The Cyberspace Station	619	n/a
USA	Boston, KS City	DELPHI	617, PDN	800-544-4005
USA	California	DIAL n' CERF or DIAL n' CERF AYC	213, 310, 415, 510, 619, 714, 818	800-876-2373 or 619-455-3900
USA	USA	DIAL n' CERF USA	800	800-876-2373 or 619-455-3900
USA	New York	Echo Communications	212	212-255-3839
USA	Seattle	Eskimo North	206	206-367-7457
USA	Arizona	Evergreen Communications	602	602-955-8315
USA	Washington DC	Express Access - Digital Express	202, 301, 410, 703, 714, 908	
USA	Dayton	Freelance Systems Programming	513	(513) 258-7246

USA	Seattle	GLAIDS NET	206	206-323-7483
USA	Seattle	Halcyon	206	206-955-1050
USA	Berkeley	HoloNet	510, PDN	510-704-0160
USA	Rhode Island (northern)	The IDS World Network	401	401-884-7856
USA	San Francisco	Institute for Global Communications/IGC	415, 800, PDN	415-442-0220
USA	Phoenix, Tucson	Internet Direct, Inc.	602	602-274-0200, 602-324-0200
USA	USA	The John von Neumann Computer Network - Tiger Mail & Dialin' Terminal	800	800-35-TIGER, 609-897-7300
USA	Northeast USA	The John von Neumann Computer Network - Dialin' Tiger	201, 203, 215, 401, 516, 609, 908	800-35-TIGER, 609-897-7300
USA	Los Angeles	KAIWAN Public Access Internet Online Services	213, 310, 714	714-638-2139
USA	New York	Maestro	212, 718	212-240-9600
USA	Chicago	MCSNet	312, 708, 815	312-248-UNIX
USA	Dallas	Texas Metronet	214	214-401-2800
USA	Michigan, Washington DC, Boston, USA	Merit Network, Inc.	313, 517, 616, 906, PDN	313-764-9430
USA		Millennium Online	PDN	800-736-0122
USA	New York	MindVOX	212, 718	212-989-2418
USA	MI (southeast)	MSen	313	313-998-4562
USA	New Hampshire	MV Communications, Inc.	603	603-429-2223
USA	Boston	NEARnet	508, 603, 617	617-873-8730
USA	major metro areas	Netcom Online Communication Services	206, 213, 214, 303, 310, 312, 404, 408, 415, 503, 510, 617, 619, 703, 714, 718, 818, 916	408-554-8649, 800-501-8649
USA	Boston	North Shore Access	617, 508	617-593-3110
USA	Boston	Novalink	508, 617, PDN	800-274-2814
USA	Huntsville	Nuance Network Services	205	205-533-4296
USA	Houston	South Coast Computing Services, Inc.	713	713-661-3301
USA	Seattle	Northwest Nexus Inc.	206	206-455-3505
USA	Denver, Boulder	Nyx	303	N/A
USA	Ohio areas	OARnet	614, 513, 419, 216, 800	614-292-8100
USA	Colorado Springs	Old Colorado City Communications	719	719-632-4848, 719-593-7575 or 719-636-2040
USA	Seattle	Olympus	206	206-385-0464
USA	New York	PANIX Public Access Unix	212, 718	212-877-4854
USA	New York	The Pipeline	212, 718	212-267-3636
USA	San Jose	The Portal System	408, 415, PDN	408-973-9111
USA	Champaign-Urbana	Prairienet Freenet	217	217-244-1962
USA	Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Harrisburg	PREPnet	215, 412, 717, 814	412-268-7870
USA	Major metro areas	PSI - PSILink - Personal Internet Access	[many], PDN	703-620-6651
USA	Major metro areas	PSI - World-Dial Service	PDN	703-620-6651
USA	Austin	RealTime Communications (wixer)	512	512-451-0046
USA	Houston, New Orleans	NeoSoft's Sugar Land Unix	504, 713	713-438-4964
USA	Portland, Beaverton	Teleport	503	503-223-4245
USA	Pittsburgh	Telerama Public Access Internet	412	412-481-3505
USA	San Jose	TelLink Networking	408, 415	408-247-8445
USA	Washington DC	The Meta Network	703, 202, 301, PDN	703-243-6622
USA	most metro areas	UUNET Technologies Inc	{many}	703-204-8000, 800-488-6384
USA	Charlotte, Raleigh-Durham	Vnet Internet Access, Inc.	704	704-374-0779
USA	Sausalito	The Whole Earth 'Lectronic Link (WELL)	415, PDN	415-332-4335
USA	Cleveland	APK- Public Access UNI* Site	216	216-481-9428
USA	Boston	The World	617, PDN	617-739-0202

USA	Norfolk, Williams- burg VA	Wyvern Technologies, Inc.	804	804-622-4289
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PDN = X.25 Public Data Network Service (provides global access with traffic charges)

Ref: Peter Kaminsky (Pdial), Aldea Communications, SRI International.

The Internet Society is not responsible for errors or omissions.

Internet Gateway Providers

Country	Metro Area	Provider	Area Codes	Phone Nos.
Australia		connect.com.au pty ltd	+61 3, +61 2	+61 3 5282239
Canada		SprintMail		
USA	All	MCIMail	All, PDN	514-931-0749
USA	All	American On-Line		

Internet Network Access Providers

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USA		connect.com.au pty ltd	+61 3, +61 2	+61 3 5282239
USA		Communications Accessibles Montreal	514	514-931-0749
Germany		Individual Network e.V. (IN)	+49	
Germany		Individual Network - Rhein-Main	+49 069	+49-69-39048413