

Cables required for a fiber optic router



Article Overview

A fiber optic router requires a fiber optic cable to connect to an Optical Network Terminal (ONT) and an Ethernet cable to link the ONT to the router.

Fiber Optic Cable

The fiber optic cable is the primary medium that brings internet to your home. It transmits data as pulses of light through glass or plastic fibers. For residential setups, the cable typically uses single-mode fiber with SC/APC or SC/UPC connectors, which are thin and often yellow in color. This cable does not plug directly into a standard router; it must first connect to an ONT, which converts the optical signal into an electrical signal that your router can understand .

Optical Network Terminal (ONT)

The ONT is a device provided by your ISP that serves as the interface between the fiber network and your home network. The fiber optic cable plugs into the ONT's optical port, and the ONT then outputs data through a standard Ethernet port. This conversion is essential because routers cannot directly interpret light signals from fiber .

Ethernet Cable

Once the ONT converts the signal, a high-quality Ethernet cable (Cat6, Cat6a, or Cat7) is used to connect the ONT to the router's WAN or Internet port. This cable ensures that the high-speed data from the fiber connection is transmitted efficiently...

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For more information, pricing, or custom solutions, please contact us:

Website: <https://khanimamboguesthouse.co.za>

Email: sales@khanimamboguesthouse.co.za

Phone: +27 64 852 1973

Address: Unit 7, Greenway Business Park, 8 Innovation Drive, Centurion, 0157, South Africa

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