

# How to best connect a router to fiber optic cable



## Overview

By following this detailed guide, you've not only learned how to connect fiber optic cable to router properly but also how to optimize and maintain that connection for peak performance.

## Key Takeaways

To connect a router to a fiber optic cable, the fiber line must first connect to an Optical Network Terminal (ONT), which converts the optical signal to Ethernet, and then link the ONT to your router via an Ethernet cable. Step 1: Gather Necessary Equipment  
Optical Network Terminal (ONT): Provided by your ISP, this device converts the incoming fiber optic light signal into an electrical signal your router can use.

### Fiber-

Ready Router: Ensure your router supports fiber input, typically via a WAN port or SFP slot. Fiber Optic Cable: Usually single-mode with SC/APC or SC/UPC connectors. Ethernet Cable: Cat6a or higher is recommended to maintain high-speed performance between the ONT and router.

Power Cables: For both the ONT and router. Step 2: Install the ONT  
Locate the fiber optic wall outlet where the ISP's fiber enters your home. Connect the fiber optic cable from the wall outlet to the ONT's optical input port.



Handle the connectors carefully to avoid dirt or damage. Power on the ONT and wait for the status lights to stabilize, which may take a few minutes. Step 3: Connect the ONT to Your Router Use an Ethernet cable to connect the ONT's LAN/Ethernet port to the router's WAN or Internet port.

Power on the router and wait for the indicator lights to confirm a successful connection. Step 4: Placement and Configuration Place both the ONT and router near electrical outlets in a dry, ventilated area away from extreme temperatures or moisture. Access your router's settings via its IP address to configure network parameters if required by your ISP.

Ensure the connection is secure but avoid excessive force on fiber connectors to prevent damage.

### **Tips for Optimal Performance**

Keep the ONT within a few meters of the fiber entry point to minimize signal degradation. Use high-quality Ethernet cables to preserve fiber speeds, especially for gigabit or multi-gigabit connections. Avoid bending the fiber cable sharply, as this can reduce signal quality.

Following these steps ensures a stable, high-speed fiber optic internet connection from the wall outlet to your router, ready for wired or wireless distribution throughout your home.

## **Article Content**

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