



Knowledge Network September Newsletter

Wireless vs. Wired Networks

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Wireless computer connections have been a big deal recently with the release of the new 802.11g wireless standard. Businesses such as airports, coffee shops and schools are installing wireless network zones where individuals are able to access the internet from a laptop, handheld device or cell phone. The 802.11g standard provides connection speeds that are 5 times faster than the old 802.11b standard with the continued convenience of wireless access to the internet, email or other web based applications. Once a wireless connection is installed it is important to review the following list of steps to safeguard the access point within the network.



- <http://www.linksys.com/edu/page10.asp>

Wired computer connections have been around for a while and have involved using Cat 5 cable throughout a home or business. These basic cable connections transport data at a faster and more reliable rate since there is no interference in the transmission of data due to radio waves. An alternative to the basic cabling solution is to use a device that transmits the high speed DSL or cable signal throughout a building allowing individuals to access the internet from any existing phone jack within the facility. This networking solution eliminates the need to run extra cable by using the existing phone wiring that is already in place throughout the home or business. The following page describes in detail the feature of the wired solution.

- http://www.2wire.com/office/op_index.html

Both the wireless and wired solutions require the purchase of a router which connects between the current high speed modem and the computers. This router provides a way to share the high speed internet and data between each computer, server or laptop. The decision between a wireless or wired network can be determined by taking an inventory of devices within a facility along with the approximate distance between each device. Knowledge Network works with home offices and businesses providing a free cost comparison which outlines the difference and advantages between implementing a wireless or wired solution.



4805 Tanners Spring Drive Alpharetta, Georgia 30022

Phone: 678-762-0281 Web Site: <http://www.kn-ga.com> Email: Bill@kn-ga.com